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Open Letter Asks Public To Study Caucus Plan

OLIVER S. TURNER, Chairman
Caucus Committee Coordinating Council

To the Citizens of Highland Park:

The Caucus Investigating Committee, appointed by the Coordinating Council, at the request of Mayor Garnett, is gratified that the subject of a city-wide caucus has loomed large enough in people's minds to make them want to get together and discuss it.

They have been working for more than a year to present a plan that will be proof against the errors that everyone wishes to avoid.

The plan advanced by the committee has two main purposes: First, to submit to public meetings of the community such active questions of community interest as the establishment of protection of grade crossings; second, to encourage citizens of ability and experience to become candidates for office.

The committee wish to make certain things clear. The caucus plan in various forms has worked out very successfully in a large number of neighboring towns. They have considered all these plans and have worked out one which they feel is suited to Highland Park. They are now ready to report their recommendations to the citizens at a town meeting to be held at 8:00 p.m. on March 22, at the Elm Place school.

The committee is desirous that the public be fully informed before any action is taken and is not concerned whether action is taken at this meeting or at an adjourned meeting.

The plan of the Caucus Committee is presented elsewhere in this issue and the committee believes that it will answer most of your questions. However, there are a few additional points which should be brought out.

The public discussion of a caucus system for city elections is a Coordinating Council project, since a general meeting of the Council voted to have a committee appointed to study it and also voted that this committee report its findings to an open "town meeting." The Coordinating Council has not voted nor taken any action one way or the other as to whether Highland Park should have a caucus, but it has voted that the subject be presented to the town.

Our local political procedure is set up by state law. The state legislature is the only body which can change that procedure.

The caucus plan, if adopted by the town meeting on March 22, or at any adjourned meeting, is entirely consistent with the Commission Plan of government under which Highland Park operates.

For years, many of our citizens were induced to become candidates by groups of individuals who constituted themselves a "caucus." The "caucus" plan under consideration will afford to all the citizens the opportunity to participate on a representative caucus by their choosing their delegates to the caucus by post card ballot.

Candidates for public office must, by law, be elected by the voters at the ballot box on election day.

Any individual who desires to become a candidate, or any person or group who desire to propose one or more candidates, may do so by complying with the state law. Any such candidate might be elected. They have been elected in other towns.

In conclusion, let us remember that the proposed caucus plan is merely the report of a committee that was asked to investigate an idea that sounded good to a large number of people. They have done their part. All they ask is that you consider the plan with an open mind and make your decision accordingly.

City Licenses Must Be Obtained Before Apr. 1

Car owners are reminded by Chief of Police Martin Kopp that the dead-line for procuring Highland Park city licenses is April 1. Any person operating a car or truck after that date without proper state and city license is subject to arrest and fine.

City licenses may be purchased before obtaining the state license. The 1944 state number may be given and "license applied for" written on application blanks.

RED CROSS DRIVE IN FULL PROGRESS

An intensive five-day house-to-house campaign by nearly 300 Red Cross War Fund door step volunteers, during which an effort has been made to contact every adult in Highland Park, has resulted in a subscription of \$15,404.45, according to latest results tabulated early Wednesday morning.

This amount added to the \$10,903 already obtained by the Special Gifts committee brings the total amount so far subscribed in Highland Park to \$26,307.

While the quota for Highland Park is \$42,500, the sum already raised represents 62% of the quota with over a week remaining to wind up the campaign.

The drive will continue until everyone in Highland Park has been contacted and has been given an opportunity to contribute towards the wartime services of the Red Cross. Dr. L. W. Sherwin and Arthur J. Howard, chairman and co-chairman of the drive are confident of reaching the \$42,500 goal before the drive is scheduled to close.

Highland Park's total is expected to swell considerably as soon as contributions are received from many of the special gifts donors who are out of town.

Results of Canvasses
Headquarters at 521 Central buzzed with activity Monday night and early Tuesday morning as scores of workers, in spite of the rain brought in the results of their canvass. Special interest was shown in the reports from Districts 8 and 10 where leaders reported cash contributions and pledges in excess of their quotas. Congratulations were extended to Mrs. W.C. Wenninger, chairman of District 8, and her co-chairman, Mrs. Karl D. King Jr. and Mrs. J. D. Dickinson and to H. F. Smith, chairman of District 10 and his co-chairman, Mrs. Thomas P. Clark.

A progress report indicating how close each district is to making its quota as of Monday, March 5, follows:

District	Gifts	Amount	Quota
Special Gifts		\$4,968.00	\$20,000
Home-to-Home			
District 1	165	\$ 988.75	\$ 2,100
District 2	82	636.00	1,200
District 3	112	1,327.00	1,800
District 4	32	425.00	2,000
District 5	68	1,108.50	2,200
District 6	118	1,345.00	1,400
District 7	50	475.00	1,700
District 8	223	1,619.00	1,450
District 9	49	217.00	900
District 10	124	497.00	700
District 11	150	870.00	1,000
District 12	93	529.00	600
District 13	113	652.00	700
District 14	186	2,038.75	3,000
District 15	3	65	None
Miscellaneous			

Grand Total 1,854 \$22,578.50 \$42,500

Since the above report was issued, District 6 has substantially exceeded its quota. Mrs. W. N. Strubank and Mrs. Edward C. George are co-chairmen.

Former Business Women Urged to Take Jobs

Military and naval posts on the North Shore are in urgent need of former business women who have had stenographic and typing experience to fill volunteer daytime assignments with them. The assignments are interesting and the association is with the men in service.

A course of training for these women will be given under the supervision of the staff assistants' corps of the American Red Cross at headquarters, 529 S. Wabash, Chicago.

Anyone interested may make application in person at the Evanston branch of the Red Cross, 615 Davis street, on Mondays or Thursdays, or at Red Cross headquarters in Chicago any day.

Since the assignments are to be in military and naval posts on the North Shore, the Red Cross hopes to obtain North Shore women with stenographic and typing skills as recruits for the class, which will start March 5.

FORMER RESIDENT LAUDED IN "NATION'S BUSINESS"

A living, breathing picture of Cloud Wampler, until recently a resident of Highland Park, is presented in the March number of "The Nation's Business" by Herbert Corey. The article sets forth Mr. Wampler's methods of management at the Carrier Corporation in Syracuse, N. Y., of which he is the second president in its life in 30 years.

Proposed Resolution

(Submitted by the Caucus Committee of the Coordinating Council.)

WHEREAS, it has been felt that the manner of selection of candidates for office in the government of the City of Highland Park and such political subdivisions as lie wholly or partially within the City of Highland Park, and the discussion of questions affecting public interest, can be better accomplished by means of a delegatory association, and to further the ideas of good, sound and efficient government,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. A group or committee of delegates, composed of three delegates from each of the twelve city election precincts within the City, be elected by the registered voters in each such precinct, for the purpose of attending meetings and considering candidates for public offices; to adopt by-laws to govern the operation of such delegatory group; to elect its own officers; and to do all things necessary for and commensurate with good government within the limitations above described. The name of such association shall be The Citizen's Association of Highland Park; an unincorporated association.

2. Such by-laws, when adopted, shall among other things provide that:

(a) Membership in the Association by all registered voters in the City of Highland Park, each of which members may pay the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00) per year for the defraying of costs but failure or refusal to pay such sum, shall in no way preclude them from any vote of the membership.

(b) Election by each of the twelve city precincts of three delegates to the Board of Delegates, such thirty-six so elected to constitute and become the Board of Delegates. Each such delegate shall be elected by post-card ballot for a period of two years, provided, however, that the odd-numbered precincts shall elect their first delegates for a period of two years and the even-numbered precincts shall elect their first delegates for a period of one year. No delegate shall serve for more than two consecutive terms.

(c) Such Board of Delegates shall elect its officers, to consist of a president, a first and second vice-president, a secretary and a treasurer, and such other officers as the Board of Delegates may deem necessary.

(d) A time and place be designated for meetings of the Board of Delegates, such meetings to be open to the public. Such meetings shall be held at least three times per year in different months, with the provision that further meetings may be specially called at the direction of designated officers.

(e) Prospective candidates for public office shall be considered and recommendations made.

A quorum for any meeting of the Board of Delegates shall be eighteen.

(f) Any matter voted upon, or any candidate recommended shall be by vote of the Board of Delegates, and shall be the action of such Board only upon a majority vote of a quorum at a meeting of such Board of Delegates.

(g) Elections or polls by post card ballot among voters may be taken on questions affecting the operation of the City or any such political subdivision, or upon candidates or possible candidates for office, with safeguards on such ballots to be provided for to insure integrity in voting and counting thereof.

(h) Meetings of voters within precincts may be held to consider candidates and to counsel with delegates from such precinct.

(i) No member of the Board of Delegates or officer of the Association shall hold or be permitted to run for public office.

(j) The Board of Delegates shall make such rules and regulations concerning its conduct not inconsistent with anything herein contained.

(k) No elected officer of the Association or delegate shall receive any compensation for such work or position.

(l) The Board of Delegates may call meetings of the members of the Association at such times and at such places as the Board of Delegates may determine, but provided that such meetings shall be publicized.

(m) No member of the Association shall be liable for debts or (Continued on page 4)

Rites for Well-Known Highland Park Realtor

Funeral rites were conducted on Tuesday at the Kelly chapel for Mr. F. B. Williams, local realtor. Dr. Louis W. Sherwin of the Presbyterian church, officiated.

Until about two weeks before his death, Mr. Williams was at his desk, although ailing, and passed away a few days after being removed to the local hospital.

Mr. Williams was born 71 years ago in Masonville, Iowa, and came to Highland Park as assistant principal and instructor in mathematics in 1903. After teaching seven years, he became associated with the Splittorf Electrical Co., in Chicago, as general sales manager. For the past 25 years he had maintained a real estate business here.

Surviving are his wife, Sarah Ann, one daughter, Mrs. Charles M. Butler, and three grandchildren, all of this town; and one sister, Mrs. Mary Elliott, of Dubuque, Iowa.

Playground, Recreation Board Serves 9,000 in Feb.

The playground and recreation board of Highland Park, which operates the Community Center and also sponsors community and neighborhood activities, made a new record in the month of February by having their facilities and community sponsored sports attended by approximately 9,300 persons.

Activities held at the center had an attendance of 4,873 persons. The activities include: Athletic department use, Airplane club, Art club, Boy and Girl Scouts, Craft club, dark room use, Children's Dance club, Ladies' Modern Dance club, game room use, H. P. Men's Garden club, League of Women Voters, North Suburban Philatelic society, Jr. Stamp club, Teen Age Open House, Sunset Terrace association, Veterans' committee, USO council, Hunting club, H. P. Music club, shop use, parties in the community hall, conferences and board meetings.

Activities sponsored by the playground and recreation board away from the center were attended by over 4,400 persons. Some of these are: Saturday movies for children at the USO, basketball clinics at the grammar schools, badminton clubs, sports clubs, figure skating, ice skating instruction, older boys' club and younger boys' club.

Vallee O. Appel Selected As Army Consultant

Vallee O. Appel, of Highland Park, one of the leading refrigerated warehousing operators in this area, has been selected as one of the 16 nationally known refrigerated warehousing men who will serve as consultants to the secretary of war on refrigerated warehousing problems of the United States army, it was announced today by the office of the Quartermaster General.

PRIN. A. E. WOLTERS ADDRESSES LIONS CLUB

A. E. Wolters, local high school principal, today (Thursday) spoke to the Lions club at the luncheon in Sunset Valley club house. He was introduced by G. J. Dinkaloo, acting program chairman, and his subject was "War Guidance," treating of the preparation of high school students for war work.

PO' LUCK SUPPER PLANNED BY MASONS

A pot luck supper will be given by the Royal Arch Masons, Highland Park lodge, on March 14 at 6 p.m. at the Masonic temple, for members of the lodge and their families. Wm. Stuppel, newly-installed high priest, will be in charge.

The supper will be followed by a business meeting and social hour.

MEETING OF PHILATHEANS

The Philathea class of Bethany Evangelical church will meet at the church on Tuesday evening, March 20. Hostesses are Mesdames Mabel Noerenberg, Edith Drake, Victoria Iverson, Jennie Knaak and Jean Bruce.

PUBLIC LIBRARY

Until further notice the public library will be open the following hours:

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Closed Mondays and Thursdays. A choice Kate Greenway exhibit of books, drawings, almanacs, and figures is being shown in the exhibit cases. It will be there for a couple of weeks longer. Don't miss seeing it.

Mass Meeting Adopts Free Elections Resolution

By AVERY C. JONES

Posthumous Award Made To Lt. Byron C. Howes

The Purple Heart has been posthumously awarded to 2nd Lt. Byron Cole Howes, son of Mr. and Mrs. Byron Cole Howes, Sr., 221 Maple Ave.

Lt. Howes, navigator of a B-24, and owner of the Air Medal, gave his life almost a year ago, on a mission to Steyr, Austria. Flying from a base in Italy, his plane was shot down over Jugoslavia on March 19, 1944. His death was officially reported the following Dec. 17.

Lt. Howes was graduated from the local high school, and from Principia college in 1939. His wife is the former Gracey Pickett, and he is survived, also, by a son, Byron Cole Howes III, born July 3, 1944, and a sister, Judith H.

PFC. JOSEPH CORTESI WOUNDED SECOND TIME

The 19-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Domenic Cortesi, 648 Deerfield, Pfc. Joseph, was wounded for the second time on Jan. 9, in France. The wound is in the left foot.

A 1942 graduate of the local high school, he entered the service in June, 1943, and has served overseas with an infantry outfit since last April.

Need Volunteers To Serve Hospital Trays

Mrs. Alfred Sihler who is chairman of the Volunteer Workers at the Highland Park hospital, has sent out a call for volunteers Saturday mornings, 7 o'clock, and Saturday afternoon, 4:30 to 6. Phone 2341.

Mrs. Francis Knight, president, will preside at the monthly meeting of the Woman's auxiliary of the Highland Park hospital to be held Wednesday, March 14, at the parish house of Trinity Episcopal church, at 10 a.m.

Surgical dressing are urgently needed at this time. Luncheon at 12:30.

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Publicity Chairman, Highland Park Committee for Free Elections

A mass meeting which crowded Witten hall to the walls last Sunday afternoon, demonstrated Highland Park's alert and careful interest in our civic welfare. Out of the proceedings, under the auspices of the Highland Park Committee for Free Elections, came two major developments of city-wide importance.

One of these was the unanimous adoption of a resolution expressing opposition to any untried political experiments in our city. By formal authority of those assembled, this resolution will be published and circulated in the form of a petition. As a result it is expected hundreds of additional signatures to those already appended will be secured. The protest is directed specifically against any movement designed to divide Highland Park into geographical political segments under a so-called Caucus party system.

A few signers of the resolution of protest pointed out that the Caucus committee acting in good faith, might be without full and complete knowledge of conditions peculiar to Highland Park which would make any so-called Caucus plan defeat its own purpose in our city.

With the likelihood that this spirit will prevail within both groups, there is a possibility that any further action designed to bring the proposed Caucus plan to a final vote March 22, will be indefinitely postponed. Such action would open the way for all elements of our city to advocate free elections and to stimulate wider participation of our citizenship in civic affairs. This highly desirable outcome would thus re-establish the political non-partisanship which has typified Highland Park over the years.

Horace S. Vaile acted as chairman pro tem at Sunday's gathering and at the conclusion of the discussion, Elmer W. Freytag was elected permanent chairman. Other officers named previously were the writer of these comments as secretary and publicity chairman, and William J. Curotto, treasurer.

Among those who spoke were Harry B. Aiston, who gave a brief history of the origin of Highland Park's commission form of government; Mr. Curotto, representing the city's Italian element; Harold McLain, Leo J. Sheridan, Thomas Creigh, Major Frank J. Ronan, Leslie McCaffery, George Lloyd, Earl Presson, Milton Souther, Mrs. R. O. Nereim and Harry Porter.

At the conclusion of the discussion a motion was made and seconded to the effect that the group assembled was opposed to any move that might tend to develop partisan political divisions in Highland Park, which was incorporated in a formal resolution adopted by a unanimous vote. This resolution was as follows:

We, the undersigned, duly registered voters of the city of Highland Park and Lake county, Illinois, in the interest of wider public participation in civic and township elections, herewith register our opposition to any program designed or which would tend to develop partisan precinct organizations and restricted participation at the polls.

In particular, we wish to register with the utmost vigor, our (Continued on page 4)

Fireman's Annual Dance At Labor Temple Mar. 17

The annual dance sponsored by the Highland Park Fire department is being held at the Labor temple on March 17, 1945. In compliance with a new government order closing amusement places at 12 midnight, the dance this year will be from 8:00 p.m. to 12:00 m., rather than from 9:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. as is printed on the tickets which were printed before this new order came out.

Music this year will be by Vic Lenzi's orchestra featuring Louis Garino at the accordion. The people of Highland Park have always responded very generously in the past and the committee hopes that response this year will be as good if not better than in previous years.

Thanking you,
DANCE COMMITTEE.