

FIRST WATSON LECTURE ATTRACTS LARGE GROUP

Art League Members Hear of Spanish Art Characteristics From Dudley Crafts Watson

Matz hall, Community House, Winnetka, was crowded Monday evening for Dudley Crafts Watson's talk on "Art and Life in Spain." This is the first of a series of lectures he will give Monday evenings, under the auspices of the North Shore Art league.

In the absence of James Cady Ewell, president of the league, the vice-president, William T. Jones, gave the president's message of welcome. He then introduced Mrs. Albert H. Ullrich, of Wilmette, general chairman in charge of the lectures, who, in turn, introduced the speaker.

Mr. Watson expressed his appreciation of the warm welcome given him by his friends and neighbors, after his recent trip abroad. He announced that the subject of his lecture next Monday evening will be "Thirty Great American Painters," instead of "Art and Life of Italy," as had previously been announced.

Shows Spanish Art

As Mr. Watson talked, there was flashed on the screen a slide of one of the greatest of the canvases of "El Greco." This illustrates, he said, a typical Spanish characteristic, in that the one picture portrays two emotions. It is the most emotional of all Latin arts; in it there is nothing static.

Mr. Watson gave a bit of Spanish history to make clear his talk. Between 711 A. D. and the end of the Fifteenth Century, he pointed out, there were only two Christian provinces in Spain. However, after the fall of the Moors, the Spaniards wished to prove that they were not Mohammedans. Their edifices continued, in spite of them, to show Moorish influence, because they employed Moorish workmen. Mr. Watson characterized Moorish architecture and design as being very fine. Because the Koran forbid the representation of any natural form of life, the followers of Mohammed used geometrical proportions and abstract forms. The Alhambra, for instance, is beauty in abstract form, Mr. Watson said, and then continued, "In contrast with the low-slung mosque of the Moor, the Christian cathedrals, with their high Spanish Gothic arches, give one a sense of elation and ecstasy.

Spain is a country of wealth and poverty side by side. The Spaniard craves variety in his art, as in his life. Spanish Gothic architecture is very elaborate in spots, with large rest spaces. Spanish painting, Mr. Watson said, is realistic in the extreme, because of the desire of the Christian Spaniards to prove that they were not Mohammedans, who could not use realistic forms.

Discusses Velasquez

Mr. Watson discussed at length the work of Velasquez, the court painter, and one of the greatest of Spanish artists. He spoke of Murillo, who did lovely work, but used much repetition. Many of the best examples of "El Greco's" art are in the cathedral at Toledo. Mr. Watson discussed Toledo, Castile, Valencia, Seville, and Andalusia.

In his own, inimitable manner, Mr. Watson kept his large audience interested the whole evening. His talk was humorous, charming, interesting, and produced many laughs. Those who heard the first lecture, and many others who were unable to attend that one, are looking forward eagerly to the rest of the series. Tickets for the talks may be obtained at the door.

Mallinckrodt High Plans for Building Expansion

Plans for expansion at the Mallinckrodt High school, on the Ridge at Walnut avenue, calling for the erection of a new school building, are moving forward rapidly, according to report. Mallinckrodt, which also is

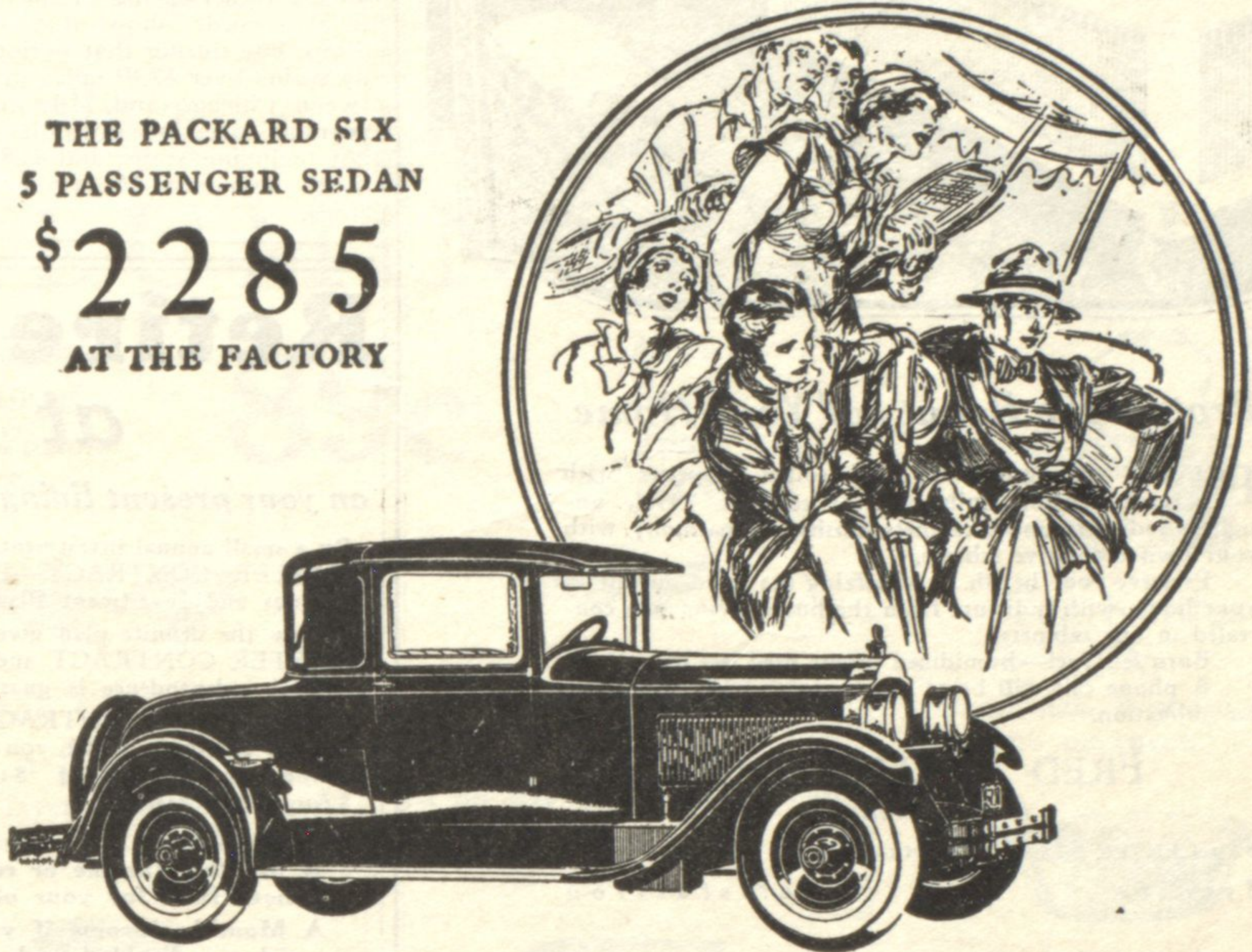
called North Shore Catholic High, with its expansion realized will have one of the biggest preparatory schools on the north shore.

The first Homecoming of Mallinckrodt High, which was held on Sunday, October 2, resulted in a big attendance. Luncheon was served after which the members pledged

themselves to raise a fund to finance the construction of the new school building, and considered ways and means to do so.

Mrs. Rosalia Rudow of Kalamazoo, Mich., is making a short visit at the home of her niece, Mrs. Frank G. White, 414 Winnetka avenue.

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