

WINNETKA WEEKLY TALK

Nearly Everybody In Winnetka Reads The Talk

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COMMITTEE OF 100 BACKS NEW SCHOOL

Vote Unanimous Support of Board of Education Plans and Promise Individually to Co-operate

200 AT THURSDAY MEETING

Enthusiastic Gathering Hear Reports on "Agreement" and Listen To Prominent Speakers

Members of the Committee of 100 held an enthusiastic meeting Thursday evening. The session called by President Bell of the Board of Education heard reports on recent negotiations with the Winnetka School association.

The correspondence between that association and the Board of Education, previously published in the columns of the Weekly Talk, was reviewed as embodying the agreement of the Board of Education to submit the question of the new school site to a referendum to be held on May 1.

Hall Solicitations
At first it seemed likely that the funds would be raised and then the referendum held, but the solicitors objected on the grounds that it was impossible to raise money on an uncertainty. Many givers, they declared, have stated flatly that they would consider only a definite plan as a basis for subscription.

While expressing disappointment that the campaign for funds is to be temporarily suspended, the Committee of 100 unanimously approved the action of the Board of Education and promise heartily co-operation in bringing the issue before those citizens who, as yet, are unadvised as to the need for adequate school facilities.

Asks Co-operation
Many impromptu speeches were made. Of especial interest was that of Morris Greeley, one of the older residents of the Village, who gave some interesting facts as to what the co-operative forward-looking spirit had done for the Village. Sherman Goble, Attorney Frederick Dickinson and others urged the hearty support of the Board of Education in the referendum as necessary if Winnetka is to go forward. William S. Elliott of the Park Board stated that the advantages of the West Elm street site amply justified the small expense incident to drainage of the west end of the tract.

Although called hurriedly, the meeting was well attended and pledges for active support in the referendum were secured from nearly 200 people. All sections of the Village were about equally represented.

WINNETKA MAN LEADER IN BOOSTING CHICAGO

Earl S. Barber Member of Advisory Advertising Committee of Chicago's Booster Club

Earl S. Barber, Winnetka resident and sales manager for Albert Decker and Co., clothing manufacturers, is one of the most active workers of the Chicago Boosters' club, organized several months ago to further the interests of Chicago and vicinity in supporting every movement for betterment and advancement of the city as well as advising the world at large of Chicago's attractiveness as a business and residential center.

Mr. Barber is a member of the advertising committee of the Boosters' club.

He is a member of the Union League club and the Exmoor Country club. He is a member of the advisory committee of the Chicago Chapter, Dartmouth Alumni association.

JOHN CHARLES BURKITT, OLD RESIDENT HERE, IS DEAD

Hosts of friends in Winnetka of John Charles Burkitt, formerly a resident of the Village, were shocked this week to learn of his death Monday in Highland Park. Mr. Burkitt was one of the pioneer residents of Winnetka, having lived here for more than 30 years.

Mr. Burkitt died Monday of pneumonia following several days' illness. He was 72 years old. He is survived by his widow, Jessie McAllister Burkitt, and five children: Jessie M., John P., George, Henry T., Charles, and Ernest M. Burkitt. He was the father of the late Frederick W. Burkitt. Funeral services were held this week. Mr. Burkitt moved to Highland Park last fall.

Park Board Purchases Lake Front Property

Land East of Sheridan Road and North of Elder Lane To Be Improved To Provide Beach

The Winnetka Park Board has just completed the purchase of 200 feet of lake front property just north of Elder Lane, to provide a bathing beach for the south portion of the Village. The cost of this property was \$212.50 per front foot, which is considered to be a very reasonable price under present conditions. The Park Board is also negotiating for the purchase of 100 feet south of Elder Lane, at this point.

Purchase of this land by the Park Board secures to the Village for all time the use of at least 280 feet of lake frontage. It is the announced plan of the Park Board to improve the lake shore as a bathing beach at the earliest possible date.

The most recent addition to Winnetka's parks has brought praise from residents in every section of the Village. The Park Board is highly commended for its work in this connection.

Harold's Chuckle Peeves the Judge

Judge Orders New Trial For Winnetka Burglars When one of Them Titters In Courtroom

If Harold Potter, self-confessed burglar arrested by the Winnetka police had not seen fit to snicker as the terms of his sentence were being read in the court of Judge Oscar Hebel both he and his brother Lloyd might have received minimum punishment instead of a penitentiary sentence. This is how it happened.

Harold and Lloyd were arrested December 20, by chief of Police W. M. Peterson and patrolman John Hanselman, who apprehended the pair after several days spent in tracing down burglaries in Winnetka and Glencoe. Sufficient evidence to hold them over to the Grand Jury was secured and they were charged with robbery and with having stolen property in their possession. One of the principal witnesses was Homer T. Flory, 363 Grove street, Glencoe, whose home was robbed of goods worth several hundred dollars.

The case was called Monday in Judge Hebel's court in the criminal court building, Chicago and the Potter Brothers, through W. W. O'Brien, their attorney, entered a plea of guilty. Judge Hebel sentenced them to 11 months in the house of correction. Mr. Flory requested that some restitution be made of his stolen property. The request seemed unusually humorous to Harold, whose smile broadened into a laugh and then several loud chuckles. Judge Hebel ordered a new trial. A jury was impanelled and after the jury returned a verdict of guilty Judge Hebel issued a second sentence—this time sending the Potter brothers to the penitentiary for a period of from 1 to 20 years. Harold stopped smiling.

CONTRACTOR BOUND TO GRADE S. E. PARKWAYS

Village Officials Declare Reports To Contrary Are Erroneous; Begin Work Soon

A report has been circulated in the south east section of the village to the effect that the parkways are not to be graded by the paving contractor. This is untrue, inasmuch as the south east paving contract specifically provides that the contractor shall grade the parkway between the sidewalk and the edge of the curb, and this work will be started as soon as weather conditions permit, and will be pushed with all possible speed.

This does not mean that the contractor will do finished grading or seeding, but all surplus dirt and material will be removed.

PLANS \$68,350 HOME

One of the most beautiful homes in Winnetka is to be erected soon by Mrs. Anna P. Hooker. The site for the mansion is to be at 600 Bicklee Place. It will be a brick structure built on a 106 by 46 foot lot.

CHICAGO BATTERY FIRM PROMOTES LOCAL MEN

Godfrey H. Atkin Named Western Manager of the Electric Storage Battery Company

Honors fell upon two Winnetka men in the announcement this week of the promotion of Godfrey H. Atkin, and Taliaferro Milton.

Atkin, who has been the manager of the Chicago office of the Electric Storage Battery company, for eighteen years, has been appointed manager of the western district of the company and will have charge of the company's affairs in all departments in the territory from Indiana to the Rocky mountains and from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico. This covers the existing sales offices and store-rooms in Chicago, Minneapolis, St. Louis, Kansas City and Denver.

Mr. Atkin has been connected with the electrical industry in Chicago since 1889, when he joined the staff of the Thomson Houston Electric company, afterward merged into the General Electric company. He is a member of the Indian Hill, Mid-Day, Chicago Athletic, Chicago Yacht and Royal Canadian Yacht clubs. He is an ardent sailor, and held the office of vice commodore in the Chicago Yacht club last year.

Mr. Taliaferro Milton succeeds Mr. Atkin as manager of the Chicago office.

Winnetka Population Computed at 5,115

Early Census Figures Published by Chicago Daily Place New Trier Township Population at 19,291

Early census figures announced this week by the Chicago Herald and Examiner show the population of New Trier Township (including villages and township territory proper) at 19,291, an increase of 8,414 over the figures of the census of 1910. Winnetka is now a thriving village of 5,115 residents, according to the published census, an increase in population of 1,952, or 61 per cent over the figures of 1910 which gave the village a population of 3,163.

Other census figures in New Trier Township give Glencoe 3,295 an increase of 74 per cent; Kenilworth 992, an increase of 13 per cent; Wilmette 7,825, an increase of 58 per cent. The population of New Trier outside the villages is given as 2,065.

VILLAGE WANTS WORKMEN

Superintendent of Public Works W. A. Gibbon is spending a great deal of his time these days in an energetic search for laborers for general street labor. The public works department is handicapped by the lack of workmen and Mr. Gibbon is anxious to secure about a dozen more men.

TRAFFIC HELD UP

Traffic on Sheridan road in the beautiful ravine at Hubbard Hill was blocked for several hours Sunday when the near-cloudburst caused a washout in one of the manholes. Automobile traffic was directed to other roads while repairs were being made.

EDITOR WEBER RETURNS TO DESK; CALL HIM UP

Editor E. W. "Mike" Weber of the Winnetka Weekly Talk is back on the job. He returned this week to assume active charge of the editorial department of the paper after an absence of eight weeks.

Mr. Weber recently recovered from a severe attack of pneumonia. He has suffered no ill after effects. His ears will be glad to listen to your new contributions and all suggestions concerning the most approved method of conducting his department. His eyes are bright and prepared to observe everything that's of general interest. His type key fingers (one on each hand) are in first class running order and prepared to grind out real peppy news stories.

Just call Mr. Weber, Phone Wilmette 1920 when you hear or observe something everyone should know.

Report Steady Boost In School Donations

Chairman C. H. Coffin of Campaign Committee Say Villagers Show Fine Spirit

In spite of the temporary cessation of active soliciting pending the referendum, subscriptions for Winnetka's new school have continued to come in. Zone 4, the headquarters of the "Winnetka School Association," climbed up from 2 per cent of its quota to 20 per cent during the week, in spite of opposition. Other zones likewise increased their percentage of the quota to be reached.

"One of the most gratifying things about the subscriptions is their size," said Charles Howells Coffin, chairman of the Campaign Committee, yesterday. "Many people are beginning to realize that \$350,000 is a big amount and that they will have to strain themselves to achieve it. The average subscription is between \$500 and \$1,000. There are some people who, of course, cannot afford so large an amount. Many of the less well-to-do are showing a greater spirit of self-sacrifice and active interest in the community achievement than their more fortunate neighbors.

In general the spirit is fine. If we weren't temporarily stopped by the referendum, I believe we'd have been able to go over the top within two weeks."

Incomplete returns to date show a considerable number of large subscriptions. They include the following:

1—\$60,000; 1—15,000; 5—\$5,000; 5—\$3,000; 3—1,500; 3—1,000; 1—\$750; 2—\$600; 10—\$500; 1—\$400; 2—\$350; 9—\$300; 1—\$225; 4—\$200; 2—160. Among the smaller subscriptions reported are the following: 7—\$150; 1—\$120; 19—\$100; 2—\$75; 15—\$50; 1—\$40; 7—\$25; 1—\$22.50; 1—\$20; 3—\$15; 1—\$10; 6—\$5 and 1—\$2.50.

Water Nymph Flits About Local Beach

Joseph Novicke Believes He Is God of Dance On Lake Shore Until Captured by Police

He was leaping hither and thither about the sands on the beach at North avenue, snatching at imaginary objects in the air and singing catchy little songs. His hair was long and the lower portion of his face was hid in a five-day's growth of beard. He was enjoying himself hugely and the employes at the water works were content to simply watch him as he flitted about the sands and splashed about the water's edge.

That is, they watched him until his antics became too violent. Then they called the police. When the police arrived the queer figure was still emulating the light fantastic of a water nymph but he had worked himself up to a high pitch of enthusiasm and was occasionally slapping his face, pulling his hair and kicking himself on the shins.

Questioned by chief Peterson and patrolmen Hanselman and Hendricks he insisted he was perfectly sane and demanded that somebody inform King George and Lillian Russell of his predicament.

He offered several classic names to the police who sought to discover his identity, and finally admitted his name was Joseph Novicke. Then he chuckled quietly to himself and requested that he be permitted to sleep in the cell and dine on sea-food. A search of his garments revealed a large silver soup spoon, six smoking pipes, a pocket mirror, some variously colored pebbles and several sheets of parchment paper. The paper, he said was used for writing letters to the fishes in the lake. He told the police that he had lived for four days on the lake bluffs in the vicinity of North avenue, and his one asset was a tremendous appetite.

The police believe he escaped from some institution and has been in hiding at the beach. They are making an effort to locate the institution to which they believe he was confined.

Meanwhile the beach nymph is enjoying himself in a cell and the station re-echoes with his cheerful songs.

Clear Out The Attic—Page 7

SCHOOL ASSOCIATION PONDERERS SITE ISSUE

Decides To Co-operate With Board of Education In Circulation of School Referendum Petitions

START CIRCULATION SOON

Formulate Question To Be Considered By Winnetka Citizens On Saturday, May 1

At a meeting of the Winnetka School association held Monday evening, March 29, in the Horace Mann school, the report of the General committee, appointed at a previous meeting, to negotiate with the Board of Education, was read.

The report included the association's proposal to the Board of Education, and their reply. These communications were made public in a circular issued later in the week by the Board of Education.

Referendum May 1
The association voted to recommend to the Board that the election on the question of School Site be held Saturday, May 1, 1920. A letter to that effect was addressed to the Board of Education.

It was explained that the School Board had agreed to this proposal and that petitions for the referendum were under preparation and would soon be circulated. The Board of Education and the Winnetka School association will co-operate in the circulation of the petitions, it was announced.

The efforts of the association, which was organized about five weeks ago, in presenting to the School Board the views of the citizens represented, resulted in the decision for a referendum. The citizens of the Village, under the agreement, will be afforded an opportunity to express preference as to location of a new school building to be built by popular subscription.

Formulate Question
The question to be submitted for vote by the Winnetka School association is in effect: Shall the School Board purchase the balance of the Horace Mann Block and erect a building there and purchase one half block of ground nearby for a playground or, shall they erect a building on the proposed new site on West Elm street?

CIVIC BODIES DISCUSS INDIAN HILL PROBLEMS

Village Council, Winnetka Plan Commission and Park Board In Joint Session Tuesday

Questions pertaining to Winnetka zoning in general and to the question and problems surrounding the Indian Hill Park situation were discussed Tuesday evening in a joint, closed session of the Village Council, the Winnetka Plan Commission and the Winnetka Park Board. No definite action by the joint meeting was announced.

One of the problems most generally discussed related to the most approved and equitable methods of handling office and store building permits in the Indian Hill section.

FIRE ENDANGERS GARAGE

The fire department was called Tuesday morning to extinguish a blaze starting in the vacant lot at Ridge avenue and Willow street. The high wind fanned the prairie fire and threatened destruction of the garage of Edgar F. Alden at 352 Linden avenue. There was no damage.

EVEN IN SWITZERLAND

Even in Switzerland they are reading the Winnetka Weekly Talk and in letters received here the local paper is declared indispensable. W. C. Boyden, 725 Pine street, in a communication received this week, requested that each copy of the Talk be forwarded to his residence in Geneva, Switzerland.

CAPTURES PRISONER

Frank Gray, an escaped prisoner from the guard house at Fort Sheridan, was turned over this week to the authorities at the fort. Gray was captured by motorcycle policeman Albert Ottone after he had stolen a bicycle from the home of George Bock in Highland Park. Gray was riding toward Chicago when he was stopped.