

Farnsworth Management Absolved By State Board Of Charges Leveled In Petition

Stating that it "is impelled to the conclusion that the charges are groundless," the State Housing Board has absolved the management of the Farnsworth Veterans Housing Project at Great Lakes of all charges contained in a petition submitted by 32 Lake county veterans and wives of veterans. The statement that the State Housing Board found the Lake County management guilty of all charges is contained in a voluminous 10-page report issued by the state board and signed by Temple McFayden, chairman.

The report details the charges leveled against the Lake County Housing Authority, briefly reviews that history of the Farnsworth project, presents a refutation of each charge and concludes with the statement that "... it (the State Housing Board) cannot, on the basis of its investigation, do other than absolve the Lake County Housing Authority of the charges leveled against it."

The charges, and their refutations, were:

1. A charge of "total disregard for the recognized procedure of admitting tenants..." The state authority reports that "The procedure for the admission of tenants gives recognition to eligible applicants on the basis of need and is based upon sound administrative practice."

2. A charge of "the total disregard for the housing needs of Lake county veterans and the admitting of the families and friends of the Board of Lake County Supervisors, the executive director of Farnsworth, and the members of the Lake County Housing Authority." The state authority reports that "the housing needs of Lake County Veterans were given due recognition. Improper preference for families and friends of the County Board, the Housing Authority and its Executive Director has not been shown."

"This charge is apparently based upon the misapprehension that the project is limited to veterans who are residents of Lake County."

"The fact is that 73.50% of the occupants of apartments are Lake County veterans who live and work in that county and only 2.84% are non-residents of Lake County. The remaining 23.66% is Service Personnel, including widows of deceased veteran war casualties admitted pursuant to the agreement with the United States Navy allocating 33-1/3% of the apartments for members of all the armed services. All of the tenants were processed as to eligibility in the manner hereinabove noted."

"The second phase of this charge is that families and friends of the Lake County Housing Authority, the County Board of Supervisors and the Executive Secretary of the Housing Authority were improperly granted preferences for apartments. These charges are not substantiated. In only one respect were the charges specific. These related to the two daughters of the Executive Director who with their families were occupying two apartments. The record establishes that the application of one of these daughters was filed approximately three months before the Executive Director became associated with the Authority, and that on the basis of need and other pertinent eligibility factors, she was qualified for the apartment. The second daughter is the widow of a deceased naval officer and is included in the military personnel bracket allocated to the United States Navy to which reference has heretofore been made."

3. A charge of "A total disregard for a fair system of employment and the granting of concessions; and the overstaffing of the project with needless workers who are related to members of the Lake County Board of Supervisors and were hired for the purpose of obtaining housing on the project. The State authority replies that the report of the (Lake County) Authority in regard to these charges is as follows:

This statement in regard to the fair system of employment is entirely false, inasmuch as this project is operated on a Project Management Plan, approved by the Federal Public Authority and the State Housing Board and no employees can be acquired without first obtaining the approval of these organizations. The charge mentioned that many of the employees on this project are related to the above mentioned group is entirely without foundation, inasmuch as only one individual in this entire setup is related to anybody in the above mentioned groups and then only remotely by marriage.

"This Board (the State Board) finds no evidence in contradiction to this statement.

"With regard to the granting of concessions, the facts establish that in all cases in which there was more than one applicant the concession was granted to the highest bidder pursuant to FPHA directions and regulations."

4. A charge of "A total disregard for the original qualifications for admittance to the project (and the qualifications now professed for admittance to the project) by renting to single women, couples without children, and to families who do not live in Lake County, or who have never lived in Lake County or who have never worked in Lake County."

5. A charge of "The complete failure of the Lake County Housing Authority to make public the records of the project's activities, or to submit a report of expenditures and revenues to the people of Lake County who own Farnsworth, and to whom the Lake County Housing Authority and its employees are responsible." The State board replies, "The Authority has complied with applicable laws requiring the submission of reports and the publication of its records."

"The Lake County Housing Authority is a municipal corporation and is required by the Housing Authorities Act of 1934 to submit periodic reports to this Board. This it has faithfully done. It is always required pursuant to its contract with the Federal Public Housing Administration to submit reports to that agency and it has complied with such requirement. The reports filed with this Board, and the F.P.H.A. are public records available for inspection by any citizen or taxpayer of the State. The same is true with regard to the Authorities home office records. As a municipal corporation it must bare its records to public scrutiny upon proper request."

"The charge that the Authority has failed to submit a report of expenditures and revenues to the people of Lake County improperly implies that a separate report must be submitted to them. The report to the State Housing Board and to the F.P.H.A. is the report to the people of Lake County. A separate report is not required by law."

"If in fact the Authority has refused to open its office records to the people of Lake County, such action is not consistent with its public character and obligations. From the report submitted by the Authority, however, it appears that the converse is true, and that the Authority has freely and without restriction offered its records for public inspection."

Tom Wilder Outdoor Art Class Starts Saturday, May 29

Tom Wilder's outdoor sketching and painting class will begin on Saturday afternoon, May 29, and continue through June. The group may be beginners or more advanced students, and can work in oil, watercolor or pastel.

Enrollment is limited. Apply now at the YWCA for particulars.

Stamp Club Annual Exhibit Saturday, May 22

The third annual stamp exhibit sponsored by the Community Center Junior Stamp Club and the Highland Park Stamp Club will be held at the Center on Saturday, May 22nd, at 1:30 p.m.

Mrs. Wendell E. Green To Address Interfaith Group

The annual meeting of the Inter Faith Group will be held Tuesday, May 25th, at 12:00 at the Y.W.C.A. on Laurel Avenue, with a buffet luncheon preceding a very interesting program. Election of officers for the coming year will take place immediately following the luncheon. The three prize winning essays on the subject "Broadening Inter-Group Understanding in Our High School" will be read by the High School students who wrote the essays.

Mrs. J. M. Watkins, Jr., a former Commissioner of the Girl Scouts of Highland Park, will give a short talk on "Girl Scout—a sister to every other Girl Scout." The main speaker on the program will be Mrs. Wendell E. Green of Chicago, who will discuss "Equality in Education." Mrs. Green, who is on the Speakers' Bureau of the Conference of Christians and Jews, has addressed audiences in many cities in the country on problems of inter-racial understanding and the rights of minority groups.

She is a forceful speaker who has an important message for all who are interested in a democratic way of life. It is hoped that members and friends of members and others interested in human betterment will attend this luncheon meeting. Reservations for Lunch should be made before Monday, May 24th, to Mrs. Orray T. Knight, H. P. 5271.

Two Churches Plan Joint Vacation School

Bethany Church and St. John's Church will conduct a co-operative Vacation Church School which will open on Monday, June 14, and continue for two weeks, closing on Friday, June 25. The school will be held in both churches, one department meeting at St. John's Church and two other departments meeting in Bethany Church. The two churches have conducted their own Vacation Church Schools in previous years but are combining their facilities and staffs this year that the interests of the children enrolled may be better served. The school invites the enrollment of children between the ages of 3 through 12 years. Further information about the school will be had by phoning Bethany, 3522, or St. John's, 1599.

Mrs. Harold Van Stenderen Hostess To Music Club

In accordance with a long established custom, originated by her mother, Mrs. Curtis Kimball, the final meeting of the year of the Highland Park Music Club will be held at the Barrington home of Mrs. Harold Van Stenderen, Wednesday, May 26th, at one o'clock. A picnic box lunch will precede the program. Members are asked to bring sandwiches. Salad will be provided by the Choral Ensemble, and dessert and coffee by the hostess.

Mrs. Van Stenderen's home is on Route 22, just west of Barrington Road. Club members who desire transportation, will telephone to the Club President, Mrs. Mary Ann MacFadden, at the "Y", H. P. 675.

American Legion - VFW Poppy Day Committee



"To honor the dead by helping the living"—that is the purpose of the Buddy Poppy Campaign. On next Saturday, May the 22nd, every patriotic citizen of Highland Park will be asked to buy a Buddy Poppy. We ask that you donate as generously this year as you have in the past, for the need is great. Every penny collected will be spent on the welfare of our veterans who are disabled or physically handicapped, and the widows and orphans of those who lie silent in hallowed graves.

LIBRARY PLANS ANNUAL MEETING

Friends To Meet In Library Auditorium Tuesday Evening, May 25

The annual meeting of the Friends of the Highland Park Library will be held at 8 p.m. Tuesday (May 25) at the Library auditorium. Highland Parkers are urged to become members or renew their memberships in order to vote at the meeting for an executive board of 21 persons.

"We are anxious that the board represent all interests of the community at large," Harry A. Sellery, Jr., president, explained. "Any member can make nominations from the floor and the greater the participation the broader will be our representation. Similarly, all members are asked to indicate their choice of programs for the coming year. We think of the Library not as a repository for books but as an active community service and a source of enjoyment and enrichment."

The business session of the annual meeting will be brief, with the report of the Treasurer, Mrs. John A. Bigler, the principal item. It is planned, then, to greet Miss Cora Hendee, who has recently returned as Librarian and old acquaintances are expected to be on hand to wish her well while those who have not met Miss Hendee will have an opportunity of meeting her.

Miss Hendee served at the Library from 1927 to 1935 during the years its fine building was constructed. She then was Librarian in Glen Ridge, N. J. for ten years and returned to Illinois three years ago as District Librarian in Region 5, in southern Illinois where she headed the successful demonstration of Bookmobile service for rural schools and small communities.

Also a guest at the annual meeting will be Mrs. Inger Boye who has been in charge of the Library's children's room since 1935 and whose work with youngsters has long been recognized as an outstanding community service.

The Library Assistants, Misses Nancy Spring, Elizabeth Evans and Nancy Huhn are expected to join the meeting when the Library closes at 9.

Although, as Mr. Sellery said, nominations are welcomed from the floor, they will also be brought by a nominating committee composed of Frank Wichman, Joseph Caro, Mrs. Howard Detmer, Mrs. Harry Van Ornum and Mrs. Harold J. D'Ancona.

Membership blanks are obtainable at the Library and are being received by the Treasurer, Box 582, Highland Park.

Campbell Chapter To Hold Special Meetings

Campbell chapter, O.E.S., will hold two special meetings on Saturday, May 22, one at 4 p.m., and the other at 7:30 p.m. Several new members will be initiated.

A pot luck supper will be held at 6 o'clock sharp, between the two meetings.

Highland Park High School Music Department To Present Festival On May 21 and 23

Highland Park Home Show To Award 75 Free Gifts

A Model 700 Philco Television set heads the list of 75 free gifts to be awarded at the Highland Park Spring Home Show to be held at the Ravinia Village House on June 4, 5 and 6.

Drawings for door prizes will be held each night.

The show is being sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Highland Park and the proceeds will be used in connection with its youth program. No part of the proceeds will accrue to the benefit of the Club nor its members.

Everything from floor coverings to roofing material will be included in the 28 exhibits at the show. Several new types of heating equipment will be on display.

The Club has contributed one space to the Highland Park High school, where the Building Trades, Art and Home Economics departments will display the work being done at the High school in Home building, furnishing and decorating.

VFW Conducts Initiation With Effective Rituals

On Wednesday evening, May 12, thirteen new members were initiated into the VFW post by Highland Park Memorial Post No. 4737, in an inspiring ceremony. Comrade Richard Landes of the George Ball Post No. 450 of Chicago, presided at the Chicago Memorial Post No. 1604 Ritual team, which did an inspiring job of initiating. Many on this team have been in ritualistic work in their Post for the past 25 years, and are veterans of the First World War. Those initiated were: J. P. Word, R. C. Schlabowske, C. G. Swan, A. T. Harris, F. P. Betz, W. Richardson, W. Olson, J. Bogart, R. O'Dea, E. Brennan, L. Moon, C. Spaulding and D. Dever.

Three outstanding members of the Illinois State Champion Drum and Bugle corps did a superb job of assisting. These men are all winners in the State finals for their outstanding ability as buglers. Also presented was the winner of the juvenile division in the VFW, a drum major of unusual achievements. Also a future drum major, now a mascot in the corps—a three year old boy, who will in time perform wonders with a baton.

Lincoln Eighth Grade To Present Comedy "Growing Pains"

The Eighth Grade of Lincoln School will present the class play, entitled "Growing Pains" on Friday, May 21, 7:30 p.m., Lincoln School Auditorium.

"Growing Pains" is a hilarious comedy that concerns the antics of adolescents. The setting of the play is laid in a small midwestern college town, where the two children of professor McIntyre vie for prestige and recognition in their group. David Cox as George McIntyre, in the throes of "puppy love"; Nancy Smalley as Terry McIntyre, growing into womanhood, head the cast. The other players are as follows: Ann Curtis as Mrs. McIntyre; John Goodman, Professor McIntyre; Carole Williams, Sophie; Debby Ross, Mrs. Patterson; Joanne Holden, Elsie Patterson; Steven Ross, traffic officer; Ronny Salyards, Dutch; Don May, Brian; Sandy Klee, Omar; Barry Sturgis, Hal; Stanley Pagenkopf, Pete; Joan Cederborg, Prudence; Mavis Grostad, Patty; Nancy Lee Dalla Valle, Jane; Barbara Barnes, Miriam; Mary Lou Owens, Vivian.

Miss Helen E. Boyce is the director of the play. The other participants in producing the play are Harold Rudolph, custodian, stage setting; Walter Borg, printing of tickets and program; Mrs. Nema Whitehouse, sale of tickets.

Music Directors Announce Festival Program

Harold N. Finch, who will conduct the High School orchestra and band, and Chester Kyle, who directs the choruses, have announced the following program for their May Festival, May 21 and 23.

At the Friday night performance the orchestra will play the Overture, "Marriage of Figaro"—Mozart; Nordic Symphony—"Andante Tereamente con Simplicita"—Hanson; "Variations Symphoniques" for 'cello and orchestra—Boellmann, with Ella May Baird as soloist; "Promenade"—Andersen.

The Girls' Chorus will sing "Thine Alone"—Herbert; "Calm As the Night"—Bohm; "Dona Nobis Pacem"—Palestrina; "O Divine Redeemer"—Gounod. Accompanist is Carolyn Botker.

The Boys' Chorus, with Harold Schick at the piano, will present a spiritual, "De Animals a-comin'" by Bartholomew, and the mixed ensemble will sing two madrigals, "Matona, Lovely Maiden," by di Lasso, and "Now Sleeps the Crimson Petal," by Thiman.

The Mixed Chorus' songs include "Great Day"—Youmans; "Rustling Leaves"—a Russian folk song; "Begin the Beguine"—Porter; and "Dry Bones," a spiritual arranged by Gearhart. Jeanne Herberg and Harold Schick accompany this group.

The Girls' Chorus, Mixed Chorus, and Orchestra combine to present a choral arrangement of Liszt's "Second Hungarian Rhapsody"—"Romany Life."

In Sunday's concert, at 3:30, Janeth Finch will be soloist with the band. She will play "Morcean de Concert" for horn and band, by Saint-Saens.

The band will also play My Hero, march transcription from "The Chocolate Soldier," by Herbert-Alford; Symphony in B flat for band—allegro moderato—by Fauchet; Overture to Apollo—Wood; March, Semper Fidelis—Souza.

The Mixed Chorus will sing "The Creation"—Richter; "The Prayer"—Kountz; and featuring Kathie Laing at the piano, will present "Hymn to Music"—Chopin-Ringwald.

The Girls' Chorus numbers include "Allah's Holiday"—Friml; "Flowing River," a Chilean folk song; "Tiritomba," an Italian folk song; and two Gershwin numbers—"The Man I Love," and "Clap Yo' Hands." Nancy Newman accompanies this group.

The Mixed Ensemble will sing the Spiritual—"Climbin' Up The Mountain," and the German Song—"Der Schnitzelbank."

For the finale the groups unite in a performance of Edward Grieg's "Landsighting."

Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Of Vetter Electric Service

This year marks the 25th anniversary of "Vetter and Better" Electric Service and Fixtures in Highland Park.

The proprietor, Arthur Vetter, was born and raised in this town, and married June 15, 1921. He is a member of the Bethany Evangelical United Brethren church, and of the Masonic and Moose orders, and he is proud of the fact that his home and business are free of debt. His son, Dan, 20, is an expert electrician, and his daughter, Valerie, 18, is employed at the Public Service offices.

Mr. Vetter is a genial man, whose aim in life is to live the ten commandments, love his neighbor and spread cheer. He is also in love with his work, and his aim is to give "Vetter and Better" service at all times.

He is proud to live in Highland Park, which he considers the best city in the whole United States.