

Bell Telephone News Comments on Winnetka

Village Is Praised For Its Progressive Community Spirit

Winnetka has a prominent place in the June 1923 issue of the Bell Telephone News, official organ of the Illinois Bell Telephone company.

In a profusely illustrated article with the interesting heading, "Winnetka An Indian Expression Signifying 'Beautiful Land'" the magazine has the following to say about our fair village:

"One cannot but recognize the name Winnetka as one of Indian origin, and it is most happily chosen as the name of a village just a few miles north of Chicago. In the Pottawatomie language this euphonious word signifies 'beautiful land.'"

"Long before the white man came to this place, it was the camping ground of a Pottawatomie tribe which spent its summers here and in the fall migrated as far south as the Ohio River, camping, hunting and fishing as they moved south to a milder winter climate, always returning to their 'Winnetka' in the early summer."

"It was about seventy years ago when Charles E. Peck took steps to have the present town of Winnetka platted and recorded as a village, and it was his wife, who, wishing to perpetuate the Indian title and romance, gave the town the name it now so appropriately bears."

"Mr. Peck and his wife had come here in 1853, and the following year the 'Chicago and Milwaukee Railroad' was built from Chicago to Winnetka. There were four stations on this road; namely, Chittenden, since renamed Calvary, Evanston, Wilmette and Winnetka, which for quite a while, was the northern terminus of the road. It would seem as if the old 'turntable,' just north of the present depot, stood as a kind of mute witness of the time when all the locomotives running into Winnetka had to be turned around and headed for Chicago."

Did we say all the locomotives? All—was not many, for there were but two trains a day, each way, and no great flock of engines were needed to the traffic of that day and date.

"The first timetable was printed in 1855, and the first engines were wood burning type."

"At the same time, this twenty-mile, five-station railroad was being built, another and a similar project was started in Milwaukee, building southward under the name of 'The Milwaukee and Chicago Railroad.' These two roads were ultimately extended and united into the present Chicago and Northwestern Railway."

"At this time the Winnetka area was largely a dense natural forest of great oaks, most of which were felled for lumber and firewood, the trees of today being for the most part second growth timber."

One of the early settlers was one John Garland who bought the old Patterson tavern or roadhouse just south of North Avenue, on what is now known as Sheridan road.

"We, of to-day, must not misunderstand the meaning of roadhouse, as applied to the tavern of sixty years ago. Then the roadhouse was usually a stage coach terminal or transfer station and as such, perfectly respectable."

"We are impelled to mention this particularly because the proprietor of this North Avenue roadhouse, Mr. Garland, was of a pious turn of mind and it was he who gave the ground for and erected a chapel at his own expense right where that pretty stone church now stands in the northeast corner of the village."

"You have doubtless seen the beautiful ivy-covered church on Sheridan Road in Winnetka. That's the place. Of course, this isn't the original structure, but we wish to call our reader's attention to this church because it was chosen as the place for taking a moving picture wedding scene in the photo-play known as 'The Telephone Romance,' written, produced, photographed and shown entirely by employees of our company just before the war."

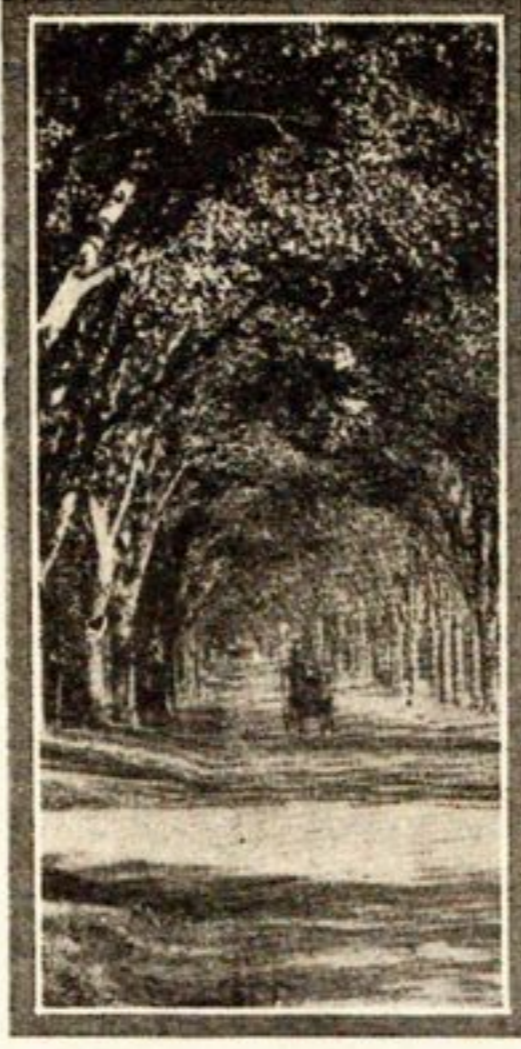
"Many Chicago citizens, encouraged by Mr. Peck, had come to Winnetka and invested in real estate for their future homes and this was at a time when a Winnetka lot was a near-farm—not a city lot, 25x125, but a regular 'landed estate.'"

"Right after the great Chicago fire of '71, there was quite a migration of people to Winnetka. Railway service back and forth had improved, and Winnetka began to be a regular suburb of Chicago."

"Then it seemed to stop growing for awhile or at least grew rather slowly until about 1890, when another period of steady and healthy growth began that has never slackened up to any appreciable extent. Until this time (1890), there were no paved streets. It was a town of mud roads. But now unpaved streets are hard to find within the limits of the village. 'And village it still is, since it has never sought a city charter, evidently



WINNETKA BRANCH OF THE TELEPHONE FAMILY



Mrs. Marie Kelley, Chief Operator



Miss Eleanor Scully, Cashier
Above at left Miss Florence Burgdorf, Operator



Left to right—Rudolph Peterson, Repairman; J. J. Sauer, Jr., Wire Chief; Harry Deily, Installer.



(At left) Left to right—Misses Hattie Saas, Marie Christian, Evelyn Lingle, Gladys Holland and Eleanor Bartlett, Operators.



Left to right Misses Mary Kucera, Midlani Troiani, Margaret Taiser, Marie Dunham and Lillian Matson, Operators.



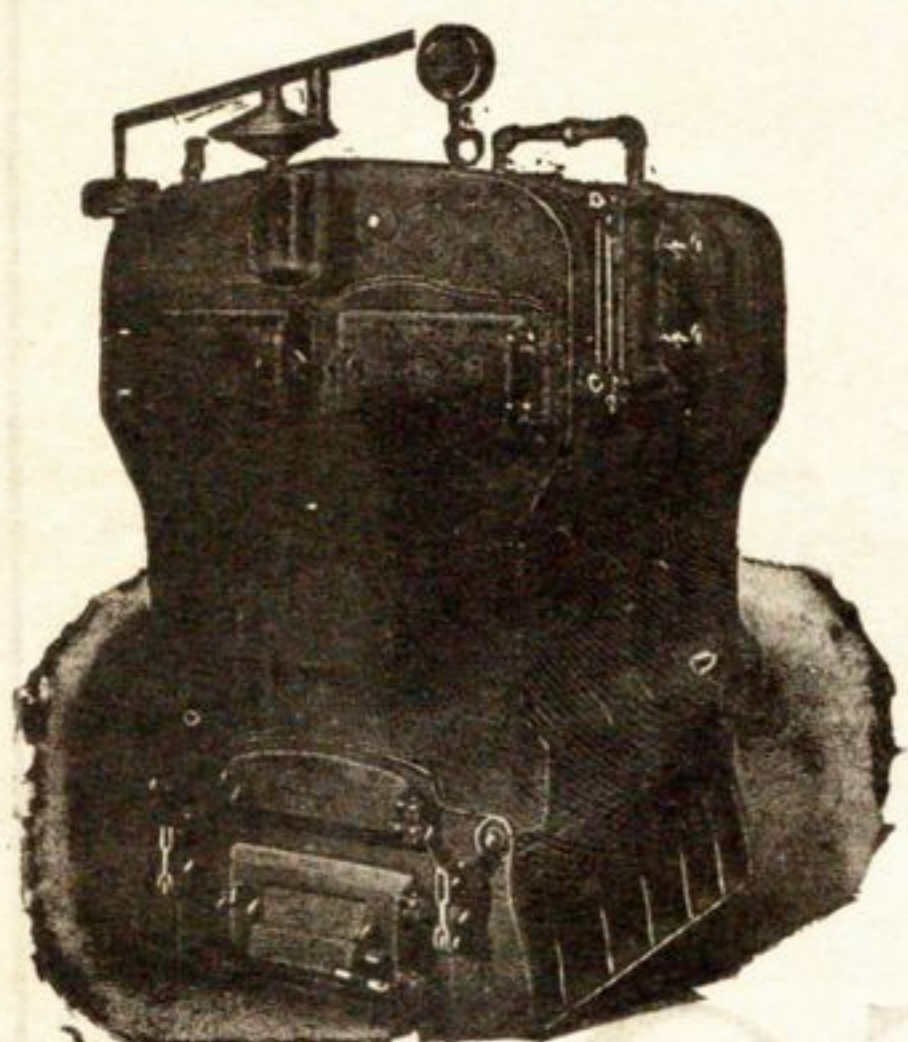
Mrs. Margaret Ware (left) and Ida Rideout, Night Operators.



Left to right—Mrs. Lottie Trudell, Miss Irene Rioux, Mrs. Nora Russell, Misses Katherine Wood, Esther Dolly and Amanda Toscani, Operators.



Miss Cecelia Schieber, Senior Supervisor, (left) and Miss Mabel Lapp, Central Office Instructor.



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Music School Students Give Recital Thursday

Pupils in the Columbia School of Music, Winnetka Branch, appeared in recital Thursday evening June 21, at 7:30 o'clock at the Winnetka Woman's club. The recital was given under the direction of Clare Osborne Reed.

Pupils who contributed to the program include: Joan Walker, Jane Dement, Doris Benson, Jane McIntosh, Barbara Hobart, Robert Harding, Peggy Sargent, Betty Gillies, Frederick Barnes, Margaret Pick, Barbara Ann Sargent, Marjorie Truesdale, Caroline Veeder, Janet Sanford, Frances Copthorne, Ada Reasner, Margery Raub, Helen Walcott, Jane Copthorne, Adalaide Atkin, Virginia Ross, Virginia Loco, Helen Whitney, Eleanor Cheney, Jean May Patterson, Jean Miller, Barbara Ballenger, Betty MacReach, Selma Flesham, Betty Dunlap, Antoinette Brown, Jeanette Hill, Marjorie Friedman, Jane Gillespie, Ruth Weil, Virginia Hobart, Mary Miller, Leila Withers, Priscilla Guthrie, Barbara Boyles, Barbara Burlingham, Joy Fairman, Eleanor Sherman, Evelyn Olsen, Jane Portis Bernice Carlstrand, Elisabeth Sanford, Jane Wilson, Helen Bell, Ashton Wilson, Margot Atkin, Virginia Wallace, Mary Miller.

Fellers, Here's Chance to Get into a Real Band

"Bring your instrument and join the band!" is the challenge of the Elks' club at Evanston to north shore musicians. The club, which has a large membership in the villages of the north shore, is organizing a band to supplement its orchestra.

"Get into the band wagon!"