

Let's Take a Look

By

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(Special to The Highland Park Press)

Highland Park Report

We want to take time out this week and write about the complete and excellent report on the organization, operation and financing of our city government interestingly presented to all citizens in a neat, 103-page booklet prepared by competent City Council Members Messrs. Joseph B. Garnett, Leo J. Sheridan, Lyle Gourley, the late Arthur H. Swanson, his successor, Oliver S. Turner, Edward J. Moroney, V. C. Musser and Paul C. Behanna.

Although we realize we cannot do this fine report justice in the column, we would like you to read along with us as we attempt to review, at random, highlight points in the attractive booklet filled with fine line drawings of civic buildings; maps and graphs; and eye-opening statistics.

WE ELECT BUT SIX . . .

First, did you know that we elect but six men every three years, and that these men are charged with the important responsibility of running our local government?

They are the mayor, commissioners for Public Affairs, Accounts and Finance, Public Health and Safety, Streets and Public Improvements, Public Property and the Police Magistrate.

And, by the way, did you know that Highland Park has had 27 mayors since the incorporation of our city on March 11, 1869?

Now we don't hear much about it, and we're afraid we just take it for granted, but there's a lot of praise due Highland Park's Water Department which is discussed in this booklet.

MEANS GREAT DEAL TO US . . .

Highland Park's water service means a great deal to us.

It furnishes a supply of highest quality filtered water for drinking, cooking, washing, sprinkling and sanitation purposes. (Incidentally, there are nearly 50 miles of sewers in town which carry waste materials to septic tanks for treatment.)

If it wasn't for the water department, fire insurance rates here would be prohibitive.

The booklet points out that our water department is self-sustaining, deriving its revenue from the sale of water to customers.

COSTS \$850,000 . . .

We can take justified pride in our \$850,000 water purification plant and pumping station located on the shore of Lake Michigan at the foot of Central Ave.

Function of this neat plant is to take water from the lake, purify it and pump it into the distribution system.

From two pipes, which extend into the lake for approximately one half mile, water flows into an intake well near the plant. From this well it is pumped into purification units. Four purification chemicals are added and sediment, odors and bacteria are removed.

After the water is filtered, it goes into an underground storage reservoir with a capacity of a million and one quarter gallons. From here it is pumped into water mains extending throughout the city.

TREMENDOUS NORMAL CAPACITY . . .

That tall building you've seen in Sunset park near the intersection of Central Ave. and Green Bay Road, is an elevated storage tank with a capacity for 500,000 gallons.

Our water plant, according to the report, has a normal daily capacity of seven million gallons which is an annual capacity of 2,555,000,000 gallons, plus an emergency daily capacity of 8,000,000 gallons!

That's a lot of water — but we need it and we use it.

And here's another fact about how we're protected should fires ever sweep Highland Park.

The booklet says that after meeting regular daily water requirements, a maximum of 17 fire streams can be provided continuously by our plant, and that for a period of four hours, 34 fire streams can be maintained.

HOW WE SPEND OUR MONEY . . .

The street department's indispensable duties are discussed as well as the fire department's.

But because we've written about their functions before in this space, we'll pass over them at this time.

There's also some interesting data about Highland Park's library in the report and we recommend you read it.

According to the booklet, the greatest part of our tax dollar goes for the elementary schools; next the city government; then the high school, county government, park district, North Shore Sanitary District and, lastly, mosquito abatement.

WE'RE IN GOOD SHAPE . . .

Glancing over the financial status of Highland Park recorded in the booklet, our town is in sound financial condition, our receipts being quite a bit larger than our disbursements, which is always a healthy sign.

There's a breakdown of how the money collected is spent; the facts are revealing and should be noted by every tax-paying Highland Parker.

HIGHLAND PARK'S FUTURE . . .

On page 86, City Council members discuss Highland Park's future.

According to the experts, the desirable population for our town in 1970 will be 26,000 persons.

Heaviest concentration will be around the central shopping area. Prediction is that there'll be a considerable increase in the number of people living between the railroad and the lake front as the larger estates are gradually resubdivided.

Low lands along the East Skokie drainage ditch, subject to flooding, are not suited for residents. Limited population is proposed there, the report says.

In the western portions of Highland Park, it's recommended that the population should be grouped into compact districts. These should contain enough persons to warrant economical provision of urban facilities and services.

EXPERTS' CONCLUSIONS . . .

The experts conclude that over 50 per cent of the city is still vacant and unused for urban purposes.

"The entire population pattern is practicable and not impossible of achievement," they write, adding:

"It will afford so many advantages and economies that the citizens should cooperate in and insist upon its realization."

As this column sees it, Highland Park can look forward to a bright, prosperous future if we can remember:

"The salvation of the community is watchfulness of the citizen."

Let's keep our great little town foremost in our minds, and let's all work together in improving what we're so lucky to be blessed with now.

(Column Editor's Note: We realize, City Council Members, that we've given a sketchy review of your fine work. We wish we could have done better. But you did such a splendid job in your booklet that we believe everyone should read it from cover to cover. Thank you for giving this clear picture of Highland Park's inner workings—to us citizens.—W.N.S.)

LIBRARY FRIENDS . . .

Last Monday evening, in the auditorium of Highland Park's fine library, nearly 100 citizens, interested in learning about this town's "Home of Knowledge," gathered

and created a new and what we consider an affirmative, organization designed to arouse interest in our library.

This organization, or club, will be known as "Friends of the Highland Park Library."

And every Highland Parker is invited to become a member.

LIBRARY MUST ENLIGHTEN . . .

"A library is not a physical depository for books, but a dynamic force which supplements and implements education.

"A library must live. It must go out to the people. It must inform. It must educate. It must enlighten the citizen and help him grow mentally.

"That is the job of a library like yours."

Speaking was Mr. Franklin J. Meine, chairman of the Friends of the Library of Chicago, a man who realizes the important part a good, adequately-equipped library plays in the cultural development of a community like ours.

ASK MISS EGAN . . .

The writer feels honored indeed that he has been nominated to work with this forward-looking group interested in showing the many vital roles the library plays in our daily life.

Too, we want to show the help needed to keep this town's cultural center up front with the leaders in this speedy Atomic age.

But more about this new club in a later column.

Should you wish more immediate information, may we recommend that you visit our library and ask Miss Mary A. Egan, pleas-

ant and able head of Highland Park's Home of Knowledge, about the new group.

H. Park Practitioners Attend Veterinary Meet

Mustering more than 400 practitioners, largest membership in its history, the Illinois State Veterinary Medical association will hold its sixty-fifth convention in Springfield, Jan. 29-31. It will be the first three-day conference ever held by the association. Size of the gathering will necessitate dividing committee and special section meetings between Springfield's two largest hotels, also for the first time in history.

Highland Park is represented in the association of five practitioners, Drs. James A. Butterworth, William A. Denny, Nelson S. Mayo, Matt J. Skala and John J. Spanabel.

Sandra Meitus Heads IRC at Monticello

In a recent election of the International Relations club at Monticello college, Alton, Ill., Sandra Meitus, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Meitus of Ravine Drive, was elected president of the club. The IRC plans to hold several panel discussions with students and faculty members actively participating.

Girl Scouts Honored

Troop 8 of West Ridge school recently held an investiture ceremony for Mary Driscoll and Barbara Wing.

The girls of this troop are especially proud to report that they earned nineteen dollars by taking subscriptions for Christmas cards through the American Girl Quaint Shop.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Friday, Jan. 24—
 - 7:30 pm Rifle and Pistol (Rifle). Deerfield range. No high school.
- Saturday, Jan. 25—
 - 9:00 pm Saturday Evening club. YWCA.
- Sunday, Jan. 26
 - 4:30 pm Charles E. Wilson. "Pre-and Post-War Germany." Bethany church.
- Monday, Jan. 27—
 - 10:00 am Trinity Guild. Parish house.
 - 11 to 3 pm Infant Welfare groups. Homes.
 - 12:15 pm Rotary. Sunset Valley.
 - 1:30 pm Mussart club. Homes.
 - 6:30 pm Kiwanis. Sunset Valley.
 - 7:30 pm Rifle and Pistol (pistol). Deerfield Range.
 - 8:00 pm Moose. Witten hall.
 - 8:00 pm Social Service. Annual meeting. Community Center.
 - 8:00 pm City Council. City Hall.
- Tuesday, Jan. 28—
 - 1:30 pm H. P. Women's club dessert-bridge. Club house.
 - 7:30 pm Dads' Smoker. High school.
 - 8:00 pm Bethany Men's Brotherhood. Homes.
 - 8:00 pm St. John's Women's auxiliary at home of Mrs. Edward Hall, 782 North End Ct.
 - 8:00 pm First United Philathea Women's class. Homes.
 - 8:00 pm H. P. Community Players. Community center.
- Wednesday, Jan. 29—
 - Ravinia Woman's club. Village house. Reception and tea for new members.
- Thursday, Jan. 30—
 - 7:00 pm Lions club. Sunset Valley.
 - 7:30 pm Painting class. YWCA.

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE READING ROOM

A place for quiet thought and study, where the Bible, and Christian Science Literature may be read, borrowed, or purchased

43 NORTH SHERIDAN ROAD

Hours: Week Days . . . 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Saturdays . . . 9:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Sundays . . . 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

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Fill empty sockets and exchange burned-out light bulbs now!

You'll be surprised at the new note of cheer in your home when you add bright new bulbs to empty sockets and replace wrong-sized or burned-out bulbs. The rooms will be gay and ever so attractive!

Your family will appreciate the bright new look to their home, and when company comes, you'll welcome them into a warm, cheerful household, decorated with light.

Proper lighting is particularly important during the winter season,

not only for attractiveness, but for the comfort and protection good lighting gives you. You owe it to your family to provide the best light possible for them as they study, read and work about the house.

Don't delay . . . check your light bulbs today

Take advantage of our liberal renewal policy: To all customers on light bulb exchange service there is no charge for replacing most sizes of standard, burned-out bulbs marked "PS of NI" or "Renewal Service."

PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS

Join the **FIGHT** MARCH OF **INFANTILE PARALYSIS** DIMES JANUARY 15-30 THE NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR INFANTILE PARALYSIS