

PONDER FLOOD REMEDY AT CITIZENS' MEETING

Village Officials Confer With Foxdale Avenue Householders Concerning Health Menace

The flooding of basements in Winnetka following each heavy rain, has reached a point where Village authorities have found it necessary to take immediate steps to eliminate a condition which is not only exceedingly annoying, but actually constitutes a menace to health and entails excessive expense to families in cleaning up following the recurring flood conditions.

This condition is not confined to any particular section, it is explained, but exists in various areas, particularly those lying a trifle lower than others, and, as the village grows, even the higher ground sites are threatened, it is said.

Sewer System Is Adequate

The trouble, it is pointed out, is not due to an inadequate sanitary sewer system. The sanitary sewers were constructed with a capacity sufficient to care for the needs of Winnetka even when it shall have attained its maximum growth, but they are not large enough to carry off both sewage and storm water.

Winnetka has what is known as a double system of sewers. The sanitary sewer discharges into the intercepting sewer of the Sanitary District of Chicago which handles the problem of disposal.

The storm sewer system, most of which was built at the time the village entered into a contract with the Sanitary District to dispose of its domestic sewage, is designed to take care of storm water, not only from street catch basins, but also from down spouts and other storm water drains on private property.

All new homes built in the village since the construction of separate storm water sewers, have been required to provide separate connection to such sewer for storm water.

Hold Conferences

The first of a series of conferences with residents of the village, for the purpose of explaining this situation and asking their full co-operation in complete and permanent elimination of the trouble, was held at the Council chamber at the Village hall, Tuesday evening.

Trustee William B. Moulton, chairman of the Judiciary committee of the Village, presided, and expects to hold several other similar sessions.

Those with whom he conferred Tuesday evening are residents of Foxdale avenue, whose property, an inspection has revealed, has both the storm water and sewage connections into the sanitary sewer.

The present property owners are in no wise to blame for this condition, it was brought out, as, in many cases, when the houses were built only the sanitary sewer was provided.

Must Divert Storm Water

For a time the sanitary sewer proved sufficient to carry off both sewage and storm water, but now that the village has grown to a point where the sanitary sewer is required exclusively for the purpose for which it was originally designed, the trouble and expense of disconnecting the storm water flood and diverting it either into the storm water sewer, which is now provided, or permitting the water to run off onto the lawns, becomes imperative.

Trustee Moulton explained all this in detail, stressing the serious situation which exists. He said he had personally investigated it and found an appalling condition in the properties that constitutes a serious menace to health for which the village is liable.

At the same time the village, he explained, has not the legal authority

to force property owners who have not done so to make storm water sewer connections from their residences to the storm water sewer. Nor can the village put in all these tubes under one general comprehensive special assessment plan.

He explained the entire situation is one for which neither the village nor the property owners are really to blame. He appealed to the citizens' civic pride and sense of neighborly fair play in co-operating in bringing about imperative relief.

The Chicago Sanitary District, Mr. Moulton asserted, has informed the

village that it will no longer tolerate the use of the sanitary sewer system for storm water.

Promise Co-operation

The Foxdale avenue property owners agreed to disconnect down spouts from their residences to the sanitary sewer, electing to turn the water into the lawns until further investigation can be made concerning the cost of making the probable necessary connection with the storm water sewer.

Similar conferences are to be held with residents of Lincoln and Prospect avenues, and in fact, throughout the village, Mr. Moulton explained, just as rapidly as inspectors are able

to make reports on properties where downspouts are found to be connected with the sanitary sewer. Storm water sewers are now provided in every section of the village, except in one small area in the southwest portion, and here first steps for the improvement have been taken.

I R E D A L E
MOTH EXTERMINATION
Winnetka 1332
S T O R A G E

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goes to the



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For the second consecutive year the North Shore Line retains official recognition as the *fastest electrically-operated interurban railroad in North America!* The Speed Trophy shown above was again awarded to the North Shore Line at the 47th Annual Convention of the American Electric Railway Association on September 27th, in Cleveland, Ohio.

Speed With Safety!

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