

The Highland Park Press

Highland Park's
Official Newspaper

A Paper for Highland Parkers • Published by Highland Parkers

Vol. 39; No. 3

Highland Park, Illinois

Thursday, March 16, 1950

5c a copy; \$1.50 a year



New Ravinia Park Pavilion

Up To Now

By Bill Thomas

FEDERAL CASH — FROM LOCAL POCKETS

The Winnetka city fathers are receiving well-deserved applause for their action in turning down a "free" postoffice. Their position was that the rented quarters, which have been in use for many years, are entirely adequate, and that there is no good reason for spending several hundred thousand dollars for a new building.

Such an action is praiseworthy, especially when one considers the fact that the Winnetka council probably realized that it was only defending a principle, not really saving any money. The council must have realized that the "planners" will encounter not the slightest difficulty in finding some other (and possibly even less deserving) project on which to spend the money. Nothing that has happened in recent years indicates that the spenders will ever have any trouble in finding a project.

They do have trouble in practicing any sort of economy; President Truman himself has been quoted as saying that he would like to have someone show him where federal expenditures could be cut.

For that reason, we'd like to see the end of the pay-as-you-go income tax plan. We'd like to see what would happen if, instead of never seeing the money that is withheld from the paycheck, each individual wage earner could hold the money in his hand for a few minutes before going over to the postoffice or some other approved collection place and paying it, himself. Of course, we don't expect to see that happen so we'll never know what the result would be, but we have an idea that the collective howl that would go up would convert a lot of free-spending Washington politicians into economy-minded statesmen. We think there would be no hesitation on their part if they were faced with the alternative of cutting taxes or losing their jobs. Out of sheer necessity, they'd probably even come up with a fairly sound and workable program. But as long as they can keep their jobs and keep spending, they won't change.

Voters' League To Aggressively Push Consolidation

At a meeting held at the home of Harold F. Pfister, Sr., 2322 Indian Tree Drive, on the afternoon of Sunday, March 12, the District 108 Voters' League officers and members of the General Committee of 40 unanimously approved an aggressive program to promote school district consolidation, according to an announcement made today by Raymond C. Warner, League chairman.

Warner stated that the need for consolidation is no longer debatable or in question after the recommendations of Dr. H. H. Linn, Columbia University expert recently employed by the School Board of District 108 to survey school needs, and the recommendations of educational authorities from the University of Chicago in a previous survey.

He further stated that the members of the General Committee expressed the opinion at the meeting that, if the progress the League has made is to be maintained and further progress is to be made, it is most essential that members be elected to the School Board at the coming election who will be in accord with the wishes of the people and who will proceed with a program based on (Continued on page 6)

Phil Johnson To Talk To Kiwanians

The speaker at the Kiwanis club, next Monday evening, will be Mr. Phil Johnson, well-known restaurateur, who will tell "What America Means To Me."

Mr. Johnson, who recently returned from a trip to Europe, will illustrate his talk with pictures.

To the Voters of School District 108:

March 14, 1950
Since 1945, 7,016 elementary and 204 high school districts have been consolidated within the state of Illinois.

This great progress confirms the opinion of specialists who conducted two previous District 108 surveys (Dr. Bobbit and the Field Service of the University of Chicago). Furthermore, an analysis by Professor H. H. Linn, Teachers College, Columbia University, made during December, 1949 states, "In my opinion the present crazy quilt pattern of school district organization existing in Highland Park (and other Illinois communities) has many shortcomings that interfere with the most economical development of the public school system on an overall basis, and consolidation offers definite hope for improvement."

If over 7,000 elementary school districts within the last four years have recognized the educational and economic advantages resulting from this step, then why has Highland Park been so tardy by lagging behind this trend, especially in view of the recommendations of our leading citizens and educators?

One of the principal stumbling blocks to consolidation is that the bonded indebtedness of School (Continued on page 6)

Form New Group

The Gold Star Mothers of Lake County are invited to attend a meeting at the home of Mrs. Russell H. Edwards, 2017 Waverly place, Waukegan, on Wednesday, March 22, at 2 p.m.

This is a newly formed organization, and mothers eligible for membership are urged to attend.

Steel And Concrete To House Audiences At Ravinia Park

The 15th Ravinia Festival will open Tuesday night, June 27, under a new roof, according to an announcement by Howell W. Murray of Highland Park, new chairman of the Ravinia Festival Association.

Mr. Murray, who recently succeeded Percy B. Eckhart as chairman, announced that work has already begun on concrete piers which support steel columns for the new structure and that steel construction will begin March 25. The new Ravinia roof will be fan shaped and will "float" on a row of slender steel columns at its outer edge. No columns or piers will be used inside the pavilion so the view will be entirely unobstructed from every seat.

A unique structure, the roof will be of cantilever construction, carried by two horizontal steel girders each 130 feet in length. It is the design of the architectural firm of Holabird & Root & Burgee, and is not comparable to any existing structure.

The work to be done before opening night will cost \$185,000. Mr. Murray announced, \$165,000 worth of permanent work having been done last summer. Of the total remaining cost, \$135,000 has already been contributed by friends of Ravinia without a personal solicitation. There is still \$50,000 to be raised and letters asking for contributions to the rebuilding fund are being sent to 10,000 residents of Chicago and the North Shore within the next (Continued on page 6)

Open Letter

March 13, 1950

Mr. Raymond C. Warner, Chairman, District 108 Voters' League

735 South Sheridan Road, Highland Park, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Warner: Upon my return to the city on Saturday, March 11th, I found your letter of February 27th awaiting me. Naturally, I was unable to answer your letter by March 4th as you requested, but I am answering your questions at my first opportunity.

Answering your first question, I favor the consolidation of the high school and elementary school districts in Deerfield Township into a unit school district. I was a member of the Claybaugh Legislative Commission which recommended that unit school districts be encouraged. Following that Commission's report the Illinois Legislature enacted the present community unit school district law. Under that law it will be impossible to organize a unit school district in Deerfield Township without the approval of the voters in the other districts. Dissent in District 108 and organized attacks upon the District's school board will make it difficult or impossible to persuade the voters in the other districts to vote for consolidation with District 108.

Answering your second question, I am willing to recommend to the school board of which I will be a member, if elected, that (Continued on page 6)

Old Faithful Has Yielded The Ghost

Help! We have a disaster victim in Highland Park and the Red Cross cannot help. The faithful, old (well, old for a typewriter anyway—1912 model) typewriter used by Mrs. Boynton and her staff aides in the Red Cross office has finally hit its last key. It groaned, shook and stopped as if to say, "I just can't write down one more contribution. Let one of the younger ones do it."

So Arthur C. Ropiquet of Iredale's, always a good friend of the Red Cross, immediately came to the rescue with a young, peppy Underwood which is gaily and gratefully recording your contributions. But—suppose the Underwood is called back to duty at Iredale's? Won't someone help the Red Cross in this time of disaster?

If you do have a typewriter (we don't care if it is slightly antiquated—we like old things, they have more charm, more character) you would like to donate to the Red Cross we will be happy to call for it, clean it up and treat it with loving care all the rest of its days. Please call us at the Red Cross office.

Chamber Names Committees For Current Year

The following committees have been named by the Board of Directors of the Highland Park Chamber of Commerce for the year of 1950:

Retail, John Wehrheim, chairman; Ace Elliott, Newman Fell, Sutton Laing, Dean Swift, Oscar Lundgren, Ed O'Neill and Stanley Pollak; membership, Ann Marchi, chairman, Claude Mitchell, Ralph Pottker, Howard Roshto and Will Seguin; civic improvement, Art Ropiquet, chairman, Herman Anspach, Ernest Belmont, William Cortesi, Harry Earhart, Sam Fell, Joe Garnett, Harry Gordon, Earl Gsell, Dorsey Husenetter, Gerald Mumford, Henry Nelson, John Peters, Henry Siljestrom, and George Stone.

Holiday decorations, Ace Elliott, chairman, Ruth Bahr, Jack Leach, Carl Bonn and Paul Olson; entertainment, Martin Hart, chairman, Henry Bernard, John Cortesi, Ed Knox and Nafe Larson.

Home show, Harry Schram, chairman, Herman Anspach, Paul Behanna, Walter Bieger, Bruce Blaine, Ace Elliott, Jules Reingold and George Stone; program, John Wehrheim, chairman, and audit and budget, Fenner Spalding, chairman, and Art Ropiquet.

Dads Get Together On When Junior Should Be Home

That junior and senior students at the Highland Park high school should be home not later than 12 o'clock after attending ordinary weekend events was the general feeling expressed by the Dads attending the Dads' Smoker held at the Highland Park high school on Tuesday of last week.

As an example of such weekend events, the fathers suggested basketball games and shows that the students usually attend on a Friday night. Freshmen and sophomores would be expected home from such activities between 11 and 11:30.

On special occasions, such as school dances that are commonly held on a Saturday night, the fathers generally were of the opinion that upperclassmen should be home between 1 and 1:30, and underclassmen not later than 1 o'clock. Except for some very unusual reason, only one such "late" permission per week should be granted.

Parties in homes, when the principal activity of the evening, should end at 11 o'clock for underclassmen and at 11:30 for (Continued on page 6)

New Street Numbering System In Effect This Fall

The Committee appointed by the Council to adjust the complicated street problems have about completed their work. A list of the new street names has been compiled, and as there are only six left to be adjusted a complete list will be published shortly.

A new ordinance is now in the hands of the city attorney concerning the complete renumbering of homes and public properties in the city. It is suggested that all thoughts about ordering new stationery or buying new house numbers be abandoned until the new ordinance is passed by the Council. It will be impossible to put the new numbering system into effect until late fall, 1950, at which time new signs for the renamed streets will be ready.

1950 Heart Campaign Realizes 63.4 % Of Goal Set

Suburban communities of Cook, DuPage and Lake counties have reached an average of 63.4 per cent of their goal in the 1950 Heart Campaign according to an announcement by Park Livingston, chairman of the suburban division of the Chicago Heart Association.

"The need for aid to research intended to find causes and possible cures for heart disease requires no other demonstration than is to be found in the fact that more than 600,000 persons in the United States fall victim to this malady each year," Livingston pointed out.

Red Cross Campaign Is Well Under Way

With the first two weeks of the 1950 Red Cross Campaign past, Highland Park has just about reached the half-way mark, according to Gordon L. Adamson, treasurer of the Highland Park Red Cross Campaign. "The money coming in is encouraging," said Adamson, "but we still have a long way to go to meet our goal of \$24,000.00."

The bad weather during the first two weeks in March has not hindered the volunteer block workers who, despite the snow and rain, have been calling on their neighbors telling them the Red Cross story. In complimenting these workers, Carl Holzheimer, chairman of the campaign in Highland Park said, "These Fund workers are contributing their time and effort. They receive no pay. Their reward is the satisfaction of doing well done and of helping the other fellow. I want to urge every resident of Highland Park—GIVE."

Saturday Evening Club Square Dance

On Saturday night, March 18th, the Saturday Evening Club will hold a Square Dance at the YWCA ballroom at 8:30 P. M.

The popular callers, Bart and Ede Bartram of Waukegan will be on hand with a complete P.A. system and music to lead the dancers.

Square dancing has become a favorite pastime and amusement for old and young during the last few years. The public is most cordially invited to attend these square dances which are sponsored by the Saturday Evening Club once a month on the third Saturday evening of each month.

A good-time, which includes refreshments, is assured all in attendance. Plan to come!

V.F.W. Elects Officers; Will Install April 13

At the last regular meeting of the Highland Park Memorial Post No. 4737 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars the following named men were elected to office for the year 1950. Bill Moran—commander; Bill McArthur—senior vice commander; Allen Gerkin—junior vice commander; Jim Lorimer—quartermaster; Don Athanas—chaplain; Dr. I. E. Wallis—post surgeon; Stan Pankman—3 year trustee; Francis Sheahan—judge advocate.

These officers will be installed at the next regular meeting, April 13, in Witten Hall, at 8 p.m.

Harvey L. Schipp, chief of staff, Department of Illinois V.F.W. has been asked to be installing officer and principal speaker for the evening.

Christian Science Lecture

Another lecture on Christian Science is to be offered to the members of the community and their friends on Monday evening, March 20th at 8 o'clock in the church edifice, 387 Hazel Ave., Highland Park. The lecturer is Ralph Castle of San Francisco and the title of his lecture is "Christian Science: Its Reinstatement of Primitive Christianity and Spiritual Healing".

Mr. Castle is a member of the Board of Lectureship of The Mother Church, The First Church of Christ, Scientist in Boston, Massachusetts, and is well qualified to speak on his subject. The lecture is being given under the auspices of First Church of Christ, Scientist of Highland Park, and is free to the public. All are cordially invited.

City Sells Old City Hall: Fire Station

At Monday evening's meeting of the City council, bids were accepted for two public properties—the old city hall and the old fire station.

Veterans of Foreign Wars, Highland Park Post, were the purchasers of the old city hall at a price of \$25,100, and the old fire station went to John Leonard of Highwood, real estate agent, for \$24,130.

No bids were accepted on the former USO building.

Gen. William H. Wilbur Will Speak At Republican Meeting

"IS SOCIALISM AMERICA'S CREEPING PARALYSIS?" will be the subject of General Wilbur's talk before the Republican meeting to be held Thursday evening, March 23rd, 8 p.m. at the Elm Place School Auditorium, 233 N. Sheridan Road, Highland Park.

General Wilbur, citizen, statesman and distinguished soldier, has studied Socialism at close range, having spent three months last summer in England and Western Europe. Following his retirement from the U. S. Army after World War II, General Wilbur also made several trips through the Orient and witnessed the advance of Communism and its destruction of freedom. He knows that free enterprise and individual initiative cannot survive under the dead hand of Socialism.

"It will be one of the most forceful talks ever given in Highland Park," said Mr. Edwin L. Gilroy, President of the Men's Republican Club. The meeting is under the joint auspices of the Men's Republican Club and the Deerfield Township Women's Republican Group. Everybody is invited and all seats are free.

Entertainment also will be a feature of the program. Miss Maria Santi, dramatic soprano will lead the audience in singing the National Anthem and America. There will be a group of songs by a chorus of 24 men from the Highland Park Chapter of the Barber Shop Quartet Group. Members of the group are Carl Howard, Ray Ryan, Willard Ewing, Carl Herbst, John Romer, James W. Barton, James A. C. Kelley, Gordon Parks, B. K. Perreault, George Jackson, Ralph Galitz, Robert Pease, Paul Beyers, Dr. H. E. Lang, George Reeves, John L. Zahnle, Richard H. Haffner, Vernon Peterson, Paul C. Behanna, Henry E. Franzen, Raymond M. Heuping, John W. Erickson and Harold Secrist.

The ushers at the meeting will be a group of Young Republicans headed by Mr. Channon Bowes and will include Robert Sanders, Chandler Webster, Thomas E. Gilroy, William Murphy.

Citizens' Committee To Fight Voters' League of District 108

A Citizens' Committee has been organized in District 108 to fight the Voters' League and to support the Caucus candidates Robert S. Cushman, Harold E. Foreman, Jr., and Munroe Fearing. The new group is called the Citizens' Committee for Education for District 108, and is headed by Robert C. Brown, Jr. Mr. Brown, in announcing the organization of the Committee, says "Our group has been informally in existence for some time, but until now we have felt that the issues raised by the Voters' League were of a nature that could and should be answered by the School Board, which we regard as composed of highly competent persons. While we have disliked the tactics of some members of the Voters' League and have resented their veiled threats (Continued on page 6)

Former City Hall Purchased By V.F.W.

The Highland Park Memorial Post No. 4737 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars purchased the building housing the Community Center from the City of Highland Park on February 27, 1950. The Post intends to dedicate the building at a later date to the immortal memory of those in Highland Park who paid the supreme sacrifice during world wars I and II. At that time it shall become known as the Highland Park V.F.W. Memorial Home.

Present plans call for some changes to the building interior so that the post can utilize same for their meetings and various activities. The Post will take possession when the equipment and functions of the Community Center can be transferred to their new building located in Sunset Park.