

McCormick Subway Completed at Last; Road to Open Soon

The last square yard of concrete paving was laid on the million dollar six-mile McCormick road last week. As soon as this short stretch of new paving has time to cure—a matter of 28 days—the boulevard will be opened for its entire length from Devon avenue in Chicago to West Railroad avenue in Evanston.

Philip Harrington, assistant chief engineer of the Sanitary district which has built the boulevard, stated the new thoroughfare should be opened some time in the first half of October.

The completion of the boulevard was held up all this year by delay in building a subway under the tracks of the North Western's Mayfair division at Oakton street and the drainage canal. The boulevard was completed last year up to the tracks on both sides. Numerous obstacles arose which delayed the joining of the two sections through the subway.

But all was done at the subway except for a few finishing touches early this week. The concrete paving along the floor of the subway was all laid, and there remained only two small areas of asphalt surfacing to be completed.

A crew of workmen employed by the railroad this week were placing the facing on the north facade of the subway. The south facade is already completed. It carries in large letters moulded in concrete the words "C. & N. W. R. R. Crossing—McCormick road."

At each portal of the subway is placed a bronze tablet with the inscription: "McCormick Road. This road is named in honor of Colonel Robert Rutherford McCormick, a soldier of the great war, under whose administration as president of the Sanitary district of Chicago the North Shore Channel was constructed. Trustees Lawrence F. King, president; Timothy J. Crowe, Morris Eller, John K. Lawler, Frank J. Link, August W. Miller, Michael Rosenberg, Alexander N. Todd, James M. Whalen; Edward

J. Kelly, chief engineer; Philip Harrington, assistant chief engineer."

McCormick road, which parallels the sanitary canal on the west bank for six miles, is crossed in the Evanston area by Oakton, Dempster, Church and the Emerson-Simpson road as principal east and west thoroughfares which either are paved or are soon to be paved.

This forty-foot highway terminates in Evanston in West Railroad avenue, an 18-foot highway. North of the Evanston limits the county and the various north shore municipalities have plans for developing West Railroad and other highways to form a continuation of McCormick, carrying it as far north as the county line.

At present there is no provision for widening West Railroad avenue in Evanston. A municipal bond issue or state and county aid would be required to effect such widening, city officials

point out, for the North Western railroad owns the property along one side of West Railroad for its full length and the railroad cannot be assessed for the improvement. It has been suggested as the most economical way of solving the problem that the northern end of East Railroad be developed and be connected with West Railroad by a subway opposite the northern end of McCormick.

Meanwhile city officials view with apprehension the opening of McCormick and the projected completion of the paving of Asbury avenue where it joins Western avenue, for both these thoroughfares, it is expected, will pour heavy streams of traffic into narrow congested West Railroad avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Brooks, Spruce street, and their four children have returned from a summer spent at Monico, Wis.

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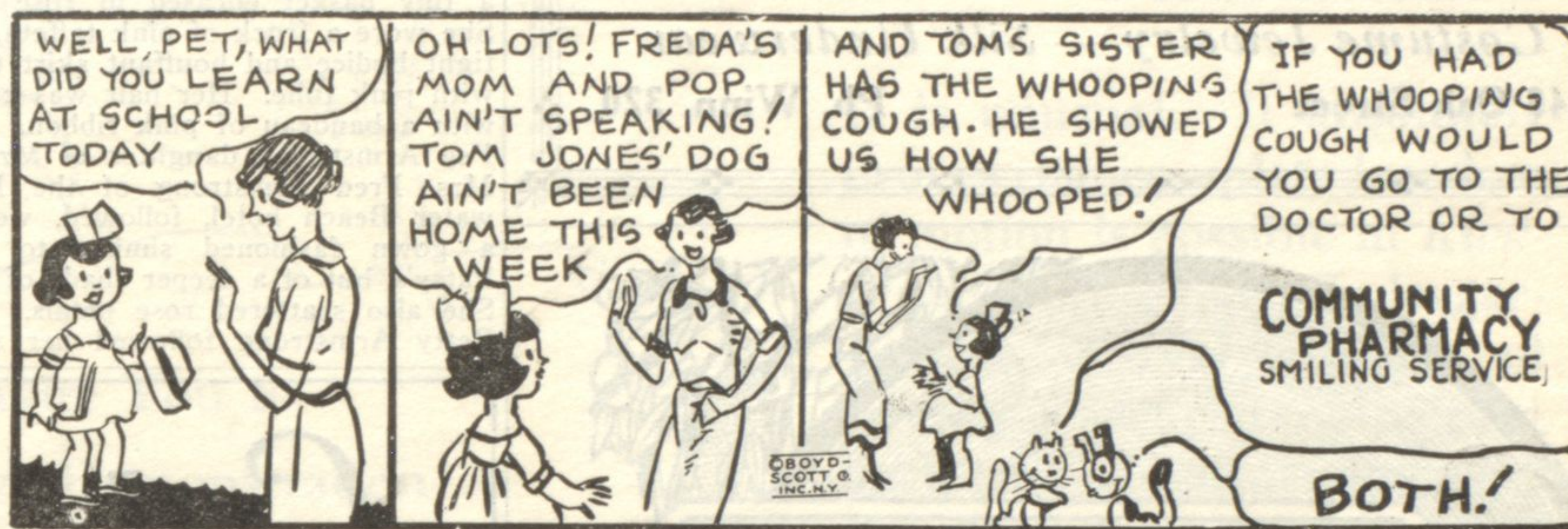
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