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Up To Now

By Bill Thomas

This week's comment will be largely historical. It is designed to bring certain widely-known information to those who are obviously not in possession of it.

Specifically, this information concerns the size of the Highland Park police, fire and street departments; the reason for their present size and what the city administration has tried to do about it.

In 1947, because new state laws limited the city tax rates, it became obvious that Highland Park's tax rate would not yield sufficient income to maintain the above-mentioned departments at the size they were at that time. Under the new state law, it became necessary to hold a referendum so that the voters might authorize a higher tax rate, if they wished to do so.

The referendum was given wide publicity. The voters were told that if they voted down the increase, it would be necessary to reduce the police department by three men, the fire department by three men, and to make cuts in the personnel of the street department. In addition, it was explained, the city would also have to curtail other services. The voters were told that the city would have to cut its expenditures to the extent of some \$37,000 a year, because its income would be cut by that amount if the referendum were not approved.

On the election day, in April, 1948, about 60 per cent of the city's legal voters didn't bother to come to the polls. About 1,100 voted for the proposition; about 1500 voted against it. So the cuts in personnel and service were made.

In 1949 water bonds were paid off, and some of the revenue from the operation of the water department became available for general purposes.

However, the average wage of the city worker in Highland Park was about \$400 a year less than that paid for comparable jobs in comparable cities. Therefore, all of the money available from the water department could not be used to replace the reduced personnel and services. Some of it had to be used to grant well deserved and too long delayed pay increases to employees who had been retained and who had given loyal and efficient service in the face of inadequate compensation and public indifference to the injustice of that compensation's inadequacy.

Mayor Robert Patton maintains a simplified statement which shows the city's income and its expenditures. He will be glad to show this statement to any interested citizen upon request. He and the rest of the city council will welcome and consider any constructive suggestion. If the suggestion is workable, it will be adopted; if not, the reason or reasons that it will not work will be explained.

There's the story; constructive suggestion may help solve some of the problems. Sitting back and yelping, "I don't like it", won't solve anything.

High School Problems

ARTICLE VII

By Mrs. Mason Smith

In our tour of inspection of the High School these last few weeks, we started at the back of the grounds with the Power Plant, Sandwick Hall, the Auditorium and Industrial Arts buildings.

Today we ramble around the East building, the one along St. Johns Avenue, that extends between Shields Hall and the area-way south of the Auditorium. It contains the English Club Room which is familiar to all PTA members past and present.

This building was erected in 1915, and is now "useless"—Let's face it!—from an administrative standpoint, as a functional building in our present set-up. The rooms are too small for modern methods of education in which student participation is stressed. Five of the rooms are roughly 15 ft by 22 ft and must accommodate 20 to 25 students at desks or in chairs with writing arms, plus a teacher's desk and supplies. The rooms are used for Science, English, Core Curriculum, and Commerce subjects.

When the core program developed into a regular part of our curriculum, it was necessary, because of the method of teaching (by the study of projects, participation in committee activity, debate and discussion, oral reports, etc.) to have a large room to house it. To provide this a wall between two rooms was removed, but the two sections are still on different floor levels.

The Cafeteria is in the basement of this building. We have three lunch periods, serving a total of from 300 to 400 students in each of the different shifts. On hot and humid days in the fall and spring, the pipes drip and the walls get wet and the floor becomes slippery and dangerous, when so many are walking around on it.

The building is also a fire hazard. It is full of open shafts. Fire would travel up these as it would

(Continued on page 6)

Three Candidates Named For School Board Of District 108

The Caucus, composed of representatives from the four schools in District 108, held its final meeting on Sunday, Feb. 19, at the West Ridge School. The Caucus presents and endorses the following slate of three. Robert S. Cushman for president to succeed J. M. Maxwell who is retiring after three terms as president. Munroe Fearing as a candidate for member to run for a three year term. Harold Foreman, Jr., who has served one year on the Board, as a candidate for a three year term.

Robert S. Cushman is a graduate of Harvard Law School, Class of 1929, and is a partner in the firm of MacLeish, Spray, Price and Underwood. Munroe Fearing is a graduate of Yale University, Class of 1929 and is now vice-president and General Merchandise Manager of Carson Pirie Scott & Co. Harold Foreman, Jr. attended Dartmouth and is an executive in the trucking industry.

The election will be held Saturday April 8 from Noon to 7 P.M. Polling places for West Ridge and Lincoln are at Lincoln and for Braeside and Ravinia at the Ravinia School.

Highland Parker Heads Illinois Cancer Drive To Open April 1

Goal for the 1950 fund-raising campaign of the Illinois Division, American Cancer Society, is \$900,000, announces A. E. Patton, 453 So. Sheridan road, vice president and secretary of the Public Service Company of Northern Illinois, state campaign chairman. The drive will open April 1.

Concert Date Changed; April 2 Is New Date

Sunday, April 2 is the date set for the Annual Spring Concert in the Highland Park high school Auditorium at 3:30 in the afternoon.

The band and chorus will both appear in the program.

RED CROSS DRIVE PROGRESSES

The 1950 Red Cross Fund Campaign is in full swing in Highland Park and every resident will have an opportunity to contribute. Block workers have been chosen to bring in each neighborhood's share of the \$2,700,000 quota set for the Chicago Red Cross Chapter. The Chicago Chapter serves some 5,000,000 persons living in DuPage and Cook Counties and the southern half of Lake County.

More than half of each Red Cross dollar goes to help members of the Armed Forces and victims of disaster. In addition our own community is served by such Red Cross services as life-saving classes, food and nutrition counselling, first aid and accident prevention training and the teaching of home nursing techniques for caring for the sick at home.

Carl Holzheimer, fund chairman for Highland Park, in announcing the names of the block workers who will be ringing your doorbells during the month of March, urges the residents of Highland Park to remember the many Red Cross services that benefit our own community and to give generously. Names of block workers will appear next week.

Voters League Receives State Charter; List of Officers

The issuance of a charter from the State of Illinois to the District 108 Voters' League as a not for profit corporation, and the completion of the permanent organization of the League were announced today by Raymond C. Warner, League chairman.

Mr. Warner stated that the first objective of the League will be to work for the consolidation of school districts to correct what has been described as "the present crazy-quilt pattern" by Dr. H. H. Linn, Columbia University expert employed by the School Board of District 108, whose recent report confirmed the findings of the Voters' League and resulted in the shelving of the proposed \$1,400,000 intermediate school.

The League announced the following list of officers and members of its general committee:

Chairman, Raymond C. Warner; vice-chairmen: Gordon Clavey, Frederick Halton, Jr., Lorentz Knouff, Bruce Krasberg; executive secretary, Harold Pfister, Sr.; secretary, Wendall Haner; and treasurer, Gaylord Kalseim.

Members of the General Committee: Harry Aiston, Mrs. Alfred Aldridge, Bertram Beers, Mrs. William Behrens, Walter Crowds, Emory Curtis, Robert Earhart, Ross Goodwin, C. W. Haupt, Mrs. Gordon Holland, Darwin Inman, Reginald Johnson, Mrs. George Kirkgasser, Howard Lausche, Walter Lillie, Clifford Makeim, George McGhie, Jr., Frank C. Miller, Mike Miotti, George Mueller, Mrs. David Pasquesi, Mrs. George Piper, Robert S. Prosser, Stanley Rosenbaum, Lester Sanders, Hugo Schneider, Sidney Schwartz, Howard Slater, Mrs. J. Calvin Smith, George Spiel, Marshall Strauss, Mrs. Alfred Trade, Mrs. Harry Van Ornum, Mrs. W. Clarence Walsh, Robert Warner.

Little Giants Defeated By New Trier 55 to 39 In Regional Tournament

The Highland Park high school Little Giant basketball team met with a 55 to 39 defeat in the first round of the Regional tournament held at Evanston high school last night.

The Blue and White made a strong bid in the first half, gaining a 13-8 advantage at the end of the first quarter. At half time the Little Giants were behind by a 23-18 score and could not come back to gain the lead again.

Two sophomores, "Big" Bob George and Lorenzo Marchietti, sparked the team in the first period and both gave good accounts of themselves in their first game as members of the varsity.

Bobby Freeman and George led the Blue and White scoring with 11 points each.

Coach Chet Carlson used Freeman, George, Marchietti, Coleman, Zagnoli, Hall, Fiochi, Baldwin, Ponsi and Booth in an effort to advance in the tournament.

Friends Of Library To Present Roy C. Macridis Sunday March 5

Political Analyst To Discuss Recent Elections In England

The significance of the elections held in England last week will be discussed by Roy C. Macridis, well known political analyst, at the second of a series of open house events at the Highland Park Public Library at 4 p.m. Sunday (March 5).

The Friends of the Highland Park Library are presenting the discussion as part of the organization's Spring program.

Macridis is assistant professor of comparative government at Northwestern University. He is well known as an able speaker and is unusually well qualified by years of study to describe "The Prospects for the New British Government."

No election abroad has held the interest of Americans as has the recent balloting in Britain, and it is expected that Macridis will evaluate the effect of the voting on Anglo-American relations and on world affairs. There will be a question period after Macridis makes his presentation.

The speaker took his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees at Harvard and studied law and sociology at the University of Paris. During the war, he worked in the Research and Analysis branch of the Office of Strategic Services. In 1946 he served with the State Department as a member of the allied mission to observe the elections in Greece. He taught at Harvard before coming recently to Northwestern.

The third event of the Friends of the Highland Park Library will be on Sunday, April 2, at 4 p.m. when Major Howard T. Markey, sole survivor of the original pilots who tested the early jet planes, will discuss "Jet Propulsion and Guided Missiles."

The events are open without charge to members of the Friends and their guests.

Members who have not yet sent their 1949-50 dues are urged to renew memberships with H. L. Nelson, treasurer, 618 N. Green Bay road.

Voters' League Invites Statement From Candidates

Raymond C. Warner, chairman of the District 108 Voters' League, stated today that the issue of school district consolidation makes the approaching school board election in District 108 one of extreme importance, in view of the fact that \$1,400,000 of tax money still remains in the hands of the board without any announced plans for its disposition.

He observed that a caucus group recently made public the names of three candidates who will seek office as members of the school board.

While the Voters' League notes with interest the announced qualifications of each of these candidates, the League feels, according to Warner, that a consideration of prime importance is the position of each candidate on the vital issues of school district consolidation, the needs of the high school in relation to those of District 108, and the disposition of the tax funds originally appropriated for the proposed intermediate school, the plans for which have now been shelved.

With this thought in mind, the Voters' League has addressed the following letter to each of the candidates under date of February 27:

"In view of the vital importance of certain matters which will come before the new Board of Education in the immediate future, particularly with respect to the question of school district consolidation and the use to be made of the unexpended \$1,400,000 in tax funds, the Voters' League, pursuant to its purpose of providing information for the voters to guide them in advancing educational standards, respectfully re-

(Continued on page 6)

Concerts Association To Accept Next Year's Memberships, March 15

The Highland Park Community Concert Association will depart from a three-year precedent to accept advance memberships for next winter's series during its final concert, March 15, when it presents the Pittsburgh Symphony orchestra at the high school auditorium.

This announcement was forthcoming from Harold W. Norman, president, and Alfred T. Sihler, vice president, who will succeed to the presidency next season. Both officials emphasized that the quality of the 1950-51 series will depend upon the number of members who join. Attendance at the concert programs is limited to members.

Heretofore a community-wide campaign has been conducted each year prior to the first concert in the fall. The executive committee voted last night to accept memberships for the first time during the week of the Pittsburgh Symphony concert. This decision was reached because of the spirited interest and enthusiastic attendance throughout the current series.

Robert Ingwersen, treasurer, pointed out that the number of memberships not only will determine the quality of next season's lineup, but that the greater advance response obtained, the better opportunity the Community Concert Association will have in obtaining advance booking for artists of the stature members have indicated they wish to hear.

Next week all members of the Association will receive a letter accompanied by a return envelope for ease in renewing subscriptions. Memberships, costing the same as last year, may be renewed at the high school auditorium the evening of March 15, before the Pittsburgh Symphony concert. They also may be forwarded by mail, with checks payable to the Community Concert Association, to Mrs. Robert D. Ingwersen, secretary, at 346 East Park Ave., Highland Park. Pittsburgh Symphony

Concert members will receive an unusual treat when the Pittsburgh Symphony plays here because the great orchestra will have as guest director the world-renowned French conductor, Paul Paray.

Paray Widely Famous
—Since he became conductor of the Concerts Solenne in Paris, Mr. Paray's fame has become widespread throughout Europe. In this country he has been guest conductor of the Boston, New York, Cincinnati and Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestras.

In Mr. Paray's debut in Boston, the critic of the Christian Science Monitor said: "It was the most exciting concert we have heard in a long time... 'La Valse' had the most startling performance we have heard since Ravel himself conducted it." Of his New York concert, Olin Downes, the eminent critic of the New York Times, said: "Mr. Paray is a find... In this remarkably equipped conductor we have first and last a musician, not a sensationalist, but a most perceptive interpreter, whose art should be better known to our public."

Emblem Club To Nominate Officers At March 8 Meeting

A regular business meeting of the Highland Park Emblem club will be held Wednesday, March 8 at 8 p.m. in the Elks clubrooms with the president, Mrs. Norman Hansen, presiding.

Mrs. Bert Berube, chairman of the nominating committee, will present the slate of those nominated for election as officers. There will be a board meeting for all officers Monday, March 6 at 8:15 in the Elks clubrooms.

Public Service Co. Begins Brown-Out; Urges Strict Economy

As part of the emergency coal conservation program, customers of Public Service Company of Northern Illinois began as of February 27 to reduce the use of electricity by 25 per cent.

The serious nature of the existing emergency requires that there be no unnecessary or improvident use of electric energy. Therefore, customers are urged to effect the largest possible and practical reduction beyond the 25 per cent by reducing their consumption of electricity by such means as elimination of dispensable window, display, sign, marquee lighting, and other uses.

This is in accordance with the Illinois Commerce Commission order, which said in part:

"No user of electricity, other than a public water supply or sewage disposal system or public street lighting system, shall, during the seven-day period February 27, 1950 to March 5, 1950, inclusive, and during each successive seven-day period thereafter until otherwise ordered by the commission, use more than 75% of such customer's average weekly use of electricity during January, 1950. A customer's average weekly use during January, 1950 shall be deemed to be seven times the daily average number of kilowatt hours used by him in his meter reading period which ended in January, 1950."

February Report Of Building Department

Permits for 8 dwellings, 1 private garage, 3 alterations and 2 public buildings have a total valuation of \$939,946—fees \$2,606.96. 33 electrical permits and 20 tank burner permits raise building department permit fees to \$2,982.21.

Permits for 9 sanitary sewers, 6 storm sewers, 9 water taps, 3 registrations and 1 driveway, raise total fees collected by the Building department to \$3,816.21.

Comparative values and number of buildings for February 1949-1950:

Year	Number	Valuation
1949	14	\$129,198.00
1950	14	939,946.00

Schedule For Waste-Paper Pick-up

March 6—Elm Place school
March 7—Lincoln
March 8—Ravinia
March 9—Braeside
March 10—Green Bay and West Ridge

Township Supervisor To Address Kiwanians At Monday Meeting

The Kiwanis club will meet at 6:30 p.m. at the Sunset Valley club house next Monday evening. The guest speaker at that meeting will be Mr. Emmett Moroney, Township supervisor, who will speak on township affairs. Mr. Moroney is a native and lifelong resident of Highland Park.