

# The Highland Park Press

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## VOTE SATURDAY AND TUESDAY

### Up To Now

By Bill Thomas

#### • USE YOUR FRANCHISE

Two elections of particular interest to Highland Parkers are coming up within the next few days. On Saturday, residents of School District 108 will have an opportunity to vote on a president and two members of the school board. We say "will have an opportunity," rather than "will vote" because if past performance is a criterion, only a relatively small percentage will actually cast ballots. Pretty much the same thing is true of the primary election for nomination to county posts, which will take place next Tuesday.

We aren't going to urge anyone to vote—don't think it does much good. But if you don't like results, why not keep yourself muzzled unless you cast a ballot?

#### • WHERE (IF ANY) IS THE FIRE?

Bearing in mind the old adage "Where there's smoke, there's fire," it will be interesting to find out, when we do, what the "fire" is behind all the "smoke" of flying saucer reports.

For a while, official explanations, including "mass hysteria," "escaped weather balloons" and "the planet Venus" seemed plausible enough, but the reports are becoming too persistent and they are coming from too many reasonably reliable sources for all of them to be fakes or mistakes.

If this turns out to be another super-secret, like the atom bomb, we hope that the American public won't be the last to know about it, and that whatever it is, it won't involve the woes that have been attendant on the discovery of the atom bomb.

#### Almost 700 Voters Join League As Applications Pour In

At an enthusiastic meeting of nearly 100 workers and members of the General Committee of the District 108 Voters' League on the afternoon of Sunday, April 2, plans were made for the completion of the program to elect Lorenz Knouff, Gordon Clavey, and Raymond Warner, League candidates, to the Board of Education, it was reported today by a League spokesman. The meeting was held at the home of Harold F. Pfister, Sr., 2322 Indian Tree Drive.

Following the meeting, Bruce Krasberg, organizing chairman of the League, announced that almost 700 voters had enrolled in the Voters' League in a little over a week in response to a membership invitation mailed to the residents of District 108.

Krasberg stated that this is without the final report of the precinct chairmen, who are accepting membership applications in each section of the district, and it is expected that the total may reach 1,000 members in the near future.

"It is particularly significant that these are paid-up members and that the rate of enrollment has been nearly 100 a day," Krasberg said. "In view of this fact, the large response has been very impressive and indicates the sweep of public opinion in favor of the New Policy of the Voters' League and the determination of the voters to end 'caucus' control of our schools, which has resulted in a \$1,400,000 debt for an intermediate school we do not need and in one of the highest per pupil school tax rates in the nation," he added.

Krasberg announced that the Voters' League candidates, Knouff, Clavey, and Warner, are pledged to the following policies:

(1) A plan for the consolidation of our school districts.  
(2) Abandonment of the intermediate school project and the confining of any school construction to proven need and a type that will conform with a plan for consolidation.

(3) Transfer of the unexpended \$1,400,000 District 108

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#### Open Letter By Citizens' Committee

To District 108 Voters' League

The Voters' League has so confused the issues in the coming School Board election that the voters in District 108 are entitled to know certain basic facts:

##### Consolidation

The Caucus candidates, Cushman, Foreman and Fearing favor a consolidation of school districts, but the School Board has no authority to initiate consolidation. Consolidation must be initiated by the voters themselves and a petition signed by two hundred voters is sufficient. Doesn't the Voters' League know this?

##### Intermediate School

The Caucus candidates realize that, with or without justification, much opposition has arisen against building the Intermediate School, and since the School Board's action should be in harmony with the will of the people, the Caucus candidates Cushman, Foreman and Fearing take the position that they do not favor construction of the Intermediate School until the consolidation question has been settled or the urgent need for the school indicated, and if the need for the School be established to their satisfaction before the consolidation question can be settled, they agree that the matter should be re-submitted to the voters of District 108 for specific approval. Furthermore, the rest of the

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#### Open Letter

914 Ridgewood Drive  
Highland Park, Illinois  
April 3, 1950

To the Editor:

I think the time has come for someone to emphatically resent the program of rumor and sinister innuendo being conducted by various persons in behalf of the Caucus candidates for the School Board.

When a cause sinks to such a point that its exponents are forced to desert all pretense of basing their position on facts and must rely upon an attempt to vilify, I am obliged to conclude that they have no justification for their

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#### Open Letter To The Voters In School Dist. 108 Highland Park

In view of the clearness and specific references released during the past eight months as to the high cost of education in District 108, it must be as amusing to the public, as it is to the Voters League, to see the spokesman for Caucus sponsored candidates attempting to divert and mislead the attention of the citizens. Therefore, the Voters League will repeat the same figures but provide the source and page numbers so that his future statements may be evaluated for what they are worth.

Photostat of 1949 School Superintendent's signed report as of June 30, 1949 is enclosed and is filed at the editor's office for anyone wishing to check these figures. Board of Education's report of December 20, 1949, page 3 Table 1 gives the opening enrollment 1948-1949 as 1038. Our apologies, Mr. Brown, for using 1039 in place of 1038. The total property valuation for District 108 is approximately 42 million dollars. Dividing this sum into \$619,694. (The amount for which the citizens were taxed for school purposes last year) gives a tax rate of \$1.46 or \$146.00 for each \$10,000. property valuation. THIS IS WHAT EACH TAXPAYER PAID AND NO AMOUNT OF DOUBLE TALK CAN CHANGE THIS FACT. Now as to tax rates for school purposes for surrounding areas. Please, Mr. Brown, check these rates with the Town Clerk of the respective towns, before referring to them as "Half-truths and Misstatements." School District No. 35 Glencoe has a property valuation of 42 million

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#### Open Letter

April 3, 1950

Highland Park Press  
516 Laurel Avenue  
Highland Park, Illinois

To the Editor:

Apart from all the issues and contentions in our approaching School Board election in District 108, is it not most important that the proper democratic procedure be followed by voters and election officials in the conduct of this election? In the over enthusiasm and perhaps ignorance of the law in some cases, it is possible that certain irregularities might arise. However, if the voters and the election officials are made acquainted with the election laws in Illinois, there is no reason why we cannot have a proper election. "Diogenes could then, blow out his lamp and go home." It is in this spirit that the following brief summary of our Illinois election laws governing school board elections is offered:

The Illinois School code provides that no person shall vote at a school election who does not possess the qualifications of a voter at a general election. These qualifications are:

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#### The District 108 Voters' League

The forthcoming school board election, April 8th, is of vital importance to all. Upon the outcome will depend whether we shall continue the caucus control of school board elections, which has resulted in a \$1,400,000 indebtedness for an intermediate school, now conceded we do not need, and a tax increase for elementary school purposes of 58.8% last year and 77% the year before WITHOUT ANY APPRECIABLE INCREASE IN THE STANDARD OF EDUCATION. On April 8th the voters will decide whether to continue caucus control or inaugurate the new policy proposed by the Voters' League, based on a program of consolidation of our several school districts, whereby we can attain a higher standard of education through the advantages of efficiency and economy with a reduction in our present taxes.

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#### Caucus Candidates - New Referendum On Intermediate School

Citizens' Committee Blasts  
Voters' League

Although the Voters' League has asked for complete abandonment of the Intermediate School, the Caucus candidates, Robert S. Cushman, Munroe Fearing and Harold E. Foreman, Jr., have virtually removed the intermediate school as an issue in the school board election in District 108 by pledging a new referendum to ascertain the will of the voters before beginning construction of the

speaking for the candidates,

"So much time has elapsed since the Intermediate School was first proposed to the voters of District 108, and so many things have transpired since then, that obviously it becomes the responsibility of the school board to make certain of the will of the people before proceeding with the school. Of course, we hope that consolidation can be effected before a definite need for the school is established, but if this is not possible, and the school board becomes convinced that the school is needed, we will certainly tell the people our conclusions, the reasons for our conclusions, and give the voters a chance to accept or reject our recommendations. The members of the school board who are not retiring this year have been polled and they also are in accord with this policy."

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#### Open Letter

April 2, 1950

Editor  
The Highland Park Press  
Highland Park, Illinois

Dear Sir:

It is the purpose of this letter to suggest a rational analysis of the coming District 108 School Board elections by means of which the voters can select those candidates most likely to conform to his own ideas of what is best for the community and himself. The positions of the candidates have been stated fairly well, so in order to eliminate complications and avoid the pale blue scent of the subtly drawn red herring, it should only be necessary to select those points upon which there is general agreement and cancel them out, thus presenting in a clearer light the factors upon which selection may effectively be based.

The Intermediate School has consistently been presented as a red hot issue. The Voters' League candidates advocate complete abandonment; the Caucus candidates, together with the incumbent members of the Board of Education, are pledged not to proceed with it without first resubmitting the proposition to the voters. Since this is the specific sort of promise to which an office holder can be held with comparative ease, it may be said that the Intermediate School, regardless of its importance, can be eliminated as an issue in this particular election.

Consolidation of school districts has also been the subject of a good deal of noisy and sometimes pointless debate. One would think that the eminent educator from Columbia had discovered it for the first time. Actually, consolidation has been lying around for a good many years as a more or less decrepit subject for cocktail party conversation. It is one of those good things that any District 108 candidate favors almost as automatically as he is against sin. But consolidation is a highly technical matter, involving reconciliation of conflicting interests, and the statutes do not provide for its initiation by Boards of Education in any event. Furthermore, the impetus for any such movement should not emanate from within District 108 at this time. The very natural confusion resulting from the injection of this complication into the process of selecting Board members makes us a doubtful quantity to other dis-

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#### Ministers From Highland Park and Highwood Join In Easter Messages

#### Deerfield Township Voters' Association Endorses Candidates

Individual Vote Important

"Only a small percentage of voters normally take the trouble to vote in a primary. Thus an even smaller percentage of well-informed voters can exercise an influence on all proportions of their number. Their vote can be the greatest single factor in the nomination of good candidates by each party. The Deerfield Township Voters Association seeks to give the public, through its members the information essential to intelligent and effective voting in the forthcoming April 11 Primary," said Herbert L. Stern, Jr., Acting Chairman, in releasing the Association's recommendations to voters in each party.

The recommendations of the Association, a non-partisan organization, are based upon questionnaires, personal interviews and other sources, according to Stern. Its recommendations were issued after its members had considered reports on all candidates at a recent Association meeting.

Sheahan, Schneider, Recommended Gregory M. Sheahan, running for County Clerk, and Hugo L. Schneider, Jr., running for County Treasurer, both native Highland Parkers, were among the candidates for Lake County offices recommended to Republican voters by the Association. The decision to support Sheahan was made, the Association announced, on the basis of his present position as Deputy County Clerk and his many years of service in other posts in that office. The Association also took note, according to Stern, of Sheahan's 16 years of successful service as Deerfield Township Collector. Schneider's present post as Chief Deputy County Treasurer was cited by the Association as qualifying him for the Republican nomination. The Association declined to recommend any Republican candidate for Sheriff of Lake County,

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#### Open Letter

April 3, 1950

To the Editor:

Information received from the headquarters of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers in Chicago states emphatically that the policy established for the National P.T.A. and all its member units provides that they refrain from participating in the selection, sponsoring, or endorsement of individual candidates for public office, including school board candidates.

It seems clear, therefore, that the very existence and function of the P.T.A. Caucus in District 108, as now constituted, are a direct violation of the national policy on the part of those participants who hold membership in the National P.T.A.

A spokesman for the caucus was quoted in a local paper on March 2, 1950, as stating that "all of

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#### Merchants Agree To Open Store Plan On Friday Evenings

As the result of a meeting held last Friday evening at the Highland Park Community Center, about 70 local merchants agreed, by popular vote, to keep their stores open one night per week for the convenience of the shopping public.

It was decided that Friday is the logical night for this plan, which will be put into effect Friday, April 14. Stores will remain open until 9 p.m. Further information will appear in next week's PRESS.

#### THE WESLEY METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Robert G. Albertson

All about us we see signs of new life and rejoice that, "The winter is past; the flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come." We stand in wonder before the transformation from death to life that springtime evidences, but we ask, "Is there a new life for man when death?"

In Easter we are assured of an ongoing relationship with God. Through the Resurrection of our Lord we are shown that man was not meant for eternal death but for life everlasting.

#### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

Rev. Bernard E. Burns

"This is the day which the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad."

Like Christmas Day, the Feast of the Resurrection of Christ has become a pagan, materialistic feast among the greater part of our people. To most Americans it has little significance beyond the "Easter parade" of new finery, candy rabbits, and baked ham. The reason for rejoicing which the Holy Scripture mentions is lost in a maelstrom of commercialism, of vying one with the other in a vain attempt to be "best dressed". Danger of atom or "H" bombs should be of little concern to one who knows and recognizes the real significance of Easter Sunday. The fact of His resurrection is the final, unchallengeable proof of Christ's divinity. Assent to that fact results in the ordering of one's life in accordance with the commands and counsels of Christ. There can be no brotherhood of man without the Fatherhood of God. The Father gave us the Leader and the means to form the kingdom of God on earth. Until Christ is exalted to His proper place in the minds and hearts of men there can be no true peace nor valid happiness, individually and collectively. This is the bulwark against the disillusionment and misery of a world gone mad, a world consuming itself by its arrogance and vanity.

Unless this world decides to bend its knee to the risen Christ, it will degenerate completely in its vain attempt to deify itself. That the Son, who raised Himself from the dead on the first Easter Sunday, take His rightful place among men should be the special prayer of all sincere followers of the Saviour on this, the anniversary of that stupendous event.

#### THE FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST SCIENTIST

and Miscellany, page 155

This Easter Message which Mary Baker Eddy, the Discoverer and Founder of Christian Science, wrote in 1902, gladdens the hearts of Christian Scientists today. "Beloved Brethren—May this glad Easter morn find the members of this dear church having a pure peace, a fresh joy, a clear vision of heaven here,—heaven within us,—and an awakened sense of the risen Christ. May long lines of light span the horizon of their hope and brighten their faith with a dawn that knows no twilight and no night."

#### BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Robert Clingman

Again we approach the Easter celebration. Even though historically old, yet to those who know and realize the significance of it, it is always new. The first celebration of this Day did not have the same meaning as of today, because an idle goddess, Eostre, was recognized. But as time moved on, the people of the Christian era recognized this Day as the time Jesus broke the bonds

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