

Village Hall Notes

CARE OF WATER METERS

It has been the experience of the Water department of the Village that considerable unnecessary expense to residents is caused every year during cold weather by their failure to properly protect the water meter installed in the basement. Rule No. 2 of the Water and Light Department carries the following provision:

"No person taking water from the waterworks of the Village shall permit his service pipe or fixture connected therewith to be out of good repair or unprotected from frost. He also must provide ample protection against damage to the meter from any cause whatever and maintain its location convenient and accessible for inspection and removal."

Water meters are damaged from two causes; namely, frost and hot water.

There is little danger from damage by frost in the case of meters installed in basements, as ordinarily the basement temperature seldom falls below freezing. The principal danger lies in the possibility of a basement window being blown open during a heavy storm and allowing the meter to freeze before it is discovered. Household should therefore see that all basement windows are properly secured before the advent of extremely cold weather.

Damage from hot water is caused by boiling water being forced back through the meter, against the pressure in the mains, as a result of overheated water heaters, connected to the heating plant of the building. Hot water damages the rubber composition disc of the meter and also the celluloid dials, and necessitates expensive repairs.

No entirely satisfactory method of protecting the meter against this situation has been devised, although there are a number of combinations of check valves and relief valves on the market which are fairly reliable, but rather expensive to install.

Careful operation of the heating plant, during extremely cold weather, will obviate the necessity of the consumer paying for repairs to meters damaged by hot water. The trouble always occurs when the furnace is being forced to adequately heat the house on days when the temperature is very low. When the water in the tank is raised to boiling temperature, the movement of the steam and hot water back through the water service pipe causes a very audible pounding noise which is easily noticed. As soon as this occurs, water should be drawn from the hot water faucet so that cold water may be admitted to reduce the temperature. A little attention paid to

this matter on very cold days may result in a considerable saving to the householder.

These meters are called to the attention of our residents at this time in order that they may not be held liable for unnecessary expense under Rule 26, particularly at this time when the need of economizing in every way is of paramount importance.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

During the past four years, through the courtesy of the Winnetka Weekly Talk, the monthly balance sheet of the Village has been published without charge, for the information of citizens who are interested in following the financial progress of the municipality. The publishers now feel that they can no longer afford to contribute the space which this statement requires each month, and consequently in case it is continued, the Village will necessarily pay the usual advertising rates.

It is desired to continue the publication of the monthly balance sheet, possibly in a condensed form, in case there is shown a sufficient interest on the part of citizens to have it continued. The Village Manager therefore requests that all persons interested in having the balance sheet published each month indicate by mail or telephone to that effect.

FIRE ALARMS

G. M. Houren, Chief of the Fire Department, requests that persons turning in fire alarms by telephoning Winnetka O should state the street, name and number where the call originated, instead of merely giving their name. This precaution will greatly decrease the possibility of mistakes occurring in answering the fire calls.

IMPROVEMENTS AT INDIAN HILL STATION

A sketch showing a suggested plan for improving the environment of the Indian Hill station was submitted to the Council for informal consideration at the meeting on December 2. This plan provides for a small triangular park opposite the station, and contemplates the widening of Winnetka avenue. It is understood that the plan has met the approval of a considerable number of property owners in the neighborhood, and it is hoped that enough interest will be shown to carry this or some similar plan into execution.

SOUTH EAST PAVEMENTS

The Village Engineer reports that the last section of concrete was laid in the South East paving improvement on Tuesday, November 24. The contractors, The Marquette Construction company of Chicago, deserves great praise for their success in pushing this improvement through to completion before cold weather arrived. Although the weather con-

ditions during the past summer have been almost ideal for paving work, the contractors have met with numerous obstacles and difficulties, such as labor shortages and strikes, embargoes on material, delay in shipment of construction equipment, etc. The contractors have requested the

Board of Local Improvements for a short extension of time in which to complete the grading of the parkways, and to clean up the work. It is hoped that mild weather conditions will prevail during the next two weeks enabling them to finish up the job completely.

Musical Opportunity

It is proposed, if a total subscription of \$375.00 can be raised, to have the Shostac Quartet—a very excellent and well known string quartet of Chicago, which has been giving a most interesting series of concerts at the City Club for several seasons—give three concerts in Winnetka. These concerts would be in January, February and March.

The quality and high class of these performances is assured. The best of the old and modern schools in chamber music.

It is hoped that one hundred people in Winnetka may be sufficiently interested to subscribe an average of \$3.75 each—some more and some less—depending upon circumstances. This subscription will admit all adult members of the subscriber's family to every concert.

Will you please send your name and amount of subscription before December 15th to any one of the following,

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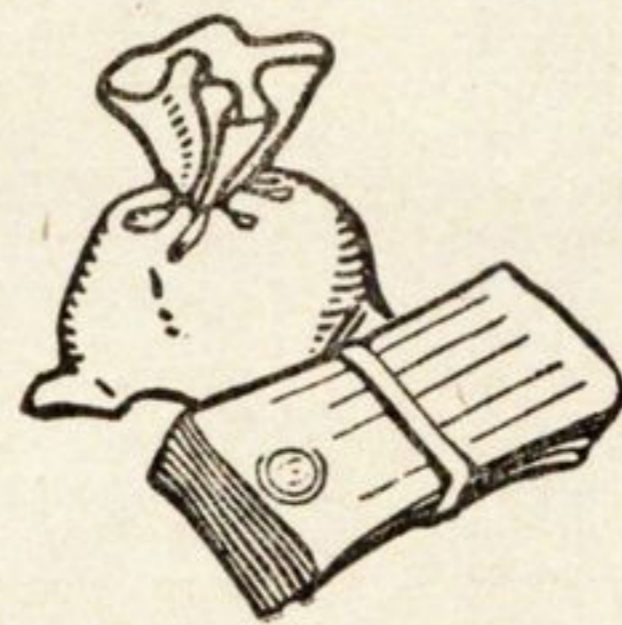
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