

The Highland Park Press

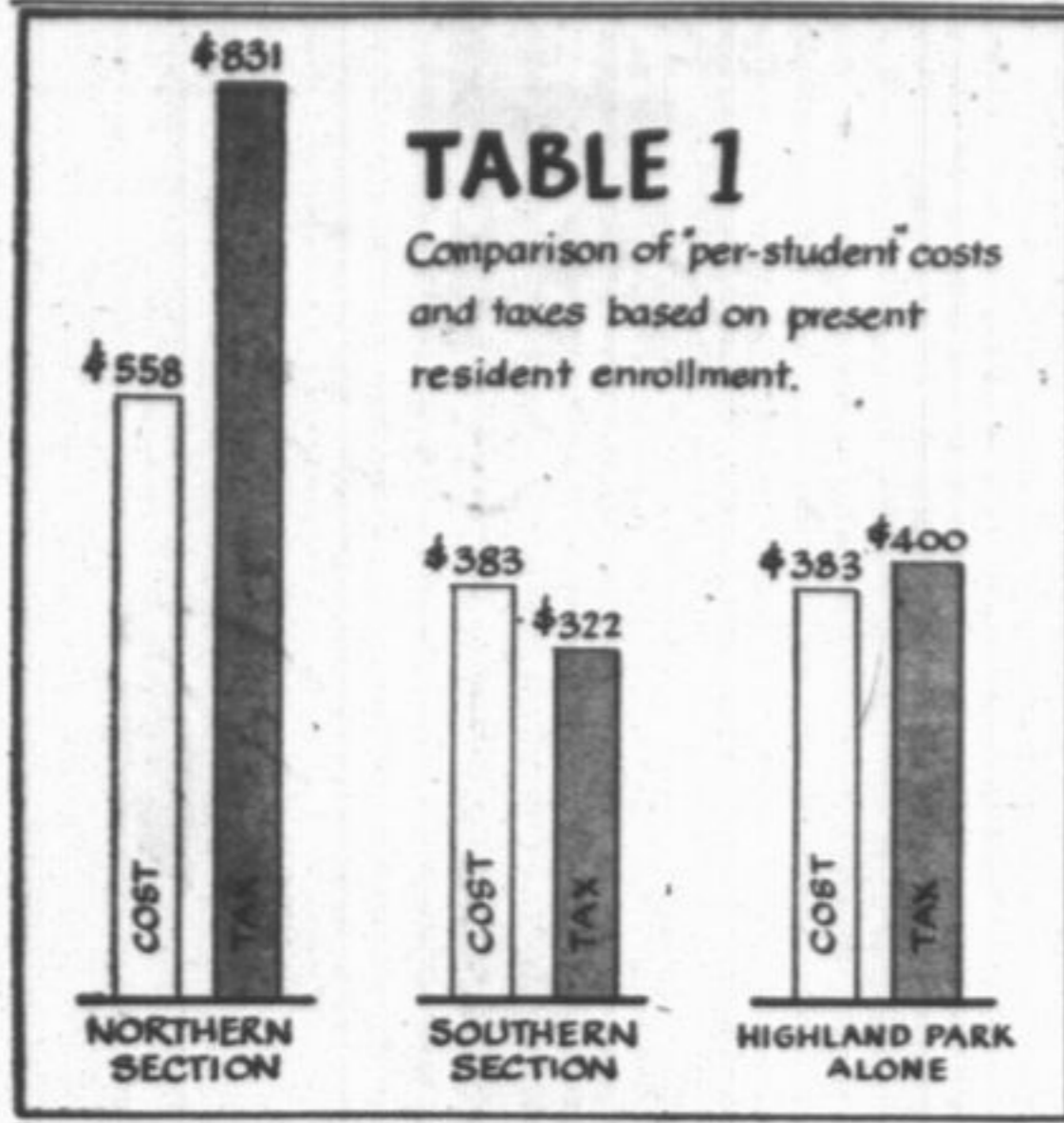
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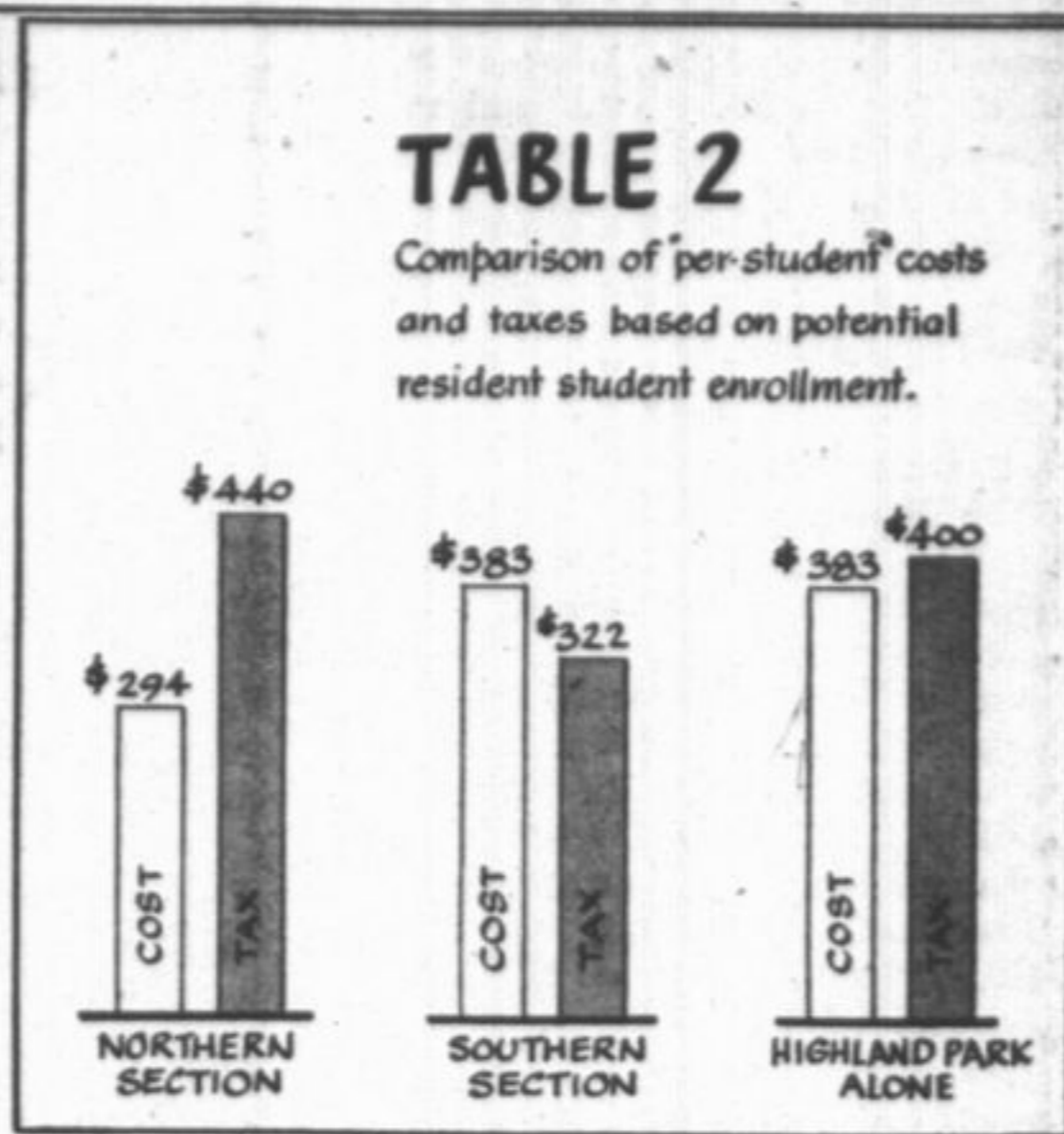
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Explanation in Adjoining Column



Up To Now

By Bill Thomas

• JOHN T. McCUTCHEON

The passing of John T. McCutcheon, famous Chicago Tribune cartoonist, evoked poignant memories for millions of Americans, and particularly for Midwesterners who, because they are Midwesterners, have always felt close to McCutcheon's Midwestern viewpoint.

Oldtimers in Highland Park remember both McCutcheon and his famous fellow Hoosier and friend, George Ade, as summer residents here many years ago. In fact, Albert Larson, veteran Highland Park merchant, whose friendliness has gained him a quick acquaintanceship with almost everyone who has ever entered his store, remembers taking his first automobile ride with George Ade, in the days when both Ade and McCutcheon were spending their summers here.

• WORTH CAREFUL READING

We reprint herewith an editorial which appeared in a recent issue of The Chicago Daily News, following a story by Jack Mabley, of the Daily News staff, revealing the enormous fees paid in Lake county inheritance tax cases for "investigations." Following is the Daily News editorial. We think it is well worthwhile reading.

THE FEE RACKET

The Daily News last week revealed that enormous fees were paid to friends of former Attorney General George H. Barrett for acting as "investigators" in inheritance cases. This is a prime example of the pickings that were available when spoils politics took precedence over personal scruples, community interest, and public confidence in democratic self-government.

Two business executives of a Waukegan newspaper received \$51,420 over a seven year period for "investigating" the value of property in just 23 inheritance tax cases. After the Nov. 2 defeat of Barrett, when time was running out, the son of the assistant attorney general at Waukegan got \$15,650 in two months for similar "services."

The scandalous nature of these payments in Lake County can best be appreciated by comparing the fees for similar services paid in comparable estate cases in Cook County. Here there was no complacent county judge with political alliances to approve whatever payments might be recommended by the attorney general's office.

The estate of the late James M. Hopkins was administered in Lake County. State inheritance taxes amounted to \$53,896. Fees to Barrett's friends who "investigated" the value of the property were \$5,205.

In Cook County, the estate of the late Stuyvesant Peabody paid \$36,393 in state taxes. Fees for investigation were \$20. The Emma G. Shorey estate paid \$31,549 in taxes; investigation fees were \$48. Taxes on the Helen Swift Neilson estate were \$183,491; fees were \$55.

For further contrast, in Lake County the estate of Frederick G. Wacker paid \$12,815, and fees were \$1,205. Similarly, the Joseph M. Cudahy estate was taxed \$112,858. The "investigators" received \$9,606.

In brief, it was the practice in Lake County to allot about 10 per cent of the value of the estate to the "investigators." This payment came out of the public purse, from the taxes received by the state.

It is significant that the Waukegan assistant attorney general asked that the Lake County Probate judge act as county judge in estate cases for the period in which his son received the \$15,650 bonanza.

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"Lake Forest H. S. Cost Analysis Was Incorrect" Say Opponents

Spokesmen for the group that actively led the opposition to the separation of the High School District expressed gratification this week over the decision by the School Trustees of Deerfield Township, denying Lake Forest's petition to withdraw.

"The decision of the School Trustees is the only one that was possible, considering the true facts in the controversy," reads the statement issued earlier this week.

"As a matter of fact, several important points bearing on the matter were not given sufficient emphasis in previous public discussions. A few weeks ago, Lake Forest's proponents of the separation published a group of charts which were based in several instances on statistical inaccuracies which affect a proper comparison between the two sections of the High School District. For example, the high school costs for the Northern Section were shown as \$150,378.00, whereas the Board of Education's records showed them to be \$192,917.99. When questioned about this incorrect figure, the Lake Forest spokesmen said that the total costs were divided by all the enrolled students to get a per student cost, but were then multiplied by only the resident students, leaving the tuition students out of this calculation. This presupposes that if Lake Forest had no tuition students, the cost of running the high school would be considerably less. This seems hardly a justifiable assumption in a school that was built to accommodate 650 students but is only taking care of 443, even including the tuition students."

The statement points out that, aside from such inaccuracies, Lake Forest's analysis of costs and taxes is based on a premise that is wholly misleading.

Public schools are built to take care of the children in a community and to provide, as far as possible, for the community's growth. When a large number of children in the community choose not to use the existing public schools, any analysis of taxes and costs on a "per student" basis becomes greatly distorted.

All of the analyses presented for the Northern Section of the school district are meaningless because they completely disregard the mystery.

What has become of Lake Forest's children of high school age?

This is a very important question, because in all the published analyses, the high school taxes

(continued on page 6)

RAVINA FESTIVAL OPENS JUNE 28

Presents Fritz Busch In Four Programs During First Week

The 14th Ravinia Festival season presents its opening concert on Tuesday evening, June 28, with Fritz Busch, celebrated conductor of symphony and opera, conducting the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in an All Wagner Program.

Busch is the first of six distinguished guest conductors each of whom will conduct a week's schedule of four concerts for six weeks of symphonic music at the North Shore Park on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday evenings at 8:30 o'clock and on Sunday afternoon at 4:00 o'clock.

The Overture to "Rienzi" will open the 1949 season. Second on the program will be Prelude to "Lohengrin" followed by Overture and Bacchanale from "Tannhauser".

After the intermission the orchestra will play the Good Friday Spell from "Parsifal," Siegfried's Rhine Journey, from "Götterdämmerung," the Prelude and Isolde's Love Death from "Tristan and Isolde". The Prelude, Dance from Act III from "Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg" will conclude the program.

The music of Mozart will dominate the Thursday evening, program of June 30. Six Mozart selections will be performed during the first half of the program. A quartet of Four Metropolitan Opera stars will be heard in solos, duets and trios from several of the Austrian composer's operas.

Members of the operatic quartet—who present the first of the special events of the 14th Ravinia season—are Irene Jessner, soprano; Uta Graf, lyric soprano; Herta Glaz, contralto; and Jerome Hines, basso. After the intermission they will assist Mr. Busch in presenting, in concert form, the popular modern opera "Der Rosenkavalier" by Richard Strauss.

The orchestra under the direction of Busch will open the Thursday evening program with Mozart's Overture to "Don Juan". It will be followed by four opera selections, presented for the first time at Ravinia. Jerome Hines will sing the Aria "Mentre ti lascio" and Irene Jessner and Herta Glaz will be heard in duet in the "Marriage of Figaro". Mr. Hines, Miss Jessner and Miss Glaz will then join in presenting "Così fan tutte". Uta Graf, Irene Jessner and Herta Glaz will be heard in "The Magic Flute".

Mr. Busch and the orchestra will conclude the first half of the program with the Mozart Symphony, D Major (Kochel 504). The presentation of selections from "Der Rosenkavalier" will occupy the second half of the program.

The concert on Saturday evening, July 2, will include another Ravinia first. Alfvén's "Midsummer Wake," Swedish Rhapsody, Opus 19, will be presented for the first time to a Ravinia audience. Busch also has chosen Rossini's "Overture to William Tell," Carpenter's "Symphony No. 2" and Beethoven's "Symphony No. 7, A Major, Opus 92" for the Thursday concert.

The Metropolitan Opera's quartet will again join Fritz Busch for the Sunday afternoon, July 3, concert when the entire Thursday evening's program will be repeated.

Seven Junior Playgrounds Open Monday, June 20

Public Invited To Inspect Post Office Improvements Tomorrow (Friday)

Tomorrow (Friday) the public is invited to inspect the improvements made in the Highland Park Post Office during the past three months. The work-room, the postmaster's office and the new basement recreation room will be open to the public from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Visitors may see mail being handled and ask as many questions as they wish.

Among the improvements are new fluorescent lighting in the work room, installation of a modern ventilating system, complete redecoration in post office gray, re-arrangement of equipment and many other improvements.

Postmaster Cobb states that helicopter air-mail service is planned to start here in August greatly expediting air mail service from Chicago and adjacent towns.

Sunset Park Day Camp Opens Wednesday

The Day Camp which is held every Wednesday at Sunset Park during the Highland Park Recreation Department summer program, will begin this week—Wednesday, June 22nd. The day's activities include games, handicraft work, folk-dancing, story hour and nature walks. The program starts at 9:30 and ends at 3:00 p.m.

This day camp is open to all Highland Park children and there are no fees or charges connected with it. Children should bring their own lunch and money for milk.

Lions To Install New Officers Thursday, June 30

On Thursday evening, June 30, at the Elk's club, Burton Hoffman, newly elected governor of District 1-F will install the following officers of the Highland Park Lions' club for the coming year: President—Ray J. Sheahan; 1st Vice Pres.—Bert D. Greene; 2nd Vice Pres.—John Wehrheim; 3rd Vice Pres.—Gordon Fowler; Secretary—G. J. Dinkello; Treasurer—Ted S. Marks; Lion Tamer—Lloyd Larson; Tail Twister—Wally Bieger; Director—Fred Schweiger; Director—Fred Moon.

The Lions' club and the Rotary club will be guests of the Highland Park Kiwanis club at a golf tournament to be staged at Sunset Park, Wednesday, August 3.

Board of Dist. No. 108 To Hold Regular Meeting June 21

The Board of Education, School District 108, will hold its regular meeting for the month of June on Tuesday, June 21 instead of Tuesday, June 14—the regular date.

The meeting on June 21 will be the regular Board meeting of the month and will also be the Public Hearing on the Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the fiscal year 1949-50.

Recreation Staff Meeting Friday Night

There will be a meeting of the summer staff of the Highland Park Recreation Department on Friday, June 17th, at 7:30 p.m., at the Community Center. All instructors and assistants and senior and junior counselors should attend this meeting.

Illinois Society Urges Elimination Of Fireworks On 4th

The Illinois Society of the Prevention of Blindness urges everyone to protect their children and their pets by full observance of the anti-fireworks law. A firecracker might cost your sight.

In Operation For Seven Weeks

Seven Junior Playgrounds will open on Monday, June 20th, under the supervision of the Highland Park Playground and Recreation Department. These neighborhood playgrounds will be in operation Mondays through Fridays for seven weeks and will provide activities directed by qualified instructors in dramatics, games, crafts, story-hour, picnics and special events.

The playgrounds are open from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and are for all Highland Park children from five through eleven years of age.

Locations and instructors are:
Braeside School Playground—2232 Pierce Road
Instructor—Nancy Knight
Assistant—Martha Weaver
Elm Place School Playground—Sheridan Road and Elm Place
Instructor—Barbara Clark
Assistants—Ted Pincus and Diane Harris

Lincoln School Park Playground—Lincoln Avenue and Green Bay Road

Instructor—Peggy Stair
Assistant—Emily Ann Perrault
Old Elm Park Playground—Krenn Avenue and Sumac Road
Open on Tuesday and Thursday mornings only

Instructor—Jacquelin Fridrich
Ravinia School Playground—Roger Williams and Kincaid Street

Instructor—Helen Culver
Assistant—Bill Temple
Sunset Playground—Green Bay Road and Central Avenue

Instructor—Bernice Kortendick
Assistant—Jerry Nugent

West Ridge Playground—West Ridge School, 930 So. Ridge Road
Open on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings only

Instructors—Virginia Freberg and Thora Hodge.

Mayor's Proclamation

WHEREAS the City of Highland Park has been the recipient by gift of a beautiful Gardener's Memorial Garden from the MEN'S GARDEN CLUB, and

WHEREAS said Gardener's Memorial Garden was developed and is maintained by the Men's Garden Club of Highland Park to serve as a source of inspiration, pleasure, and education for all our people, and

WHEREAS a more wide-spread interest and participation in the benefits of said Gardener's Memorial Garden by the citizens of our community is desirable.

Now, therefore, I Robert F. Patton, Mayor of Highland Park by authority of the City Council hereby proclaim the week of June 26 to July 3 as HIGHLAND PARK ROSE WEEK and authorize such programs and ceremonies as may be appropriately placed under the sponsorship and direction of the MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF HIGHLAND PARK, and be it further

Proclaimed that your Mayor and City Council extend a hearty and cordial invitation to all our people to visit the Gardener's Memorial Garden at least once during HIGHLAND PARK ROSE WEEK.

Robt. F. Patton, Mayor

Highland Parker To Attend International Association

Charlie Hitchcock, 1719 Hiawatha Trail, Highland Park, will be expected to point a host of Americans and those of other nations July 3-9 in the 47th annual convention of International Platform Association, University of North Carolina Campus, Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

Mr. Hitchcock is author-actor-humorist associated with International Platform Association, and presents living pictures of episodes in American Democracy.

Mayor Patton Makes Plea For Accident-Free Fourth

The nationwide Fourth of July program now being conducted by the National Safety Council to hold down the holiday accident toll is a challenge to everyone in Highland Park.

I urge every citizen to join with me in a wholehearted concerted effort to make the Fourth of July an accident-free holiday celebration for all of us.

It can be a holiday weekend free from accidents and the death and suffering that accompany

them, if each and every one of us will accept personal responsibility for a safe and sane celebration.

Remember that the Fourth of July commemorates the happiest day in our nation's history. Let us honor the memory of those who died to bring about and maintain America's freedom by celebrating the holiday safely—and insuring continued happiness for all of us in Highland Park.

Robt. F. Patton, Mayor