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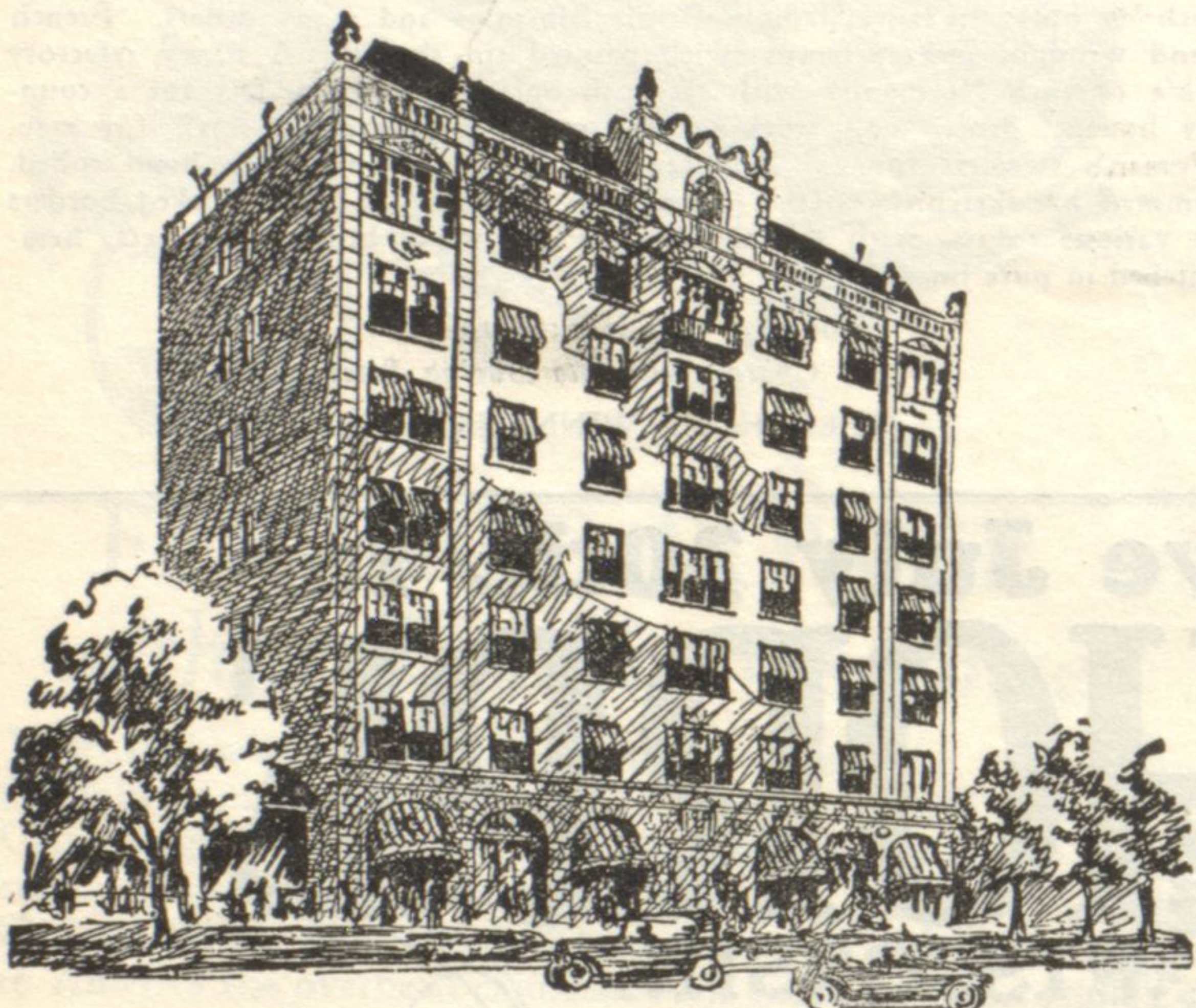
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State Teachers' Association Says Funds Are Needed

Will some of our most populous school districts be compelled to abandon their high schools, reduce teachers' salaries, shorten school terms, or make other radical retrenchments in order to save school funds? According to Service Bulletin No. 6, issued last month by the Chicago Principals' Club, one or more of these things must soon be done in Chicago unless school funds are increased.

The bulletin states that the school district is now in debt about \$25,000,000, that the debt is increasing \$4,700,000 a year, and that by the end of next year the debt will exceed the borrowing power of the district.

Two remedies are proposed: one, to increase the school tax rate; the other to raise and equalize property assessments to their "fair cash value" as the law provides. Those recommending the first show that the tax rate is now much less than in many other districts; the advocates of the second plan declare that much valuable property is assessed at a very small per cent of its value, at much less than other property or not at all. The city council has refused to submit a referendum to increase the rate as recommended by the board of education and is conducting a survey to show low and unequal assessments and to find property not assessed at all.

The State Teachers association has authentic figures showing that many school districts are even worse off than Chicago. Several districts have tax rates two or three times as high and assessable property per school child much less than in Chicago. The association claims that the extreme inequalities in wealth and number of children among the nearly 12,000 school districts in Illinois cause many acute problems that the people must soon solve or many children must go without the "good common school education" promised in our state constitution.

Union county is known as "the Switzerland of Illinois" because of its rugged and mighty hills.

CROWDS SEE PAGEANT

Thousands Witness Spectacular and Unique Historical Presentation in Chicago

The Pageant of 1776 entered upon the second of its two week's stay in Chicago on Monday. Thousands of people have been appearing nightly at the new Lincoln Park arena, east of Sheridan road at Waveland avenue, to see the spectacular presentation which is a unique combination of history and clever fire-works.

Traffic has been tied up nightly along Sheridan road while motorists stop and gaze at the unusual pictures burned out in fire against the darkness.

The spectacle, which is in commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, is a historical sequence of tableaux, depicting the romance of that time. Starting with the Boston tea party and the ride of Paul Revere, the production shows the formation of the minute men. As the troops stand at attention before the old Independence hall, the corps of marching minute men come down from the center stage. The minute men, this time, are girls who drill, face about, right oblique and quarter turn with military precision.

Battle Is Climax

The Battle of Trenton is the climax of the whole spectacle. The redcoats on the one side, the rebels on the other. The fighting is effected with fireworks. Guns shoot at first. Clouds of smoke arise. Then the cannons start booming. The cannons boomed so hard and the gun flashes reached so high the people for miles around could see and hear the scene.

As the battle is fought and the soldiers disappear, a gorgeous fireworks display takes the attention of the audience. On a huge screen the whole picture of Washington crossing the Delaware is painted out in fire—but fire of different colors.

Preceding the pageant, early in the evening, is the three ring circus. Comedy acrobats who nonchalantly step out into the air, yet manage to squirm to a landing; clever tumblers, and Charlestoning horses of Joe Miller's riding act are the principals. Nels Nelson, the feature wire walker, who has crossed Niagara Falls on a half inch cable holds the audience breathless for fifteen minutes while he dances, capers, stands up, lies down, balances on chairs—and on a wire set 100 feet up in the air.



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