

*Cicely Haas*

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## PUBLIC FORUM

### CONCERNING A POST OFFICE

(A letter addressed to L. J. Schwabacher in reply to one directed by him to Winnetka Talk.)

Your recent inquiry and suggestion through Winnetka Talk regarding the use to which certain vacant Village property might be developed to the best advantage is very interesting indeed. The plan you advocate for the use of this tract is supported by a movement that had its inception several years ago with a group of business men who obtained data through our postmaster which convinced them that an important link in Winnetka's program had not received due consideration.

Thereupon it became a subject of discussion in the Winnetka Chamber of Commerce, which organization resolved that a committee of that body be authorized to draft a letter to our Congressman, the Hon. Carl R. Chindblom, requesting that he introduce a bill in Congress that would insure for Winnetka an appropriation for a government post office building contemplating the site just south of the new Administration building. The bill was introduced by our Congressman and re-introduced the following year, each time with considerable encouragement. And Congress did appropriate—last year, I am informed—approximately 350 millions for public buildings, but provided for a spread over a period of three years, and applicable only to extremely congested offices and to the larger cities.

It is my opinion that if other civic bodies will assemble in concerted action, this hope will be realized at the right time, and, as chairman of the Public Buildings and Grounds committee of your Village council, I want to assure you of my deep interest.

R. H. Schell

### Miss Julia Holts Dies; Well Known in Winnetka

The sudden death of Miss Julia Holts, dinner hostess at the Caravel Tearoom at 576 Lincoln avenue, Winnetka, and north shore representative of the Chautauqua Desk company, occurred at her home in St. Paul, Minn., December 30., following an operation Wednesday, December 29.

Miss Holts made her home at 585 Provident avenue, and carried on an extensive business for the desk company, on the north shore. During the evening, she acted as dinner hostess in the Caravel Tea room.

She is survived by her father, and two sisters, Inga and Matilda, of St. Paul.

## CHRISTMAS PROGRAM WINS LOFTY PRAISE

### Congregational Church Scene of Beautiful Service of Music Last Sunday Afternoon

By MUSIC CRITIC

The congregation of the Winnetka Congregational church heard Sunday afternoon, December 26, one of the finest programs of Christmas music that has been arranged in some time, when the adult choir, quartet, junior choir, organ, violin, harp and piano combined in producing a most unique song service.

With the church lighted by candles, the vested choir, and the solemnity of the music, the true Christmas spirit was emphasized by this group of people.

The lovely prelude played by the violin, harp, organ and piano, "Invocation" by C. Hugo Grimm, and the "Berceuse-Pastorale" determined the spirit of the service. "Gloria," from the 12th mass, by Mozart was dignified in tone, and added to the worshipful atmosphere of the songs. Rev. James Austin Richards then gave a Christmas prayer. "Brightest and Best" by Coombs, followed, which was exquisitely rendered. Dan Baker sang a tenor solo as part of this selection, his splendid voice making the song more beautiful.

And then came the unusual collection of Christmas carols. The carols were arranged to reach a climax in spirit and tone, then to recede in strength, and to end with the favorite of carols, "Holy Night! Peaceful Night!" The carols were sung characteristically; the Russian Carol of the Russian children, the old French carol and the others being interpreted according to the mood and tradition of the country. The attention of the choir was perfect, and the carols were given a Cappella (without accompaniment). The work done by the choir in preparing the program was evident from the carol singing, especially, for they were most difficult.

The Hallelujah Chorus from the Messiah, by Handel, followed the carols. Everyone rises for this chorus, some spontaneously and some because they know it is done, but the story of this custom concerns "The Mad King." Handel wrote the Messiah in fourteen days. It was being sung for the first time and "The Mad King" was presented in the place of honor. As the Hallelujah Chorus swept over the audience the King rose out of respect for the composer of this magnificent work, and since that time all congregations have risen in Handel's honor.

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