

Up To Now

By Bill Thomas

FUTILE PROTEST

Residents of the South Greenbay road area in Highland Park got a little lesson in municipal procedure Monday night when they learned that a hearing on the project for widening South Greenbay road was not an opportunity for them to prevent the official approval of the proposal.

They had felt, apparently that all that would be necessary would be to demonstrate that the majority of the people living on the street opposed the project in order to have it shelved.

They learned their error when they were told that the city council, sitting as the board of local improvements, and not the citizens themselves, would approve or disapprove the widening.

The portion of Greenbay road affected is a stretch approximately two miles long, running from Edgewood road, near Northmoor Country Club, north to Central avenue. Now 20 feet wide, it will be widened 13 feet to match the remainder of the street.

At present, a motorist driving 30 miles an hour could cover this stretch in four minutes, if he disregarded SLOW signs at the Lincoln school and STOP signs at Deerfield road. Even after the street is widened, the same motorist would have to drive 60 miles an hour, again disregarding the signs, in order to save two minutes.

As far as the question of adequate police patrol of the area is concerned, we think the council is blameless. City officials, when they asked for a raise in the tax rate at a referendum three years ago, pointed out that the police department was inadequate in size to cope with its existing problems. However, we do believe that widening the road will intensify the need for police patrol without providing any additional means of obtaining it.

The meeting also demonstrated the strength (or weakness, according to your point of view) of the commission form of city government, as opposed to the aldermanic form. Under the aldermanic system, the alderman or aldermen representing the Greenbay road area would have been forced to vote against the project by the weight of the opinion in the ward, and would have furnished a rallying point for the opposition in fighting the proposal in the courts. Under the commission form, no representative is responsible to the voters of any particular area—hence the unanimous approval accorded the widening proposal Monday night.

There was some ill feeling at the meeting. This, we think, sprang from the misunderstanding on the part of the protestors as to the purpose of the meeting. They had thought that they were there to take part in the formation of a decision. They were there merely to be informed what the decision was.

Change Names Of Fifty-One Streets

According to an ordinance filed at the Monday night meeting of the City Council, nearly all street numbers in the city will be changed, and it is the plan of Robert F. Walker, appointed by Mayor Patton to head the new street numbering program, to change the names of fifty-one streets, thus eliminating an understandable confusion as to streets, avenues and roads. Numbering will begin at County Line road and proceed north; and at the lake and continue west.

New Appointments

Angelo Passuello was appointed sewer and water laborer in the street department at \$2688 per annum; Lawrence E. Rafferty to the fire department at \$2796, bringing the number of city firemen to 16. An addition of one to the police department will be made at the next meeting, it was stated.

Charles F. Winkler was appointed to replace Ed McCraren as garbage disposal laborer.

The Council acceded to the request of West Ridge school parents to eliminate parking in front of West Ridge school. The council also adopted an ordinance to rezone Deerfield Villa from residential to business zone. An auto agency will be constructed there by Nelson Motor Sales.

NOTICE

The General Offices of the City Hall will be closed for business all day Monday, July 3, 1950.

Mullins To Head Highwood Lions Club

Mel Mullins was chosen as president of the Highwood Lions Club at a recent meeting. Other officers have been announced as follows: 1st Vice-president, Dr. N. C. Risjord; 2nd Vice-president, Jim



MEL MULLINS

McMillan; 3rd Vice-president, Ralph Pottker; Secretary, Martin Tinetti; Treasurer, John Sebastian; Lion Tamer, Dr. Robert Rau; Tail Twister, John Bosselli; Directors: E. Santi, C. Laegerler, A. Bernardi, J. Bosselli and Dr. N. C. Risjord.

Ravinia's Opening Meets Approval Of First Nighters

Ravinia's opening on Tuesday night was a gala one, as was predicted by Renslow P. Sherer, 394 Lake avenue, trustee and chairman of the Rebuilding Committee of the Ravinia Festival Association, at a preview of the press, the previous Thursday. Ormandy's conducting of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra was up to its usual excellence.

Improvements in the park since the disastrous fire before last year's opening, are many. Features that were first worked out in scale model by engineers of the Illinois School of Technology, include a disc-like pavilion constructed completely of steel, asbestos and concrete; indirect lighting; 3,000 seats under one roof; fireproof and mothproof curtains, for use in case of rain and a splendid acoustical reproduction, used for the first time outside a radio studio.

Besides the beautiful new saucer shaped bowl in which to enjoy the music, first nighters were amazed at the feeling of being even more out of doors than was possible with the old wooden structure.

Because the new pavilion's supports are on the outside, the entire audience, including those in the free seats, was able to view the entire stage.

Aside from being the oldest outdoor concert theater, Ravinia now also has the largest and finest structure of its kind, according to Mr. Sherer.

The new pavilion, designed by Holabird, Root and Burgee, architects, measures 225 feet at the outer arc, narrowing toward the stage, which is painted in pastel green.

The screening which covers the ceiling is the main feature of the "no rebound" and softness of the music.

Outside the pavilion, too, the audience noted many improvements. Mr. John Laurie, director of the park, has outdone himself this year in making Ravinia even more beautiful than ever. His choice and placement of the twenty new trees in front of the pavilion, is especially worthy of note. Mr. Laurie marked these trees for placement from those to be removed from the parking area. He deserves much praise for the tireless way in which he goes about the supervising of a task as big as readying the park for its first concert. Mr. Laurie also promised a mosquito free concert season. Grounds and shrubbery are sprayed periodically, he says.

The soft gravel used this year also makes noiseless and easier walking.

The enlarged parking area which can now accommodate 1,000 additional cars, is most welcome to the concert goers.

Many enjoyed the facilities and

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H.P. LEGION CARNIVAL JULY 1 TO 4

Sunset Park To Be Scene Of Yearly Gala Event

Games, rides, prizes and a GRAND AWARD will be features of the annual Legion Carnival to be held at Sunset Park, July 1st and 3rd, from 6:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., and July 2nd and 4th from 3 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

The grand award will be a beautiful 1950 Super Riviera Buick, fully equipped with radio, heater, and backing lights. There will be, also, five other beautiful prizes.

The annual Legion Carnival produces the funds which are the life blood of all Legion Post's charities and activities. By attending this gala event you give yourself a treat and give a substantial boost to a good cause.

General Chairman of the event is Alan J. Harrison, Commander, assisted by Miller W. Schreiner; Finance, Chairman is Henry E. Eitner, assisted by Harry Parker; Storekeeper is Bernard Sheehy; Grand Award chairman is Jerry C. Leaming, with William Rectenwald as co-chairman. William C. Heiler has charge of the Registration Booth; Sam Crimo of the Refreshment Stand; Matt Maiman of Beverages; Hilmer Schweigert of the Hamburger Stand. Games will be conducted by Karl Sale, Gene Orrico, Chris Mathiesen, Howard Johnson, Orville Meredith, Bob Hutson, Verne Seltzer and Herman Leuer. The Auto Bump will be conducted by Albert Mueller, Candy Booth by Saylor Shanafelt, Bottle game by Richard Busbey, Ham and Bacon Booth by Frank Henderson.

Boy Scout Camp

An ideal Boy Scout camp will be set up by scouts of Troop 31, under the direction of Warner Turriff.

Plan Third Annual Highland Park Home Show Sept. 8-11

Plans were under way this week to launch the third annual Highland Park Home Show which is scheduled for September 8, 9, 10, and 11 in the Moraine hotel.

Sponsored and directed by the Highland Park Chamber of Commerce, the show is expected to attract approximately 60 exhibitors from the area, who will have an opportunity to demonstrate and sell a high level consumer market. Gifts will be awarded on the final night of the four-day show which has as an added attraction the picturesque setting of the Moraine, a recreational and social center of the north shore.

Participants in last year's show will be given first chance to enter. Other interested business firms may contact the Highland Park Chamber of Commerce for additional information. The committee of the Home Show includes Harry Schram, Herman Anspach, Paul Behanna, Walter Bieger, Bruce Blaine, C. A. Elliott, Jules Reingold and George Stone.

Ward W. Willits Passes Away Tuesday In Chicago Hospital

Funeral services will be held in Chicago tomorrow for Ward W. Willits, 90, of 715 S. Sheridan road, who passed away Tuesday in Passavant hospital, Chicago. Mr. Willits retired five years ago after 66 years as an official and employee of Adams and Westlake company, railway supplies manufacturer.

Mr. Willits started with the company as a stenographer in 1879 and rose to the presidency in 1904. Born in New Boston, he came to Chicago as a child and was educated in Chicago schools. From 1876 to 1879 he was a clerk in the law firm of Isham and Lincoln, of which Robert Todd Lincoln, son of the President, was a partner.

On Feb. 12, 1886, Mr. Willits joined the Union League club and was its oldest living member. His widow, Cecelia, a son, J. McGregor, and a daughter, Mrs. Helen W. Burnside, survive.

Kapell To Solo At Ravinia Festival In Khatchaturian Piano Concert

Council Ignores Protests; Approves Road Widening

By Bill Thomas

Residents of South Green Bay road and its connecting side streets, who attended the city council meeting en masse Monday night to protest against the proposal to widen the street saw their protests fall on deaf ears as the council voted unanimously to go ahead with the improvement.

No one attending the meeting spoke in favor of the project although Mayor Patton stated that "a family" living on South Green Bay road was "heartily in favor" of the proposal. In contrast to the opposition, which stood up to be counted, any persons favoring the project remained unidentified, with the exception of the city council itself.

It was apparent that the citizens attending the meeting were in error as to its purposes, as they were obviously under the impression that they were to take part in making the decision. This impression was dispelled near the end of the meeting when the mayor stated point blank that the decision to go ahead with the project or to abandon it, was not one that would be made by the residents concerned, but by the council, which would decide the matter as it saw fit.

There will still be a court hearing on the proposal, but observers felt that little can be done to prevent the widening, whether the people want it or not. Apparently there are no purely legal grounds on which the widening can be blocked, and in view of the fact that the council has demonstrated its indifference to public opinion, as expressed at two meetings of the property owners, it is unlikely that any further attempts to prevent the city from pushing the deal through will succeed.

Earlier evidence of this feeling was shown by residents whose children attend the Lincoln school. Their attitude was that if the road is to be widened, adequate provision should be made to protect their children from the hazards attendant upon the wider street and the greater speeds it will invite.

Commissioner E. J. Moroney, voting as a member of the board of local improvements, qualified his vote for the widening by stating that he would approve the measure only if it includes adequate protection for children who must cross the street, to attend either the Lincoln school or the Immaculate Conception school.

Representatives from the Lincoln school area stated that they would oppose the project with all means within their power unless it included provision for an underpass as a safety measure.

Opinions were expressed that an underpass might not be the answer because of the fact that children, unless supervised are likely to take the "short cut" across the street, and the possibility of undesirable persons lurking in the underpass.

Opinion of the city council seemed to be that stop and go lights, plus patrolling would better serve the purposes of protection. No definite answer was given to residents who asked how the city, now unable to provide adequate patrolling of existing streets, would finance this additional patrol.

Protestors were told that "experts" favored the widening, that it was a part of the city plan and that the state wants the road widened. No mention was made, either by council members or the protestors, as to whether the widening might not also be welcomed by the North Shore Line as providing a more adequate free road bed for the buses they would like to substitute for their present trains.

Most of the throng remained after the meeting was adjourned and questioned the board members.

Commissioner Oliver Turner

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All Tchaikovsky Program To Be Presented Sunday, July 9

The brilliant and popular young pianist, William Kapell, will play the Khatchaturian Piano Concert on Saturday night, July 8, for his first solo appearance at the 15th Ravinia Festival season. Eugene Ormandy will conduct the Chicago Symphony Orchestra for the second week.

During the week Ravinia audiences will hear the first Ravinia performance of Tchaikovsky's Overture to "The Guardsmen" during an all Tchaikovsky program on Sunday afternoon, July 9.

Ormandy will complete his two weeks' Ravinia engagement with the Tchaikovsky program on Sunday afternoon (July 9) and has chosen the Overture to "The Oprichnik," ("Guardsmen"), Tchaikovsky's third opera, as his opening selection. The opera was based on a play by the historical novelist Ivan Lazhechnikov and first presented at the Marinsky Theatre in St. Petersburg in 1874. Because the composer developed an intense dislike for this particular work, he tried to have it suppressed.

The "Oprichniks" were personal bodyguards of Ivan the Terrible and the menacing "oprichnik" theme is heard at the beginning of the Overture.

The Tuesday evening, July 4, concert will be an all Wagner Program for which Ormandy has scheduled the Overture and Venusberg Music from "Tannhauser," excerpts from "Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg," and music from "Tristan and Isolde."

On Thursday evening, July 6, Ormandy will conduct the orchestra in Brahms' "Variation on a Theme by Joseph Haydn, Opus 56a," Franck's "Symphony, D Minor," "Sibelius," "The Swan of Tuonela, Opus 22," and orchestral fragments (second series) from Ravel's "Daphnis et Chloe."

In addition to the Khatchaturian piano concerto played by Kapell, the Saturday night, July 8, concert will include Mozart's "Symphony, G. Minor (Kochel 550)," and Strauss' Tone Poem, "Don Juan, Opus 20."

On Sunday afternoon, July 9, following the Overture to "The Guardsmen," Ormandy and the orchestra will present Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 4 and Symphony No. 6.

William Kapell, who is an outstanding member of the younger generation of artists, was the first musician to introduce the music of the Russian composer Aram Khatchaturian in this country. In addition to concert tours through the United States and Canada, Kapell has been heard in Australia, Europe and South America.

Programs for the second week's concerts are as follows:

- Tuesday, July 4 at 8:30 P.M. (All Wagner Program) Overture and Venusberg Music—"Tannhauser" Excerpts from "Tristan and Isolde" Siegfried Idyll Excerpt from "Tristan and Isolde"
- Thursday, July 6 at 8:30 P.M. Variations on a theme by Haydn Brahms Symphony in D Minor Franck Swan of Tuonela Sibelius Daphnis and Chloe—2nd Suite Ravel
- Saturday, July 8 at 8:30 P.M. (William Kapell, Soloist) Symphony No. 40 in G Minor Mozart Don Juan Strauss Piano Concerto Khatchaturian
- Sunday, July 9 at 4:00 P.M. (All Tchaikovsky Program) Overture to "The Guardsmen" Symphony No. 4 Symphony No. 6