

WINNETKA TALK

A Weekly News-Magazine for Winnetka

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PRICE FIVE CENTS

Dedicate Winnetka Village Hall Monday

NOMINATE CANDIDATES FOR VILLAGE OFFICES

Annual Caucus Approves Nominations and Adopts Platform; Schell for Trustee

Reuben H. Schell, the well known Winnetka merchant and president of the Winnetka Chamber of Commerce, was nominated as one of the trustees on the 1926 Village ticket, at the caucus, Monday evening. The meeting was held in the Assembly room at Community House, the seating capacity which was inadequate to accommodate the large number of voters, both men and women, who were present to participate in the caucus deliberations, and many of whom were compelled to remain standing throughout the evening.

In addition to the selection of a ticket to be voted upon at the Village election on April 6 a platform, not unlike the one on which the election was conducted last year and on which, as a matter of fact, Winnetka is builded, was adopted; a nominating committee for next year was appointed and the convention listened to an interesting address by Village President John S. Miller, in which he gave a comprehensive resume of the work accomplished by the Village during the past year and briefly outlined the work of the future.

Just One Ripple

Only once throughout the session was there the slightest indication of a ripple on the otherwise smooth surface of village politics. Sherman M. Goble said there was one man named in the list of nominees presented to the caucus, who he did not feel should be on the ticket. Not because he did not like the man, in question, he hastened to explain, but because of the precedent which was being established in nominating the representative of some other organization.

Hinton G. Clabaugh wanted to know whether one of the candidates practiced in his private business or believed in applying to private business, the principles of municipal ownership to which he had subscribed as a village candidate.

The other members of the nominating committee and the caucus in general so quickly and unanimously rallied to the support of Mr. Schell, and, as Mr. Goble explained again, there was no personal objections to his nomination, that the formal adoption of the committee's recommendation went forward without further interruption.

Four Trustee Candidates

The three trustees, whose terms expire this spring, are: Henry F. Tenney, Donald F. McPherson and Mary A. Langworthy. In addition to the foregoing, J. D. Pierce, by his resignation, created the fourth vacancy. Mr. McPherson was nominated for re-election; Mrs. Langworthy consented to renomination to fill the one year unexpired term of Mr. Pierce and Reuben H. Schell and Carl J. Easterberg are the new nominees for the full terms.

William E. Davis was re-nominated for village treasurer; Stella Winslow, for village clerk; Theodore Flynn for marshal and collector; Edward K. Lewis, for library trustee and Dudley

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FIRE CHIEF SPEAKER

G. M. Houren Tells Chamber of Commerce of Development of Local Fire Department

Members of the Winnetka Chamber of Commerce were addressed by Fire Chief George M. Houren at their meeting last Monday evening. Chief Houren told them of the history of the fire department since he has been in charge and of the changes which have brought about reduced insurance rates in the business district and have prevented a raise in rates in the residential district.

When he was first put in charge of the Winnetka fire department in 1919 the equipment consisted of a Packard truck and an old Ford hose cart which is still used occasionally by the department. He advised the Village council to buy a modern apparatus and add more men which was done the following fall, after several serious fires in the business district had clearly demonstrated the need for the additional equipment.

Shows Improvement

Chief Houren said that in the year preceding his connection with the Winnetka fire department the percentage of loss figured on the basis of value of property endangered by fire, was 30 per cent. The first year that he was in charge of the department this percentage dropped to 13 per cent, and after the addition of the new equipment and men the percentage dropped still further until at the present time it averages slightly under three per cent and has gone as low as 1.75 per cent. It is this drop in the percentage of loss which has been one of the chief means of lowering fire insurance rates in Winnetka, it was said.

The village is now in Class 5, one step behind Evanston, Oak Park and such communities, Chief Houren said. The village is at the present time planning to build a new fire station and add a city service truck and two more men to the department. This will not bring the village into a better classification, but it will place it in a position where the addition of a fire alarm system in the business district would bring Winnetka into class 4, which is on a par with Evanston and other large communities, and only one step behind Chicago, it was said.

Members of the Chamber of Commerce were much interested in Chief Houren's talk and afterward asked him many questions concerning various points. A representative of the Chicago Board of Underwriters also spoke before the meeting, explaining fire insurance rates.

Missionaries in China Defer Winnetka Visit

News comes from China that the Rev. and Mrs. Paul R. Reynolds, the missionaries of the Winnetka Congregational church at Fen Chow, China, have had to postpone the visit home they were expecting to make next summer. The recent death of the Rev. Watts O. Pye, head of the Fen Chow mission, has thrown such heavy responsibilities upon Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds that they cannot think of leaving now. In fact, word comes from Dr. Curren, a physician of the station, that both Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds have found it necessary to go to Peking for a rest.

Annual Party Will Aid in Supplying Summer Camp

Indian Hill camp, that attractive outing spot near Ludington, where boys and girls of Winnetka are taken in turn by Dr. J. W. F. Davies, each summer for a joyous season in the out-of-door, needs canoe paddles and kitchen equipment. Funds are also needed to finish payment on the tennis court, and with these incentives to spur them on, an active committee is at work for the annual camp benefit to be given April 14. The affair will offer two attractive features, a bridge at the Winnetka Woman's club, and a reading by Miss Alice Gerstenberg at the home of Mrs. L. Harrison Mettler of Hubbard Woods, where Grace La Rocco will sing. The tickets are good for either the reading or the card party.

Citizens to Vote on Village Band Question

Winnetka voters will have an opportunity to vote on the proposal to establish a municipal band at the coming Village election. A petition asking that this proposition be put on the ballot was submitted to the Village council at a meeting, early in March, and was referred to Village Attorney Frederick Dickinson for an opinion as to the legality of the matter. He rendered a favorable report to the council Tuesday evening of this week and a resolution instructing the Village Clerk to put the proposal on the ballot was passed. Under a state law a small tax may be levied for this purpose.

Voters' League Joins Men's Club at Dinner

The Men's club of Winnetka is having a joint pre-election dinner with the Winnetka League of Women Voters Wednesday, March 31, at Community House. Willard Hopkins, president of the Men's club, will preside. The Revenue Amendment will be discussed by Max Murdock of Winnetka. The second speaker will be Miss Mabel Reincke of Chicago, whose subject will be Federal Taxation. A delicious but inexpensive dinner will be served at 6:30, and the speaking will follow immediately. Reservations for plates at this dinner should be made through John Montgomery, Jr., secretary of the club.

Cops After Delinquent Vehicle, Dog Taxpayers

"Winnetka residents had better not forget that their vehicle licenses and dog taxes must be paid promptly," said Chief of Police W. M. Peterson this week. The chief asserted that residents have been very slow about these matters this year and that they have been allowed sufficient time to pay their taxes at their own convenience. He announces that a determined drive to secure payment of vehicle licenses and dog taxes will start immediately and that those who have not complied with the law in this respect will save themselves money by doing so at once.

INVITE VILLAGERS TO INSPECT NEW BUILDING

Arrange Reception, Dedication Program and General Inspection of Structure

Plans are rapidly taking shape for the dedication ceremonies and reception at the New Village hall Monday evening, March 22, under the direction of the committee of which Mrs. B. F. Langworthy is chairman and the wives of the other members of the council, are committee members.

The committee is planning to serve light refreshments following the dedicatory ceremony.

Floral decorations are being donated by Winnetka florists including Henry Ilg, Frank Borovicka and G. H. Edwards.

Send Out Invitations

Invitations signed by John S. Miller, village president, are being mailed to every household in the village and special invitations to officials of other municipalities on the north shore, other government bodies in Winnetka and former presidents of the Village and former Village trustees; also to officers of Village organizations.

Attention is being called to the fact that during the reception from 7:30 to 8:30 o'clock all departments of the building will be open for inspection, and it is urged that citizens take advantage of this opportunity to see the building as a whole and learn of the work being carried on there.

Program at 8:30 O'clock

At 8:30 o'clock the following program will be given:

Report on behalf of the Public Buildings and Grounds committee to be given by J. D. Pierce, chairman of the committee, and presentation of keys to the building.

Acceptance of the building on behalf of the Village by President John S. Miller.

Address by Judge Charles M. Thomson, chairman, Winnetka Plan Commission.

Reading of the Athenian Oath by the Rev. E. Ashley Gerhard.

Dedicatory prayer by the Rev. James Austin Richards.

Occupied Since January

The new Village hall has been occupied since shortly after the first of the year, but because of the absence of various members of the council, and of President John S. Miller for a time, the dedication was deferred. It had been planned for Monday, March 15, but because of conflicting events, was again postponed.

This event is expected to draw one of the largest crowds ever assembled in any public building in Winnetka. All departments of the new hall will be thrown open for inspection and those who attend will be furnished with complete information regarding the activities of the various departments. The Winnetka Chamber of Commerce band will furnish a musical program during the reception.