

PUBLIC FORUM

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At the time we purchased our property no proposal to make it a park had been made and it had never occurred to us that such a proposal would ever be seriously advanced; in fact, we can not believe that the voters of the township will give it serious consideration now. The project would involve the expenditure of half a million dollars of the taxpayers' money. This is more than the cost of all existing parks in the township; equal to the cost of all school grounds; about the same as the entire bonded indebtedness for the township high school; more than the entire bonded indebtedness of any village or any school board in the township.

Police Protection

There has been a question raised as to police protection. This territory is subject to the jurisdiction of the state highway police. In addition, it is preposterous to suppose that anyone having an investment of the size that our group will have would fail to provide for themselves adequate police protection. Of course, this will be done.

We feel that the residents of the villages making up New Trier township have failed, generally, to grasp the significance of the proposed bond issue which is to be voted on in the election of April 5. Aside from the excessive tax burden which would be imposed on all residents of New Trier township by this bond issue (Glencoe, Winnetka, Kenilworth, Wilmette, and remaining territory) there is a grave question as to the wisdom of establishing a township park at this place. This land is not properly located for general township use. It is certain that it would not be conveniently available to the largest proportion of residents of the township. In addition it would present a problem of control that would be serious because of being on the main highway. This fact is thoroughly understood by the Park boards of our villages, who for years have been faced with the problems of protecting the village beaches.

What the Village Must Pay

Further, we do not believe that the gravity of the tax question involved is understood by residents of the villages making up New Trier township. All voters of New Trier township will be asked to pass on the question of whether the township shall issue bonds to the amount of \$500,000 to acquire ten acres of land for park purposes. If this bond issue is passed on favorably by the voters it means that the tax must be paid by the residents of all the villages in the township on the basis of tax valuation. On the basis of the latest available tax valuation figures (1925) the following villages would pay—

Glencoe	20% of \$500,000.	or \$100,000.
Winnetka	35% of \$500,000.	or 175,000.
Wilmette	31% of \$500,000.	or 155,000.
Kenilworth	8% of \$500,000.	or 40,000.
Balance of New Trier township:		
	6% of \$500,000.	or \$ 30,000.

This tax would be divided into twenty equal installments to be paid each year for twenty years, plus interest charges. In addition, the township would have the expense of maintaining the park forever.

Contrast the tax which the backers of this bond issue propose asking the residents of New Trier township to pay for this ten acres as against the bonding power and bonds issued by the several villages for the vital purposes of maintaining their school systems and park system:

New Trier Township School Districts
1925 Valuations, bonding limits based thereon, and bonded indebtedness outstanding February 3, 1927.

Village	No.	Valuations	Bonding Limit
Glencoe	35	\$3,545,604	\$177,280
Winnetka	36	6,523,790	326,189
Kenilworth	38	1,574,126	78,706
Wilmette	39	5,302,575	265,128

Village	Outstanding February 3, 1927
Glencoe	\$154,500
Winnetka	295,500
Kenilworth	57,000
Wilmette	208,000

The Village of Glencoe would be asked to pay \$100,000, or over two thirds of the sum now outstanding for its entire school system.

The Village of Winnetka would be asked to pay \$175,000, or practically 60% of what it now owes for its schools.

The Village of Kenilworth would be asked to pay \$40,000, or over two-thirds of its present debt for its entire school system.

The Village of Wilmette would be asked to pay \$155,000, or three-fourth of the present total indebtedness for its entire school system.

There is outstanding against New Trier township for New Trier High school total bonds of \$510,000. The proposed bond issue almost equals that amount.

New Trier Township Park Districts
1925 Valuation, bonding limits based

thereon, and bonded indebtedness outstanding February, 1927.

Village	No.	Valuations	Bonding Limit
Glencoe	35	\$3,591,954	\$179,597
Winnetka	36	6,409,466	320,473
Kenilworth	38	1,479,077	73,953
Wilmette	39	5,400,550	270,027
Outside Area		1,288,356	64,417

Village	Outstanding February, 1927
Glencoe	\$112,000
Winnetka	153,000
Kenilworth	26,000
Wilmette	131,000

The Glencoe share of the proposed bond issue would be \$100,000, or almost the amount of its total indebtedness for its entire park system. This statement takes into consideration all of the recent developments in the Glencoe Park system.

The Village of Winnetka would be asked to pay \$175,000, or \$22,000, more than its total indebtedness for its entire park system.

The Village of Kenilworth would be asked to pay \$40,000, or \$14,000 more than its total indebtedness for its entire park system.

The Village of Wilmette would be asked to pay \$150,000, or \$24,000 more than its total indebtedness for its entire park system.

A \$500,000 bond issue is a larger sum than the indebtedness for all of the existing parks in Glencoe, Winnetka, Kenilworth and Wilmette combined.

We feel it is quite clear from these figures that the voting of this bond issue would throw a tax burden on all of our villages that would be out of all proportion to the value of the object intended. It would operate harmfully against the

pressing needs for additional taxes of the several public bodies, particularly school boards for buildings and playgrounds.

We feel that it is a misguided and harmful proposal.

AYRES BOAL
MANUEL T. CLARK
H. E. EDMONDS

N. B. The figures quoted in this statement were obtained from the several treasurers' offices in the different villages.

The Park district bonding limits shown are 5% of assessed value and these amounts can only be had by a referendum vote.

TAKEN INTO SORORITY

Initiation of fourteen pledges of Kappa Kappa Gamma of Northwestern university was held Saturday afternoon, February 26, at the home of Miss Helen Dyché in Evanston. The formal banquet following initiation was given at the North Shore hotel.

The initiates are: Elizabeth Boyd, Chicago; Frances Clark, Oak Park; Norma Cook, Evanston; Jean Dalmar, Rogers Park; Jean Duncan, Glencoe; Juliana Holmes, Evanston; Elizabeth Jaeger, Hyde Park; Evelyn Johnson, Milwaukee; Margaret Knight, Evanston; Katherine Metzgar, Evanston; Margaret Sidle, Van Wert, Ohio; Elizabeth Sweet, Kenilworth; Marjorie Webster, Evanston; and Frances Wild, Chicago.

Edna Dean Baker Attends Superintendents' Meeting

Among the north shore educators who are attending the meeting of the Department of Superintendents of the National Education association which is being held in Dallas, Texas, this week, are President Edna Dean Baker of the National Kindergarten and Elementary college, and Miss Harriet Howard, head of the Supervision department.

Following the meeting in Dallas Miss Baker will go to Fort Worth, where she will speak before the kindergarten and elementary teachers of the city on "The Solving of Behavior Problems." Arrangements have been made for the closing of the elementary grades of the public schools on Thursday in order that all the teachers may have an opportunity of hearing this lecture, as the educators there are greatly interested in the study and work Miss Baker has done in this field. A special invitation is also being extended to elementary Sunday school teachers of Fort Worth

Mrs. Isadore M. Portis of 822 Tower road, will return from her trip to Florida at the latter part of this week.



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