

GRADE SEPARATION IS LUNCHEON DISCUSSION

Wilmette Civic Luncheons Body Hears Explanation of Problem at January Meeting

Shall the railway tracks through Wilmette be depressed or elevated? When will the start be made on the job? Can Wilmette citizens assist in the logical solution of the grade separation problem?

These and similar questions were the burden of the discussion at the January meeting of the Wilmette Civic luncheons held last Friday at the University Club of Chicago. Aside from the Wilmette members of the group, there were present as guests official representatives of most of the north shore communities from Evanston to Highland Park including mayors, trustees, attorneys, engineers or similar officials interested in the solution of the problem of grade separation as it affects the two railway companies and all citizens of all the towns.

President Henry F. Tenney of Winnetka, who is also chairman of the joint official committee of the north shore towns now studying the problem, was the principal speaker of the day. An animated discussion developed from numerous questions asked, and among other speakers were President W. D. Gerber of Glencoe, Trustee Paul A. Hoffman of Wilmette and Judson F. Stone and Hayes McKinney of Wilmette.

Outlines Present Plan

Mr. Tenney outlined the history of plans propounded at different times for grade separation, particularly as it applied to the Chicago Northwestern railway tracks. He described present suggested plans to depress the tracks through Winnetka and Glencoe and indicated the reluctant attitude of the railway company to get started on anything concrete. He also indicated that all the expenses for grade separation would not be borne by the railway corporations, but that every community would come in for a heavy load. It was pointed out that any solution of the problem in Wilmette involved a realignment of the line of the Chicago, North Shore and Milwaukee railroad.

Hayes McKinney was asked to describe this phase of the situation and related the history of that company in trying to reroute its lines away from Greenleaf avenue.

The most significant result of the meeting was the suggestion that the group endeavor to bring about the official appointment of a citizens' committee to study the problem in cooperation with the joint official committee from the several villages. To that end the directors of the lunch club discussed the problem at their regular meeting. The subject will be brought up at the February luncheon of the group and if decided upon favorably, plans will be made to enlist the interest of such other local organizations as the Women's Club of Wilmette, the Wilmette Chamber of Commerce, etc.

At the Friday meeting John W. Fisher, Jr., president of the group retired from office, and in his stead Dr. Donald M. Gallie was chosen president. Dr. Gallie has long been a resident of Wilmette and is well known in local civic affairs. He is planning to have the first program of his administration devoted to the question of how best to take care of Wilmette's pavements.

It is pointed out by the directors of Wilmette Civic Luncheons that last Friday was the second birthday of the organization, and that the original group of eighteen members has expanded to over 150. The luncheons are held on the last Friday of each month and any resident of Wilmette is invited to join the group.

Winnetkans on Board of Shut-Ins Society

Mrs. Laird Bell was elected first vice president and Mrs. Charles B. Officer was elected secretary of the Vocational Society for Shut-Ins at the annual meeting held Tuesday at the Chicago College club. Mrs. Eric Scudder was reelected president, Mrs. Charles H. Dennis will be second vice president, and William S. Kline will be treasurer. Mrs. Ayres Boal and Mrs. Daniel Burnham are members of the new honorary board, and among the members of the active board are Mrs. Victor Elting and Mrs. John W. Scott.

After the election Eusibio Concholdi gave a program of songs, accompanied by Miss Marion Black of Glencoe. Mrs. Albert S. Gardner poured at the tea that ended the afternoon.

ADDRESSES CONGREGATION

Rabbi Solomon B. Freehof of the K. A. M. temple, Chicago, spoke to the North Shore Congregation Israel on Friday, January 27, on "Modern Science and the Belief in God," in the Winnetka Masonic temple, 708 Elm street.

Skokie Drama Classes Give Play February 17

Dramatic art classes of the Skokie school will present a play which is a combination of "Alice in Wonderland" and "Alice Through the Looking Glass" in the Jane Kuppenheimer Memorial hall at the Skokie school on the evenings of February 17 and 18.

The original story was written by Lewis Carol and was later adapted to production as a play by Alice Gerstenberg. The children have been working hard on the preparation of scenery and costuming, which they are constructing themselves under the direction of Mrs. Frances Murray, dramatic teacher at Skokie, and the play promises to be an excellent production.

John M. Olmsted, formerly of Winnetka, is visiting Mr. and Mrs. Peirce C. Ward of 39 Indian Hill road. Mr. Olmsted is making a visit of indefinite length, having been called from New York to Chicago on business.

Mr. and Mrs. Don W. Mercer of 37 Indian Hill road are expected home shortly from a three weeks' stay in Biloxi, Miss.

Mr. and Mrs. N. H. Weber, 529 Willow road, have had as their guests Mr. and Mrs. Gotscall of Highland Park, Philadelphia. The Gotscalls remained with the Webers for about four weeks and have now gone on to Baton Rouge, La., to spend the winter with their son.

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