Village Board Lowers Rate for Water Users

Oak Lawn's village board met Tuesday night in the village hall after a month's layoff to clear up bills that had piled up. Two meetings had previously been continued while several of the trustees were absent on vacations. Trustee Brunn was the only absent member at Tuesday's meeting.

With a surprising lack of discussion the village board passed an ordinance that would lower the sewer rate from $1.25 to $1.00 for individual users, a reduction of 25 cents per month. The drop is expected to be a $3 a year saving for each homeowner while the village's revenue would be $6,000 lower. The ordinance was passed unanimously.

The board also adopted a motion to issue 10 permits to the Oak Lawn Cab co. and five permits to the Southwest Cab co. both to operate in the village. The Oak Lawn Cab co. will have its stand on the southeast corner of 95th and Cook with the Southwest Cab co. on the southwest corner at 95th and Cook.

Trustee Rech cast the only dissenting vote on the motion.

The board authorized the purchase of a new panel truck for the water department, to be reported on at further meetings.

Since it was Village President Collings' 25th wedding anniversary, the meeting was adjourned in near record time by the trustees.

Oak Lawn Independent 1/19/1950, p.1

Injunction Asked

Arthur and Anne Fritz Request Exclusive on Kiddieland Name

CHICAGO, March 11.—Arthur and Anne Fritz, owners of Kiddieland in Melrose Park, Chicago suburb, seek to restrain two other local amusement park owners from using the name.

The Fritzes filed suit in Superior Court here asking an injunction. Named defendants are Louis Klatzco, owner of Hollywood Kiddieland in Lincolnwood, and Michael (Mickey) Doolan, owner of Green Oaks Kiddyland in Oak Lawn.

The Fritzes assert they have spent large sums over a 13-year period advertising their park as Kiddieland. "The name has become a symbol for a children's amusement park and is identified in the minds of a substantial number of the public with the plaintiff's park," the petition for the injunction states.

The suit also charges the other two operators adopted a similar name deliberately "to profit by the Fritz's reputation."

Klatzco, captain of the Fillmore Street police station here, denied he had a financial interest in the park and said it was owned by his two sons, his wife and sister-in-law.

Billboard
3/18/1950

SEEKS INJUNCTION AGAINST BOARD ON ZONING SQUABBLE

Edwin S. Mortenson of 9558 S. Mansfield av., a local plumbing and heating supply dealer, yesterday said he will file suit by next Monday to seek an injuncting restraining the Oak Lawn Village board from going ahead with its re-zoning of property at 95th st. and Menard av.

The village board Tuesday night approved the zoning board's recommendation that a parcel of the southwest corner of 95th and Menard be re-zoned from residential to commercial. The property involved is 135 feet wide and stretches from 95th to 96th st.

Rech's Motion Lost

Village Trustee Harry Rech motioned that the matter be returned to the zoning board, but it became lost in the shuffle. Trustee Manuel Mann motioned, and was seconded by Reggie Rausch, that the zoning recommendation be approved.

On roll call, Rech cast the only dissenting vote. Trustee William Brunn was absent from the session, which was attended by a large crowd of taxpayers.

Told To Sit Down

Roy Panabaker of 9600 S. Mansfield av. claims that he was not given permission to speak. He said that Village President Tunis L. Collings ordered him to sit down.

Attorney Dwight Croessman whom Mortenson said was representing both him and the Oak Lawn bank, told the board: "In my opinion, this constitutes spot zoning.

Mortenson said he "definitely believes the action was unfair."

"The people of the surrounding residential neighborhood were not properly notified by personal contact so that a protest could have been entered with the zoning board," Mortenson declared.

"A Legal ad was published, but we all know how that can miss public attention," he added.

ZONING SQUABBLE

(Continued from Page 1)

The zoning board approved the change April 12, Mortenson said. He pointed out that the petitioners requesting re-zoning were Kenneth Shoot and Charles Collings, brother of the mayor.

Mortenson asserted that he been contemplating the construction of five more residential buildings in addition to the one already completed. These homes would be directly across the street from the newly zoned property.

He claimed that the homes would now have to be sold at a depreciated price. He indicated that will not go through with the home-construction if the zoning change sticks.

Mortenson also said that he installed a block of sewer on Mansfield last year.

The re-zoned commercial property reportedly would be used for the erection of a bowling alley with parking facilities and or business establishment in the resr, toward 96th st.

The southeast corner of 95th st. and Menard has a 125-foot portion in the commercial zone, Mortenson said. The area surrounding re-classifield strip of land is residential district, he concluded. populated by home owners in a

Southwest Reporter 4/27/1950, p.1

'SINGING COP' PLAYS FOR CRIPPLED CHILDREN

Ray Shank, 9717 Cook av., Oak Lawn's "Singing Cop," shown in a recent appearance as a guest performer with Bob Chilton's group, "Alice and Her Girl Friends," at a show they put on for the crippled children of the Martha Washington home.

Oak Lawn Independent 4/27/1950, p.1

On April 29, Ray Shank will appear in a benefit variety show in the Hyde Park High school auditorium, which is sponsored by the Woodlawn Post 175, American Legion, to raise money for the Martha Washington home. Oliver Deal, 9972 Harnew av. and Gloria Pugh, 5813 W. 93rd st. will also be in the show as soloists with a male ensemble of vocalists, together with Mr. and Mrs. L. Ahner Jr., tenor and soprano duo.

June Shank and Janet Beatty, lyric sopranos, both pupils of Mrs. Eva Lambright, are two other Oak Lawners who are in the show. Mary Kathryn Belz and Earl Hansen, popular teen age dance team, will be featured in three separate numbers.

'Not Only Revenue,' Says Collings of License Fees

Drafting a scale of new license fees for business men was not for the sole purpose of revenue to the village, according to Tunis Collings, village president, but also to grade and equalize all businesses so that every business man will pay a fair license fee, he said in a statement this week.

"It is not the intention of the village board," said Collings, "to work a hardship on any business, but just what the percentage of increase will be has not as yet been determined, and nothing definite can be announced until a later date."

Oak Lawn Independent
4/27/1950, p.1

Board Approves Zoning Change; 16 Taverns Now

The Oak Lawn village board approved the recommendation of their board of appeals to rezone a lot at 95th and Merton back to 96th st. as commercial. The present zoning ordinance allows only the first 125 ft. to be commercial. The petitioners intend to build a bowling alley at this location with a parking lot in the rear. At the public hearing no objections were raised.

However, at Tuesday night's board meeting an objecting petition was filed by an adjoining property owner and a protesting letter from the Oak Lawn Trust and Savings bank. The objector claimed that he had not known of the public hearing and was unable to raise his objections. After considerable time in discussing the proposed change the board finally approved the appeal board's recommendation. On the vote Trustee Rech voted naye after asking that the matter be referred back for reconsideration to the appeal board. Trustees Mann, Rausch, Wilson and Christensen upheld the recommendation. Trustee Brunn was absent.

Recognizing a tavern as a necessary part of a bowling alley, the board voted to increase the number of liquor licenses from 15 to 16.

The request of the Southwest Cab co. for five cab permits was referred to committee.

Anthony Trenning was engaged to make a survey of the village to ascertain if special assessment bonds would be feasible in certain blocks for street and drainage improvements. The amount of delinquent property in each block has a direct bearing on the feasibility of such a procedure. The survey is to cost $250.

The board of trustees approved the purchase of an FM radio receiving and transmitting unit for the police department. The cost will be $2,162.92. The county police stations changing of their wave length made it necessary for local villages to change their police radio equipment. After July the local department will no longer operate from the county stations.

Oak Lawn Independent 4/27/1950, p.1

RATES IN WORTH TOWNSHIP

CITIES and VILLAGES	1948	1949
City of Blue Island	$.390	$ .400
Village of Oak Lawn	.448	.512
" " Evergreen Park	.370	.382
" " Crestwood	.246	.318
" " Chicago Ridge	.238	.238
" " Worth	.254	.472
" " Alsip	.228	.228
" " Robbins	.370	.286
" " Marionette Park	.248	.276

* * *

COUNTY, SANITARY, PARK, Etc.		
Cook County	$ .318	$ .340
Forest Preserve	.034	.038
Township of Worth	No Levy	No Levy
Road and Bridge	.142	.122
Poor Relief	.088	.098
Sanitary Distirct	.276	.290
Oak Lawn Park District	.104	.090
Blue Island Park District	.090	.088
Columbus Manor Fire District	.084	.076
Grand View Park Fire District	.084	.084
Suburban T. B. Sanitarium	.066	.078

* * *

SCHOOLS—		
DIST. No. 122 (Simmons & Harnew)	$1.078	$ .988
" " 123 (Covington & Cook)	.996	.914
" " 124 (Evergreen Park)	1.210	1.132
" " 125 (116th & Crawford)	1.086	1.078
" " 126 (Alsip & Hazel Green)	1.026	1.014
" " 127 (Worth)	.926	1.208
" " 127½ (Chicago Ridge	1.238	1.218
" " 128 (Palos Heights	1.030	1.108
" " 129 (Willow Creek)	.354	1.000
" " 130 (Blue Island)	1.108	1.224
Community High No. 218 (Blue Island)	1.028	1.074
Non-High School District	.526	.610

Southwest Reporter
4/27/1950, p.5

Propose Lake Chain for Stony Creek Area

Conversion of Stony creek into a recreation area thru the use of federal funds has been proposed by the South Suburban Drainage council.

The proposal, requiring legislation as well as funds on the federal level, would supplement the storm drainage projects now under cooperative study by state and county highway departments, area cities and villages, Illinois Highway department, and the Metropolitan Sanitary district.

Appeals to Congress

The council has sent an appeal to Senators Dirksen and Douglas and Representatives Emmet F. Byrne [R., 3d] and William E. McVey [R., 4th] to sponsor bills that would advance an "area-wide storm drainage recreation program."

The proposal is aimed at converting the swamps along Stony creek into a chain of lakes to retain flood waters that normally would empty into the Cal Sag canal. The storm waters would be held until the flood crest had passed.

Terming federal aid "essential," Arthur De Runtz, council chairman, said federal legislation is required to authorize the army engineer corps to survey the Stony creek watershed.

Want 'Prime' Rating

Also required, he said, is a revision of the agriculture department policy in its administration of the watershed protection and flood prevention act in order to permit cities and villages to be prime rather than incidental benefactors in the flood protection programs.

"A bill introduced to permit this would be in line with a policy of equalization of tax expenditures thru the elimination of a discriminating legislative practice," De Runtz added. He noted that the "prime benefactor" phrase usually is reserved for farming areas.

Solves Four Problems

The council contends that the proposed chain of lakes would solve four problems for the southwest suburban area:

1. The lakes would facilitate area storm drainage.
2. Storm waters emptying into the lakes would reduce flooding of downstream communities.
3. Fishing and boating recreation would be provided.
4. The swamps would be converted into a place of beauty.

Creation of flood water retention basins thru federal funds has been done in other parts of the country, according to De Runtz, tho not in areas of cities and villages. He expects a reply soon from the legislative representatives.

Heading the South Suburban Drainage council drainage committee are John J. Asterda, Alsip president; Joseph H. Tanner, Evergreen Park president, and Harvey N. Wick, Oak Lawn president.

Chicago Tribune, 6/19/1950

Nab Local Youths Looting Garage In Oak Lawn

Will Be Questioned By Police Here For Local Jobs

Seized last Monday night by Oak Lawn and Evergreen Park police, four local youths who are said to have admitted four burglaries in Harvey and Phoenix in recent weeks, were to be questioned late Tuesday by Kensington police for several burglaries in the local district.

Two of the youths, Charles R. Mullennix, 16, of 11919 Emerald, and James P. Sanders, 21, of 656 West 120th, were captured by Oak Lawn police Monday night in an automobile parked near the Larsen and Boyce garage at 5600 95th street, Oak Lawn.

Oak Lawn police said the pair admitted they were serving as lookouts for two others who were looting the garage building.

After the pair had been captured, the Oak Lawn police sent out a call for assistance from Evergeen Park police and entering the building the officers seized Mullennix's brother, Reginald, 17, and Donald L. Feliszak, 17, of 725 West 119th.

Police said they were trying to move a safe containing $200 toward an automobile which they had loaded with tools and equipment.

South End Reporter
6/28/1950, p.1

Committee Buys 2-Way FM Radio for Police Dept.

With the village board putting its approval on the new FM police transmitter and receivers Tuesday night, the board's police committee headed by Manuel Mann, purchased the $2162.92 worth of equipment the same night, altho delivery will not take place for another six to eight weeks.

Mann said yesterday that he expected the equipment to be in operation before the July 1 deadline set by the county as the date when villages would have to have their own FM radio equipment.

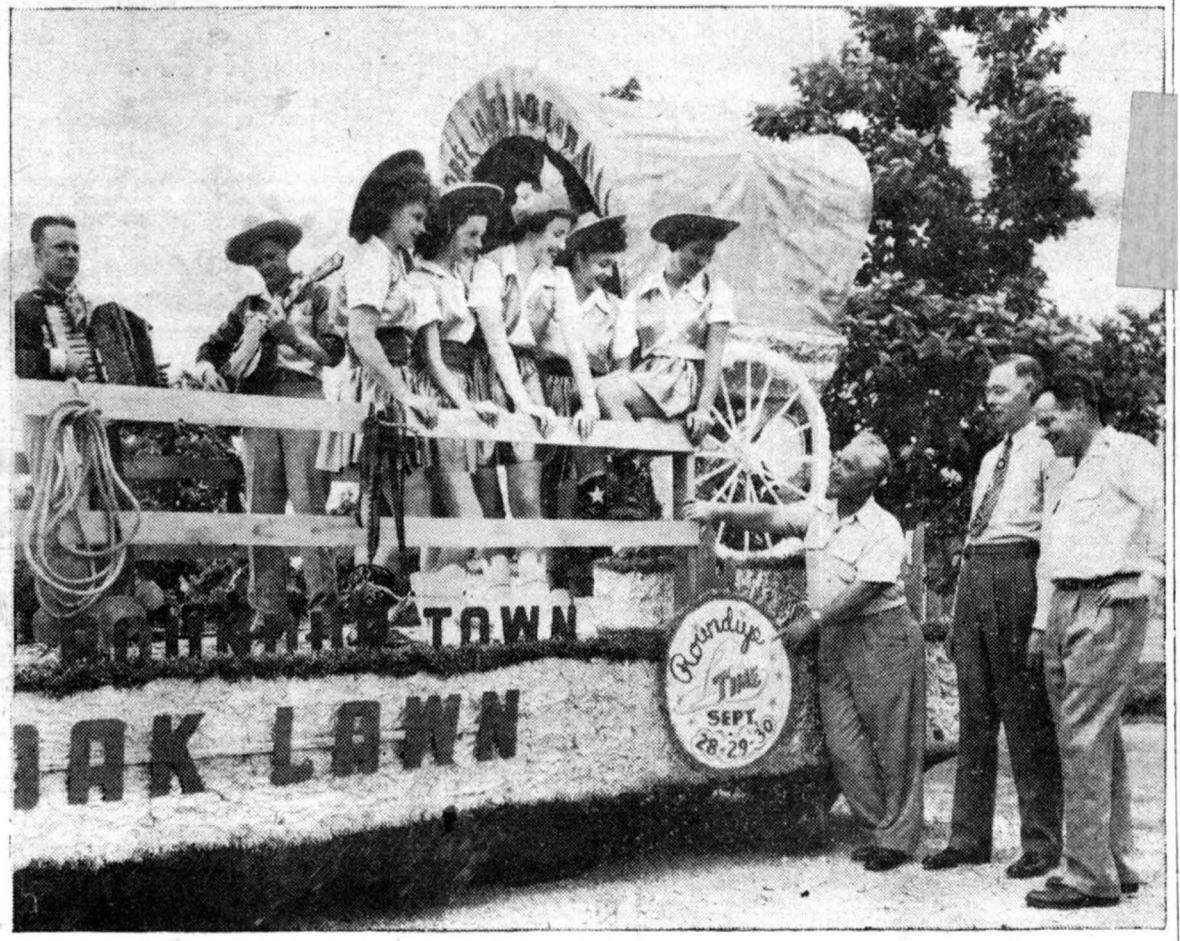
The Oak Lawn system will be Motorola two-way between the ambulance, the squad car and the transmitter in headquarters in the village hall, Mann said.

"The moble units are costing $459 apiece and the transmitter is $1057.70 with the remainder of the cost in installation and for aerials and insulators and other incidentals," he added.

The police chairman also stated that the committee was applying to the Federal Communications commission for a frequency for the transmitter and that they were requesting a five mile radius for the equipment. He said that the station would monitor Evergreen Park's frequency as well as their own and the county's, but Oak Lawn's calls would be received stronger because of the proximity of the station.

Oak Lawn Independent 7/20/1950, p.1

LIONS CORRAL OAK LAWN BEAUTIES FOR PARADE FLOAT . . .



Lynn Storey, Carl Larsen and Bob Boyce (left to right) corral a few of Oak Lawn's many lovelies and toss them on the Oak Lawn Lions club float that represented the village in the Lions International parade held on Michigan av. in Chicago Monday as part of the Lions convention festivities.

Corralled and seemingly very happy about it are left to right, Phyllis Hansen, Marianne Eichler, Rosemary Wilson, Pat Tinsley and Joan Powers while Howie Hackett and Ray Shank serenade the hostages.

Although Storey admitted he and his "pahdners" were a bit premature in exercising their lariats, he points out that the Round-Up Days are not far off for the village.

The girls' costumes were made by Mrs. Mae Mehling.

Oak Lawn Independent
7/20/1950, p.1

15-Year-Old Rams Truck With Motor Scooter; Injured

Edmund Selonke, 15, 9151 S. 50th av., riding a motor scooter, rammed into the rear of a truck driven by Theodore Mortenson, 57, a sign hanger, 8025 S. Lockwood av., near 95th and Keeler av., Oak Lawn, Monday. According to Oak Lawn police Mortenson had stopped to make a turn and Selonke was unable to stop.

Police said that Selonke told them his brakes failed to hold. Oak Lawn police took Selonke to Little Company of Mary hospital where he was treated for chest injuries and bruises and released.

Oak Lawn Independent
7/20/1950, p.1

Mother Saves Daughter, 3, From Drowning

Donna Raine, 3, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Raine, 4136 W. 100th st., Oak Lawn, who fell into a water-filled ditch across the street from her home, was saved from drowning by the quick action of her mother and a neighbor, Mrs. Peter Leonard, during a torrential rainstorm Monday afternoon.

The ditch, which had been dug Friday in order to lay pipe for a water main to supply new homes which are being constructed there, had been filled with water by the rains Sunday night and Monday. Mrs. Raine said she knew something was wrong when her son Billy, 7, who had accompanied his sister outdoors after lunch, ran screaming toward the house. She told Oak Lawn police that she and Mrs. Leonard immediately ran out to see what had happened and then discovered Donna in the water. They both jumped into the ditch and managed to rescue the child.

They took Donna to Little Company of Mary hospital where she was later released after being checked thoroughly and found to be uninjured.

Tunis Collings, president of the village, who had arrived at the scene with the Oak Lawn police shortly after Donna had been rescued, immediately placed a man on guard at the ditch for the remainder of the day [illegible] tion could be summoned.

The contractor, late in the afternoon, informed Collings that additional barricades had been erected and that he would back fill the ditch on Tuesday to prevent similar occurrences. The contract or had planned to fill the ditch Monday but was prevented from doing so by the heavy downpour, he told police.

Oak Lawn Independent
7/20/1950, p.1

Swipe Parts of Pre-Fab Homes

Nine roof panel sections and 90 board feet of lumber valued at $50 were stolen from the Lockwell corp. of Oak Lawn last Wednesday night, according to reports made to Oak Lawn police.

It was said that theft of lumber and materials has been going on for some time, although this is the first time a big haul was made. The Lockwell corp., Oak Center and Paxton rd. in Oak Meadows subdivision build prefabricated homes.

Oak Lawn Independent
7/20/1950, p.1

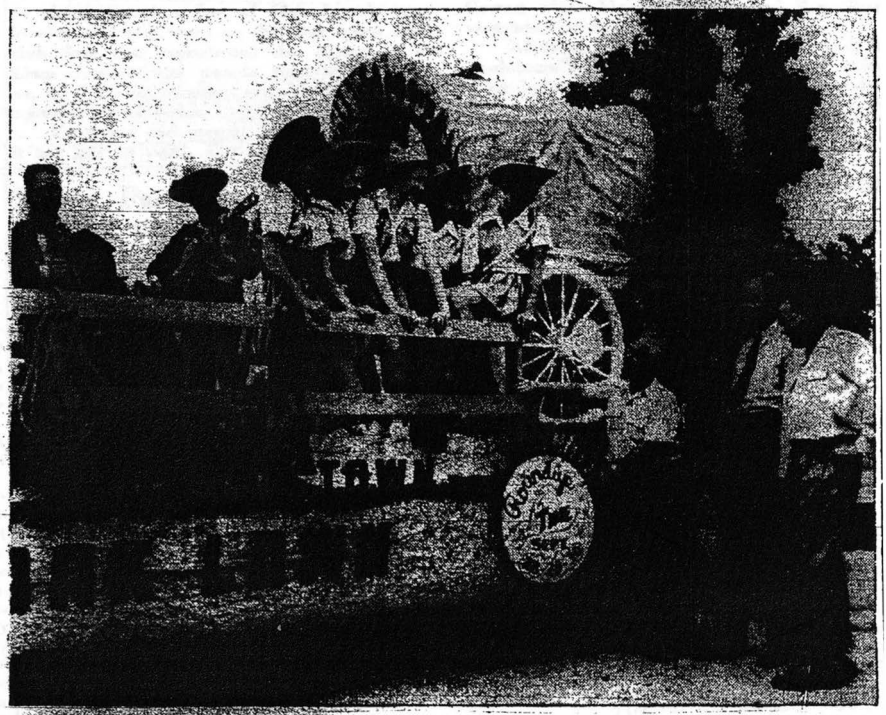
Name Scott Winner of Insurance Award

Alexander D. Scott, 4900 Stone Circle, Oak Lawn, a leading member of the New York Life Insurance co., field force, this year again has been named a winner of the National Quality award given jointly by the National Association of Life Underwriters and the Life Insurance Agency Management association, it was stated today at the New York Life's home office in New York City.

The National Quality award is recognition given annually to underwriters "who conduct themselves according to the high- standards of ethics and who maintain a high standard of competence by means of continuous study and practice." To qualify the award, an agent must have demonstrated a high degree of service to policy holders as indicated the percentage of the life insurance sold by the agent in a year period being continued in

Oak Lawn Indepedent
7/20/1950, p.1

LIONS CORRAL OAK LAWN BEAUTIES FOR PARADE FLOAT . . .



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Mac Mehling.

Oak Lawn Independent
7/20/1950, p.1

RETURN KENDALL'S KEYS

The Disabled American Veterans has returned a set of lost keys to C. R. Kendall of Oak Lawn. It was one of 5,000 returns a month made by the DAV thru the use of the DAV Idento-Tag, miniature license tag for key-rings.

Oak Lawn Independent
7/20/1950, p.1

Oak Lawn Bank Assets Up Over $700000 in Year

The Oak Lawn Trust and Savings Bank total assets jumped nearly three quarters of a million dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1950, a statement of condition published by the bank revealed this week.

The statement showed that the bank's business had increased from $3,405,683.16 in 1949 to $4,109,197.89, a boost of $703,514.73.

Denis F. McDonald, a director of the bank, said most of the increase in the assets could be accounted for by the rise in population in Oak Lawn and the tremendous building boom experienced by the community in the past few years.

He added that many Chicago banks now were refusing to take mortgages in the suburbs and that business had been eagerly accepted by the Oak Lawn bank. "Then too," he said, "most people who are building in a new community or moving into one want to place their business in the community. It's easier and much more convenient."

The statement of condition also showed that time deposits had increased from $1,470,305.39 to $1,806,976.79 while demand deposits had increased $349,321.64 from $1,798,281.91.

McDonald said that with the bank serving a "greater Oak Lawn," the business could be expected to increase as long as the whole area grows.

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7/20/1950, p.1

Set Playground Stunt Meet for Tomorrow

The annual Stunt meet of the Oak Lawn playground will be held tomorrow at the grounds.

The playground's Green Derby is set for 1:30 p.m. July 28.

Age classification for the derby will include boys and girls nine and 10 years of age; seven and eight years, and six years and under. The events included will be the run, gallop, trot and pace. It is required that each contestant has a hobby horse. The winning girl will receive a floral horse-shoe and the winning boy will receive the Green Derby.

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7/20/1950, p.1

Oak Lawn Personals

Mr. and Mrs. James Cepican, 9120 S. 53rd av., whose fifth wedding anniversary was Friday, July 28, entertained a few friends on Saturday evening in celebration of the occasion.

Don Cohen, Duane Tschetter and Robert Alm attended the White Sox ball game Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. G. J. Massoth of 106th st., returned Saturday from a three week vacation. They attended the Calgary Sampede in Alberta, Canada, and then visited Glacier and Yellowstone National Parks.

Mrs. Harvey Martin and son Bobby and Mrs. H. Cohen and sons Don and Bob spent last Wednesday at Riverview park.

Eddie Massoth celebrated his first birthday Sunday with a party for relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. James Stonehouse and family of 106th st., spent Saturday visiting relatives in Joliet.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Collings spent last week visiting friends and relatives in Twin Lakes, Mich. Their cousin, Dottie Lou Sikkenga, returned with them for an extended visit.

Mrs. C. W. Lawrence spent the week-end in Salem, Ill., visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Squibb, and attended the Lawrence family reunion.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Kellams, who returned from their vacation last week, spent a week in Long Island visiting with their son Major Clinton Kellams and his family and on their return home stopped in Columbus, Ohio, to visit with their daughter Eleanor.

Mrs. Edward Kellams is confined in bed by a fever caused by extreme nervousness.

Mr. and Mrs. Willard Clauson recently moved into their new home at 9102 S. 52nd ct.

Mr. and Mrs. Roseneau who purchased the Clauson house at 9108 S. 52nd ct., moved in last week. Welcome neighbors.

Audrey Buell is spending two weeks at a camp in Watervliet, Mich., and her sister, Carolyn, is attending the Lutheran church camp at Lake Bloomington this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Martin of 106th st. motored to Waverly, Ia., to attend Harold Wiltshire's wedding.

Accompanying the troop committee of Brownie Troop 216 to the Museum of Science and Industry last Thursday were Mary Ann Murphy, Mary Fritz, Carol DeLance, Lenore Lang, Maureen Carlson, Karlene and Karen Hesting, Jeanne Riechenberger, Karen McKo, Janeanne Wilharm, Roberta Johnson and Carroll Beckner.

Kenneth Hale of Kansas City, Mo., is spending the summer at the home of his aunt and uncle Mr. and Mrs. D. Stoller. He was eight years old last Wednesday and celebrated by spending the day at the beach and in the evening there was a small, family party.

Oak Lawn Independent
8/3/1950

Board Adopts Tax Levy of $96,235

The annual tax levy ordinance was adopted Tuesday night at the Oak Lawn village board meeting. This year's tax levy has been set at $96,235.

A new business license ordinance was adopted as well as an ordinance changing the license fees on a number of busmesses. These ordinances will be printed in detail in next week's issue of the Independent.

Police Chairman Mann reported on the August police dept. operations: Total expenses of $2448.47, was offset by fines amounting to $1527.

Two petitions protesting the operations of a gas station at 95th and Southwest hwy. were referred to the judiciary committee. Among the complaints was the excess lighting which cause a traffic hazard.

Trustees Rech and Brunn were absent.

Oak Lawn Independent
9/14/1950, p.1

LYNWOOD WOMEN PLAN FLOWER SHOW . . .

Members of the Lynwood Woman's club met recently at the home of the president, Mrs. Walter G. Daiber (shown on the extreme left, touching flower) to complete plans for the flower show to be held this Saturday and Sunday. Guests were (left to right) Mrs. Howard Letz, who will decorate the entrance; Mrs. Wesley Menagh, chairman of judges, and Mrs. Donald Dill, publicity chairman.

The flower show will be the club's fifth annual show, but its first September show. The show, under the direction of the general chairman, Mrs. Jack Karreman, will be held at the Covington school, 9130 S. 52nd av. Competition is open to all non-professional flower growers of Oak Lawn and immediate vicinity. Exhibits will be received Saturday, Sept. 16, from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Entries in the show will be judged by professional judges and will be viewed by the public at 1 p.m. until 8 p.m. and again Sunday from 12 noon to 6 o'clock.

Oak Lawn Independent
9/14/1950, p.1

Mrs. L. Hilgendorf, Resident Since 1891, Heart Attack Victim

Funeral services were held Tuesday, Sept. 12, from the Trinity Lutheran church of Oak Lawn for Mrs. Lena Hilgendorf, 82, 9700 S. Cook av., Oak Lawn, who died Saturday morning at home from a heart attack. Interment was at Mount Greenwood.

Mrs. Hilgendorf was born in Summit and moved to Oak Lawn in 1891 where she lived since then. She was a member of the Trinity Lutheran church in Oak Lawn all of her life and was a charter member of the Ladies' Aid and second oldest member of the congregation. Her husband, William, who died in 1945, was also a lifelong resident of Oak Lawn.

Surviving are her daughters, Mrs. Mamie Haffner, Mrs. Elsie Evers; two sons, John and Arthur; two sisters, Mrs. Gustie Dufrain and Mrs. Minnie Cunningham as well as nine grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

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9/14/1950, p.1

Square Dance Competition to Be Main Feature of Round-Up Days

A square dance competition will be the main feature of the Oak Lawn Round-Up days set for Sept. 28, 29 and 30, Jim Sweeney, publicity chairman of the Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce, sponsoring organization for the Round-Up, said this week.

William McLain, a director of square dancing for the Chicago Park district board and supervisor of the Rockette dancers at the 1948 Chicago Railroad Fair, will be one of the callers, as well as judge.

Sweeney said that the plans call for Columbus av. to be roped off between Cicero and 95th st. with preliminaries being held there on Thursday and Friday nights.

The finals will be held in conjunction with the square dance sponsored by the First Congregational church and will be held at the B and L Garage, Sweeney added.

The dance groups will be judged for performance, costumes and rhythm and awards will be given to the winners.

Groups wishing to enter the square dance contest may call or write Dr. Mathias Hoffman, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce.

Sweeney revealed that everyone is "getting into the act" and that almost every civic organization is participating. The Lynwood Woman's club and the Oak Lawn Fire dept. auxiliary are each sponsoring a hat booth, located at opposite ends of the town. The Oak Lawn Home Owners are sponsoring a booth of western novelties and other groups, including the Oak Lawn Athletic club, Sportsmen's club, St. Gerald's Mother's club, and the Men's club, will sponsor the 49er tents and other attractions. He stated that in the center of town the Johnson-Phelps VFW post and the Green Oak post, American Legion, will have a carnival.

Sweeney also reported that entries for the parade are pouring in. In addition to the famous six-horse team entered by Wilson and company, the Borden company will have "Elsie" their famous cow in the parade and that there will also be five or six bands on hand to supply music.

"Every evening there will be campfires located in various parts of the town with cowboy singers," Sweeney pointed out. He said the Chamber of Commerce is also looking for volunteers to act as strolling musicians.

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9/14/1950, p.1

Name Wolfson to Top Agents Club

Leo L. Wolfson, 9821 McVickers av., Oak Lawn, a representative of the New York Life Insurance co., has been named a member of the 1950 Nylic Top club, is was announced today by Dudley Dowell, vice-president in charge of agency affairs of the company.

The Nylic Top club is an organization of outstanding members of the New York Life's field force of nearly 5000 agents from thruout the United States and Canada.

Wolfson has been invited to attend an educational conference of the Top club Sept. 25-28 at the New Ocean house, Swampscott, Mass., at which home office staff members and leading agents will speak on current developments in the life insurance business.

Oak Lawn Independent
7/14/1950, p.1

John Salihar, Builder, Dies in Hospital

Funeral services were held Monday morning, Sept. 11, from St. Gerald's church for John Salihar, 63, of 9322 S. 51st av., Oak Lawn, who died Thursday at home from peritonitis. Burial was at Holy Sepulchre cemetery.

Salihar, a resident of Oak Lawn for 29 years, was born in Austria and came to the U.S. in 1909. A carpenter by trade, Salihar was one of the founders of St. Gerald's church and helped in erecting the original church on 95th st. He also worked on the new church and school and built a number of houses in Oak Lawn and vicinity. Mr. Salihar was active in church affairs and a member of the Holy Name society.

Surviving are his wife, Josephine; daughters, Mrs. John Chermak, Mrs. Walter Kasch, Mrs. James Tucker; sons, Warren and Laurence, and one brother, Frank.

Oak Lawn Independent
9/14/1950, p.1

Leads Discussion . . .

Hugh W. Smith, recently appointed deputy governor of southwest suburbs of Chicago by Marvin E. Tench, district governor, led a panel discussion for club vice-presidents at the Chicagoland Lions conference last week.

Smith is a member of the Oak Lawn Lions club and has been in the dry cleaning business for 17 years, building his own plant in Oak Lawn in 1946. He helped organize a Federal Savings and Loan association in Oak Lawn, of which he is also a director.

Oak Lawn Independent 9/21/1950

Announce Engagement

Mr. and Mrs. George Schussler, 9532 S. 54th av., Oak Lawn, announce the engagement of their daughter, Nancy, to Richard Culbertson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Culbertson, 9527 S. 49th av. No date has been set for the wedding.

Oak Lawn Independent
9/21/1950

Ken Krauss Injured in Water Works

Sept 21-50

Ken Krauss, village of Oak Lawn employe, continues to be the hard-luck member of the village's staff. While tightening a pipe at the Oak Lawn village water works Tuesday the wrench slipped and Krauss fell foreward against the wrench. Dr. Gasteyer took six stitches to close the wound which was opened across his right collar bone.

Krauss, who resides at 5137 W. 95th st., spent three months in Little Company of Mary hospital last summer as a result of burns received while fighting a fire.

Oak Lawn Independent
9/21/1950

Round-Up Committee Sets Up Headquarters at 5237 W. 95th

Headquarters for Round-Up days (Sept. 28, 29 and 30) have been established in an empty store at 5237 W. 95th st., Jim [illegible], Round-Up chairman, said this week. The committee will meet there every morning at 10 o'clock starting today and lasting until Round-Up days are over, he stated.

He also called attention to the fact that Police Commissioner Mann stated that anyone possessing or exhibiting firearms, other than cap guns, such as revolvers, pistols, shot-guns, rifles, or B-B guns, will be liable to arrest and a fine, and the weapons will be confiscated. Mann says that the police department have orders to see that this ruling is strictly enforced.

Sweeney pointed out that the square dance jamboree, which was tentatively scheduled to be held on Columbus av., will be held in front of the firehouse on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Bob McLean, who is supervising the jamboree reports that entries from the Chicago Park districts and other suburbs are pouring in.

He also said that the Rockettes, one of the main attractions at the Chicago Railroad Fair in 1948 and 1949, will perform every night, and that the "Sons of the Saddle," a cowboy singing band, will furnish the music for dancing Thursday and Friday night and Chuck Carello and his band, currently appearing at the Swiss Chalet, will furnish the music on Saturday afternoon.

The committee announces that participants in costume sets—folk dancing, or other special dances—will all receive souvenier tie holders.

The location of Round-Up booths and the organizations sponsoring them are: At 95th st. and 49th av., Oak Lawn Sportsmen's club, a '49er tent; Lions club, Kiddie Bar; Oak Lawn Fire dept. auxiliary, hat booth, where the official round-up hats may be purchased.

At 52nd av and 95th st.,—American Legion, Green Oak post and the Johnson-Phelps post, VFW, will hold a carnival.

Behrend's parking lot — Lions club, Kiddie Bar; St. Gerald Men's club, '49er tent; Athletic club, "refreshment" booth.

At 95th and Minnick—Oak Lawn Swimming Pool fund, award booth; Lynwood Woman's club, hot booth, and the Oak Lawn Home Owners, western novelties booth.

The First Congregational church along with their square dance, will feature a refreshment booth in front of the B and L garage. They also will have Eva Lambright and her orchestra playing at the dance. Bob Hughes will call.

Oak Lawn Independent
9/21/1950, p.1

Quick Thinking by Housewife Nabs Thieves

Two Tinley Park men, captured by Cook county highway police near 175th and Cicero Friday thru the quick thinking of a housewife, were said to have admitted having stolen groceries from stores in Oak Lawn, Mount Greenwood and Tinley Park. Police said they admitted having worked a "racket" in southwest side stores for several months.

The two men were T. M. Kunkel, 173rd and LaVergne, and Edward LaSota, both of Tinley. Police said LaSota had a police record dating back to 1925.

The men stood trial yesterday in Homewood police court.

Quick thinking by Mrs. C. Murray, 8820 Central, Oak Lawn, and Officer Harry Munch of the Oak Lawn police dept. was said to have been responsible for the quick apprehension of the two men shortly after they had stolen groceries from the Jewel Tea store in Oak Lawn.

County police curbed the car at 175th and Cicero and found it loaded with merchandise valued at $100 in the rear seat and trunk.

Police reports stated that after shopping in the Oak Lawn Jewel store, Mrs. Murray said she had gone to pick up her packaged groceries when she saw a man carrying them out.

She followed the man, police said, and accosted him as he was about to enter a 1948 model Kaiser demanding to know where he was going with her groceries.

"None of your business," the man retorted and gave her a shove then jumped into the car which was driven off by a second man who apparently had been waiting for him.

Mrs. Murray wrote down a description of the car and license number and gave it to Officer Munch who in turn relayed the description to state and county police over the police radio. The police caught the men less than a half hour later.

Oak Lawn Independent
9/21/1950, p.1

Oak Lawn to Open Second Round-Up Fete Tomorrow

With hitching posts located strategically throughout the town and many of its citizens bedecked in cowboy hats and spurs, Oak Lawn will go Western tomorrow, Friday and Saturday in its second annual Round-Up Days.

Booths sponsored by local civic and war veterans' organizations will be opened at noon tomorrow, featuring such items as 10-gallon hats, lariats, barbecued steaks, spurs, popcorn, apple cider and games. On each of the three evenings musicians will lead the singing of cowboy songs and a square dance festival will be held.

"Gold Gulch" Bar.

Oak Lawn Merchants have cooperated to give the town a Western look. The Oak Lawn Trust and Savings bank has been "renamed" the Silver Dollar Bank and a sign outside advises citizens to "come and get their money before Jesse does." Grocery stores have told the populace to come and get their "grub-stakes" and establishments such as the "Gold Gulch" and "Last Chance" bars are handling "panther juice" and "cactus oil."

As a preliminary to the three-day event, "Fearless Freddie" rode into town this morning and, wielding six-shooters, "robbed" a stage coach. The citizens might have known something desperate was afoot because signs stating that "Fearless Freddie is coming to town" have been up for more than a week.

Prizes for Floats.

Climax of the celebration will be a parade Saturday afternoon with prizes awarded for the best floats. Three thousand persons are expected to participate in the parade and an estimated 40,000 spectators are expected to jam the streets, an increase of 15,000 over the number who witnessed it last year. The parade will start at 2:30 p.m. at 95th st. and Cicero ave., proceed from there to Southwest hwy. and then to Ridgeland ave.

Another highpoint will occur at 10:30 a.m. Saturday when the police and fire departments will do battle in a "grudge" water fight. Teams of policemen and firemen will blast each other from short range with water from high-pressure water hoses until one side signifies it has had enough. Other neighboring fire departments will stage similar battles after this match is decided.

The square dance jamboree will begin at 8 p.m. each evening and will be held at 95th st. and Cook ave., with Bob McLean acting as caller. Spectators sitting in bleachers will see square dancers from city and suburban parks perform for prizes. On Saturday night, the Oak Lawn Congregational church will sponsor a square dance to take place in the B and L garage at 5451 W. 95th st.

10-Gallon Hats.

Booths along 95th st. will be open from noon to 10 or 11 p.m. tomorrow and all day Friday and Saturday. At 95th st. and 53rd ct., the Lynwood Women's club will have a 10-gallon hat booth and the Oak Lawn Home Owners' association will have a Western novelties booth. At the same location the swimming pool fund committee will operate a games booth and award prizes such as television sets and bicycles.

A Kiddie Bar stocked with root beer, apple cider and hamburgers will be sponsored by the Oak Lawn Lions club at 9304 W. 95th st. Also at that spot will be a pony ride and booths of the Oak Lawn Men's club and the Oak Lawn Athletic club.

The Oak Lawn Fire department will operate an open-air barbecue pit at 95th st. and Raymond ave. and the Crow's Nest, an organization of high school youths, will have a pop corn concession at 5311 W. 95th st. The American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars posts of Oak Lawn will co-sponsor a carnival at 52nd ct. and 95th st.

Cowboy Singers.

At 95th st. and 49th ave., the Lions will have another Kiddie Bar and the fire department auxiliary will sell 10-gallon hats. Here, too, will be a booth operated by the Sportsmen's club and pony rides sponsored by the Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce.

The wandering cowboy singers-musicians will journey along 95th st. beginning at 8 p.m. each evening. Frank Cole, 9928 Cicero ave., a well-known magician, will also walk up and down 95th st. and demonstrate card tricks and other magical feats to the citizens of the town.

The Round-Up Days are sponsored by the Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce to attract public attention to the town. Matthew Smilde, 4810 W. 95th st., is president and Elmer Buell, 5303 W. 95th st., vice-president, of the chamber.

Southtown Economist
9/27/1950, p.24

Study Bond Issue for Hall, Traffic Projects

The Oak Lawn village board passed a resolution at Tuesday night's regular board meeting to propose an ordinance on a contemplated $50,000 bond issue. The proposition will be submitted to the voters for approval upon being drawn up.

The bond issue would be for a stop and go light on 95th and Cook av., street signs and remodeling of the outdated village hall.

The board, with all six trustees present, adopted two ordinances which are printed in detail in this week's Independent.

One of the ordinances provides for the construction of a water main on Kildare av. from 102nd to 103rd st. with a special tap charge to cover the cost.

The other ordinance sets up minimum first floor dimensions for homes built in the village.

Oak Lawn Independent
9/28/1950, p.1

Margery Thomas Crowned Queen of Columbus Manor

Margery Ann Thomas (picture on back page) was crowned queen of Columbus Manor at a dance held in the Columbus Manor firehouse last Friday night. Bill Lyon of Lefoldt and Lyon Cleaners acted as master of ceremonies.

The crown, of white satin, had blue soutache braid with gold sequins around the bottom and sprinkled with red sequins which matched those on the yoke of her shirt.

At 11 o'clock Bus Mason, representative of the Columbus Manor Athletic assn., presented Jack Resendes with a cigarette lighter and presented Jim McCarville with a cash award from members of the association. Jim, who left for the Army Sunday, received an identification bracelet from the Blue Jeans, Columbus Manor girl's softball team. Bud then presented Fodi Potter, manager of the Blue Jeans, with a table lamp horse from the team.

The 17 girls who were contestants in the popularity contest each received a fountain pen and pencil set, and the three winners, Margery Ann, Emma Phelps and Mary Lou Burgess received wrist watches.

Oak Lawn Independent
9/28/1950, p.1

List Floats for Round-Up Parade Saturday

Dr. Mathias Hoffman, secretary of the Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce, this week announced the list of floats entered in the Round-Up days parade to be held Saturday at 2:30 p.m.

Included were Wilson and co. famous six-horse team; Bowman Dairy co., Borden Dairy co's "Elsie" the Borden cow; Monarch Laundry co.; Canadian Ace, a team of horses.

Dr. Hoffman said that almost all of the merchants in Oak Lawn as well as the civic organizations have entered floats, including such items as a horse and buggy, old time hand pumped fire engine, hay racks, "hot-rods" and other novel entries which will be unveiled at the parade.

He also said that there will be more than four hundred horses and riders in the parade and that horses, as well as mules, were secured with the help of south side riding stable owners, among them the Popular Riding Stable and Green Circle stable.

Dr. Hoffman added that all of the outlying towns, including Worth, Palos Park, Palos Heights, Grandview and others have also entered floats.

The Blue Island Community High school band, Stickney Township High school band, Warren Weaver's accordion band, and two [illegible] School of Music, and two [illegible] Legion posts have entered bands to furnish music for [illegible] Hoffman said.

The Columbus Manor unit, sponsored by the Manor businessmen, will have the following units in the parade: One fire dept. truck, the float containing the queen and her court, and floats entered by Boyce Brothers Oil co., DeGroot Feed and Seed, Southwest Hardware, Plumbing and Supply, Harmon Heating, Excel Window co., Lefoldt and Lyon Cleaners, Butkus Cartage, Burns Cartage, Upholstery King, Criss Water Softener, Wall's Service Station, Sugar Bowl Canteen's hay rack, Simmons PTA, Columbus Manor Athletic assn., as well as other units.

Tentative plans for the line-up of the parade call for forming on Columbus av. and Cicero to 95th where the parade will start. Green Oak post of American Legion and Johnson-Phelps VFW will lead with colors; the fire dept. next in line.

Oak Lawn Independent
9/28/1950, p.1

Befriends Man; Out $10, Jacket

Mrs. Marie Gale Lambert, 9940 Harnew Road East, Oak Lawn, reported to Oak Lawn police Thursday that William Jones, 27, caretaker on her place, left Saturday taking a jacket and ten dollars.

Mrs. Lambert had befriended Jones when he was down and out and let him work around her home until he was able to find a job. Jones obtained the $10 from a neighbor to "Pay for a parcel that," he said, "was to be delivered to Mrs. Lambert."

Mrs. Lambert didn't object to Jones' departure—even with a jacket—but decided to notify police when several days later she learned of the $10 loss.

Oak Lawn Independent
9/28/1950, p.1

WRBI to Broadcast Round-Up Fete

The South Suburban radio station, WRBI, which operates on an FM frequency of 94.3, will broadcast Saturday's Oak Lawn Round-Up parade at 2:30 p.m., Nadean McKeever, business manager of the station said this week.

She added that the station will also broadcast highlights and interviews Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 6:45 p.m.

The program is being sponsored by the businessmen in the village who are located east of the Wabash tracks and Cicero av. on 95th.

Oak Lawn Independent
9/28/1950, p.1

LINE-UP OF ROUND-UP

95th and Minnick, next to Jewel Food store: Lynwood Woman's club hat booth; Oak Lawn Home Owners Western novelties booth; Swimming Pool Fund TV set and and bicycle booth.

Behrend's Parking lot, 5304 W. 95th st.: Lions Club kiddie bar; Oak Lawn Men's Club 49'er tent; Athletic Club beer bar and pony rides.

5311 W. 95th st.: Crow's Nest will operate a popcorn stand.

5256 W. 95th st.: Oak Lawn Fire Department open air beef barbeque Friday and Saturday.

95th st. between 52nd av. and Cook av.: Legion and VFW carnival.

49th av. and 95th st.: Sportsmen's Club 49'er tent and beer bar; Lions Club kiddie bar; Oak Lawn Fire Department hat booth and pony rides.

SPECIAL EVENTS

A water fight between the Oak Lawn Fire and Police departments to be held just north of the firehouse Saturday morning at 10. Following the Oak Lawn sprinkling, other water fights between the fire departments of Columbus Manor, Grand View, Burbank Manor and Oak Lawn will be held, lasting until 2 p.m.

Community singing every night at 8 p.m. starting at 95th st. and 53rd av. and moving eastward to 49th av.

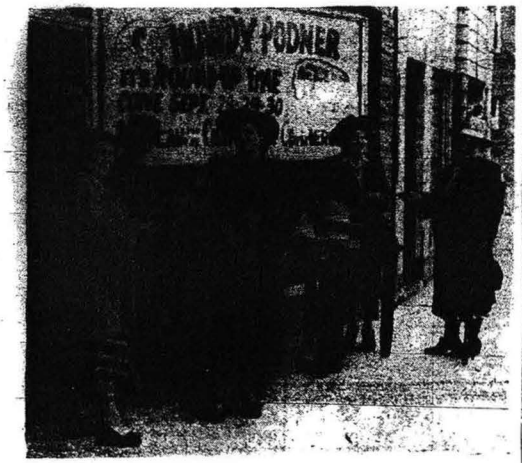
Frank Cole, well-known magician, will visit the booths along 95th st. and practice his slight-of-hand all three nights.

A square dance at B and L Motors, 5433 W. 95th st., on Saturday night, sponsored by the First Congregational church.

An open air beef barbecue will be held Friday and Saturday night in the vacant lot at 5258 W. 95th st. The barbecue will be sponsored by the Oak Lawn firemen and a whole cow is expected to be roasted.

Oak Lawn Independent
9/28/1950, p.1

PREPARE FOR ROUND-UP BY BUYING HATS . . .

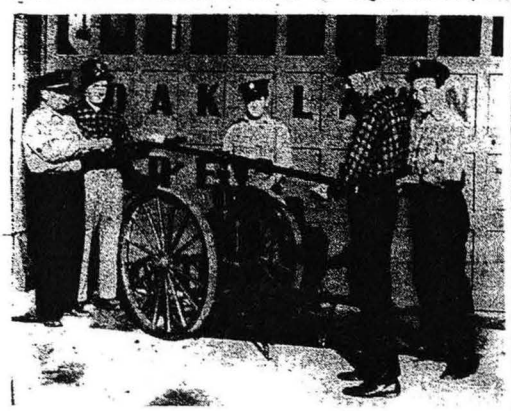


Shown purchasing Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce ten gallon pseudo Stetsons are (left) Mrs. H. A. Reichel, 9724 Melvina, who is accepting the Round-Up necessity from Mrs. Grace Donelli of Lynwood while Elmer Buell of the Chamber of Commerce and Mrs. Sally Diaber, also of Lynwood (in dark glasses), look on.

Offering the greenback to (right) Mrs. Dorothy Harker is Mrs. A. Schmalen, 5137 W. 95th st.

Sign in background announces Round-Up time in Greater Oak Lawn Sept. 28, 29 and 30.

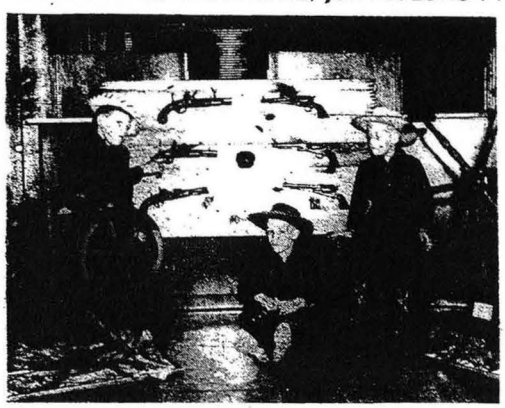
OAK LAWN FIREOS SPRUCE UP EQUIPMENT . .



Shown are Oak Lawn firemen (left to right) Chief Elmore Harker, Ken Shoot, Bill Fett, Jim Bennett and Charlie Boecher limbering up pumping muscles so that they can handle their "new" equipment borrowed from the Dolton Fire dept. for Oak Lawn's Round-Up days. It's an 1888 pumper, and has been a prized possession of the Doltonites since that time.

Four men are needed to haul the ancient but effective pumper to the scene of the blaze. This, too, will be in the Round-Up parade set for Saturday.

WALK-A-LONG, SKIP-A-LONG, JUMP-A-LONG . .



Protecting display of ancient weapons and spinning wheel at the Oak Lawn Federal Savings and Loan assn. are recently sworn-in Sheriff Brian "Walk-a-long" Anderson (left) and two other members of the infamous brother troupe, noted for their lead-slingin' talents in the name of the law east of Hoss Thief Hollow. With the sheriff are his deputies, Boyd "Skip-a-long" Anderson and Floyd "Jump-a-long" Anderson.

The weapons and spinning wheel will be on display during Round-Up days at the Savings and Loan assn.

Oak Lawn Round-Up on for Three Days

For the second successive year Oak Lawn's Chamber of Commerce, along with almost every other

Fearless Freddie

social and civic organizations in the Greater Oak Lawn area is participating in the three-day celebration, Sept. 28, 29 and 30, called Oak Lawn Round-Up days.

The whole town during the Round-Up takes on the air of an old western village with merchants making the most of the fact that Oak Lawn was once known as "Horse Thief Hollow."

Windows are decorated and carry the theme thruout. On 95th st., Oak Lawn's main shopping center, hitching posts by Oak Lawn Fence co., have been erected along the street so that the horses from near-by stableles can be tied up.

This year as the "hooker" for the Round-Up, the Chamber of Commerce will stage a hold-up of an old stag coach, complete with shootin' bandits, led by the notorious "Fearless Freddie," one of the roughest, toughest hombres to ever draw a "hoglaig" in the area.

"Fearless" and his gang of cutthroats will make off with pseudo gold bullion from the stage Wednesday morning between 10 and 11 a.m. on 95th st., and possibly Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Posses will take off in pursuit almost immediately and are expected to be in evidence thruout the three days, chasing the outlaws around the town amidst the constant crack of six shooters.

It is hoped by the vigilantes, composed of every able-bodied man who can throw a leg over a cyus, that they will corner the bandit horde and string 'em up some time Saturday.

Last year's hoss rustler, Hoss Thief Pete, came to an ignominous end of a rope hung from a tall tree on 95th st. last year before the eyes of some of the 25,000 persons who came from every section of Cook county to witness the three-day affair.

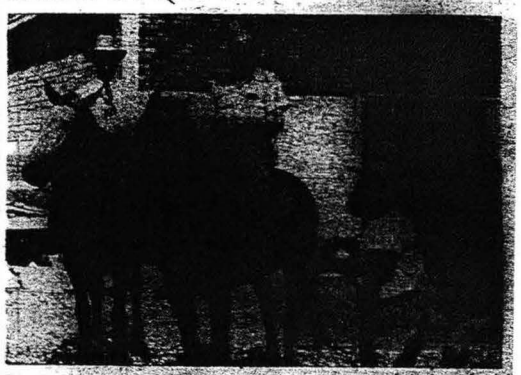
This year, Chamber of Commerce officials believe, more than 35,000 are expected to crowd into the southwestern Cook county village.

CROWN MANOR QUEEN FOR ROUND-UP DAYS

Shown crowning popularity queen of Columbus Manor, Marjorie Ann Thomas, is William Lyon, vice-president of the Columbus Manor Businessmen's assn.

Members of Miss Thomas' court are, left to right, Lenore Phelps, who took third place in the popularity contest, and on the right, Mary Lou Burgess, second place winner. The girls will ride on the Columbus Manor Businessmen's assn. float in the Oak Lawn Round-Up parade set for Saturday on 95th st., Oak Lawn.

CAMERA CATCHES C. OF C. VIGILANTES . . .



The Independent tin type catches a portion of Oak Lawn's Chamber of Commerce Vigilantes in action as they prepared to round up a posse to corner the daring bandits who robbed the stage yesterday out on 95th st. near noon. The fearless pistoleers are Roland Beckley of INR Beatty Lumber co. (left) and Dr. Mathias Hoffman. Scurrying across in front of the hosses in use is C. Bulow, proprietor of the Popular Stables, Palos Park hostlery. Bulow is expected to be kept busy thruout the next three days providing fresh hoss flesh for the "posses."

GIRL SCOUTS PREPARE FOR ROUND-UP DAYS . .

Girl Scouts and leaders from Oak Lawn interrupt their handiwork on the two dolls they are preparing for the Round-Up parade to take place Saturday.

Shown top row (left to right) are Mrs. Edmund Berchert, 8949 S. Meade of troop 212; Mrs. Edward J. Fritz, 9969 Elm Circle, troop 216; and Mrs. Martin Lode, 9721 S. Normandy, troop 248.

Sitting on the arms of the chair are Lenore Lang, 9968 Elm Circle, troop 216, and Marilyn Lode, 9721 Normandy, troop 248. In the front row are Charlene Berchert, 8949 S. Meade, troop 212; Mary Fritz, 9969 Elm Circle, troop 216, and Carolyn Lode of the Normandy address, troop 248.

Oak Lawn Independent
9/28/1950, p.2

WILD 'N WOOLLY DAYS DESCEND ON OAK LAWN

Roundup Starts Today —with a Bang!

Three days of frontier life are in store today thru Saturday for residents of Oak Lawn. Visitors to the community might be surprised to see usually sedate matrons wearing ten gallon hats and firing cap pistols or serious business men strolling thru the swinging doors of a frontier saloon during business hours.

It is all because of Oak Lawn's second annual Round Up days. Tempo was set for the festival, which is sponsored by the Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce, when a mock stage coach robbery was staged yesterday in the center of town.

Dancing Each Night

A carnival, sponsored by American Legion and V. F. W. posts, will be held during the three days and many organizations have set up concession booths along 95th st. Women's organizations will sell cowboy hats and other western paraphernalia in the booths.

A square dance jamboree will be held on each of the nights at 95th st. and Cook av., and prizes will be awarded best dancers.

Camp fires will be built in vacant lots in the business district and local singing groups will gather around them and present western songs and folk ballads. Several soft drink bars for children have been set up by the Lions club. Not to be outdine by the small fry, their fathers and grandfathers will have their own frontier saloon.

Big Parade on Saturday

Highlight of the program will be a parade at 2 p. m. Saturday in which more than 400 horsemen are expected to ride. The line of march will be along 95th st.

Matthew Smilde is president of the chamber of commerce and Burton Hensley is in charge of the festival. Other chairmen include Elmer Buell, entertainment; Roland Beckley, dancing, and Dr. M. J. Hoffman, parade.

Chicago Tribune
9/28/1950, p.A1

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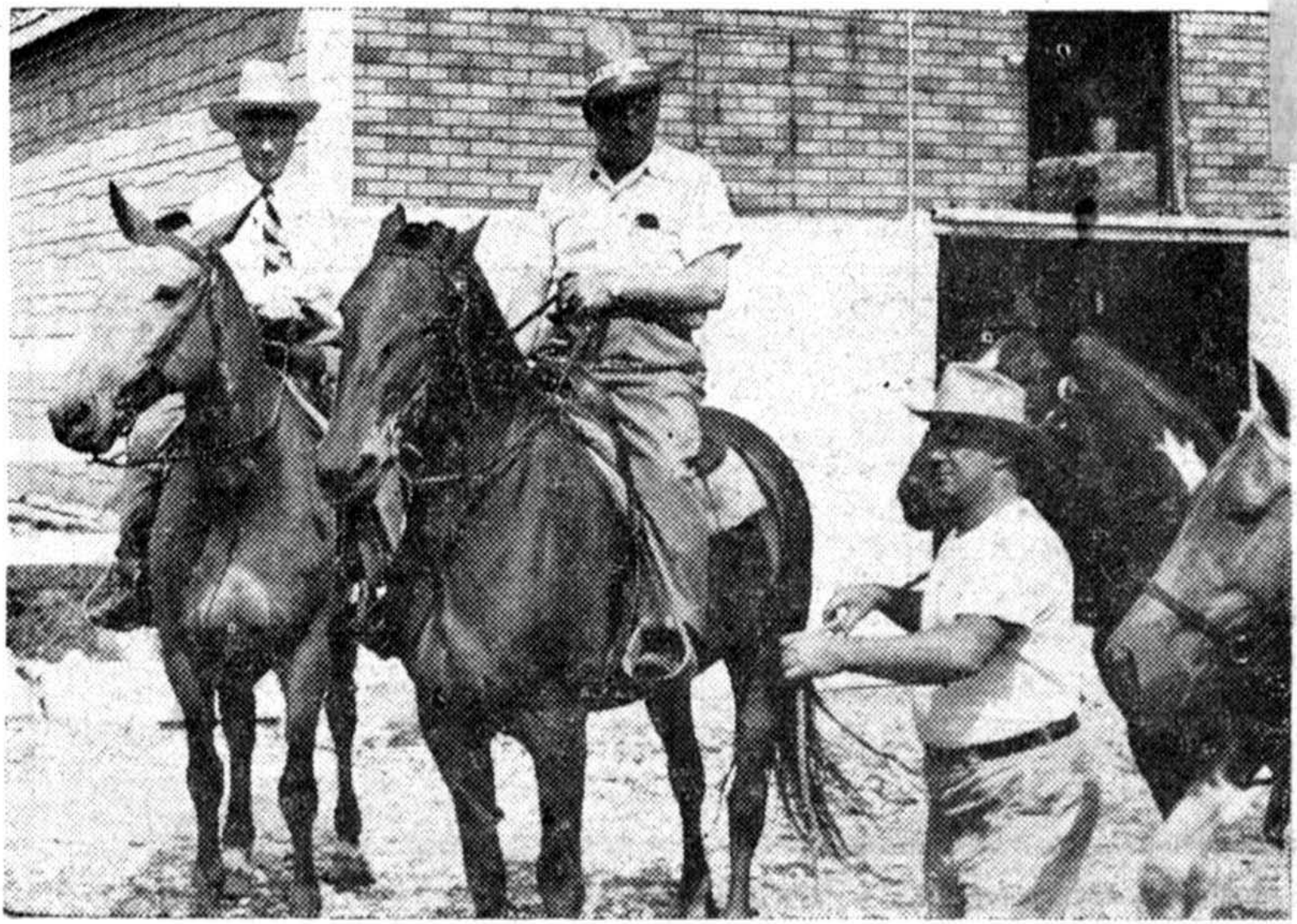

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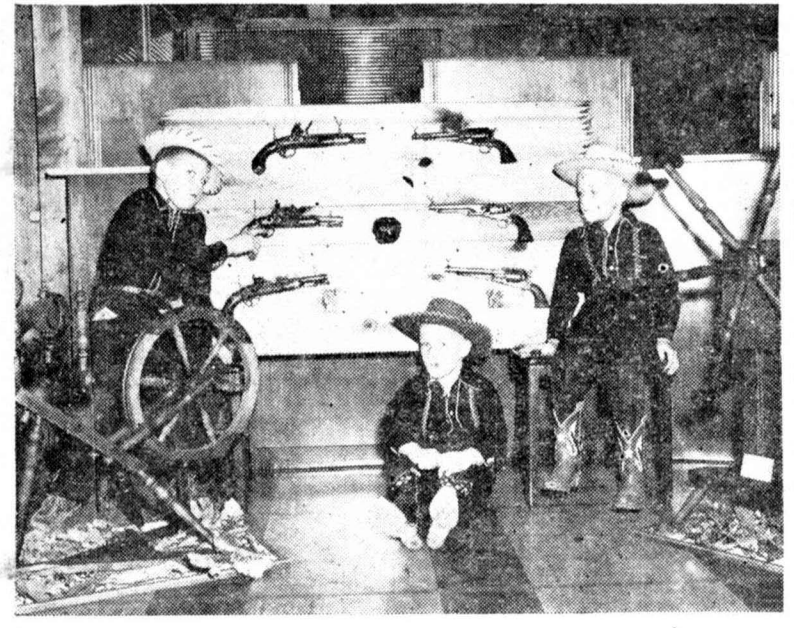

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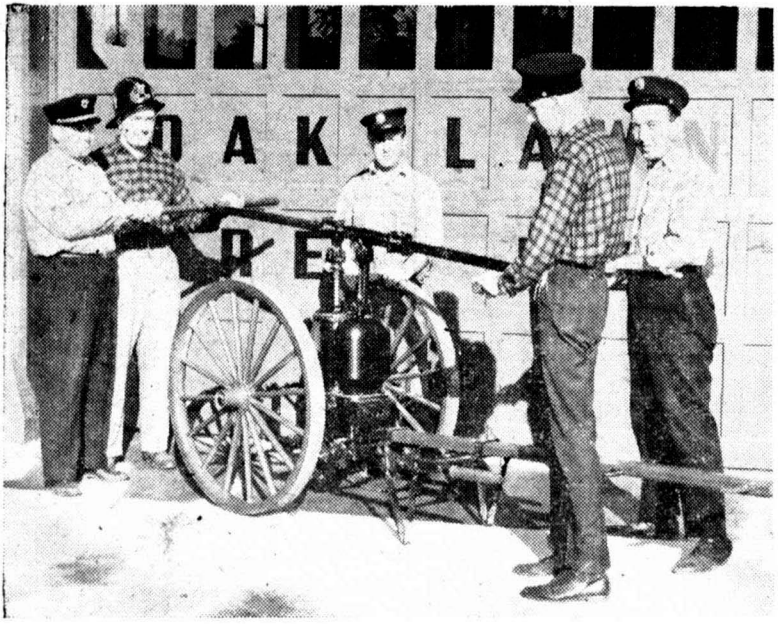
9/28/1950

OAK LAWN FIREOS SPRUCE UP EQUIPMENT . .



Shown are Oak Lawn firemen (left to right) Chief Elmore Harker, Ken Shoot, Bill Fett, Jim Bennett and Charlie Boecher limbering up pumping muscles so that they can handle their "new" equipment borrowed from the Dolton Fire dept. for Oak Lawn's Round-Up days. It's an 1888 pumper, and has been a prized possession of the Doltonites since that time.

Four men are needed to haul the ancient but effective pumper to the scene of the blaze. This, too, will be in the Round-Up parade set for Saturday.

Oak Lawn Independent
9/28/1950

PREPARE FOR ROUND-UP BY BUYING HATS . . .

Shown purchasing Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce ten gallon pseudo Stetsons are (left) Mrs. H. A. Reichel, 9724 Melvina, who is accepting the Round-Up necessity from Mrs. Grace Donelli of Lynwood while Elmer Buell of the Chamber of Commerce and Mrs. Sally Diaber, also of Lynwood (in dark glasses), look on.

Offering the greenback to (right) Mrs. Dorothy Harker is Mrs. A. Schmalen, 5137 W. 95th st.

Sign in background announces Round-Up time in Greater Oak Lawn Sept. 28, 29 and 30.

Oak Lawn Independent
9/28/1950

TWO CHILDREN, TWO ADULTS HURT IN CRASH

Shown helping load injured Harry Szymczyk, 28, into the Oak Lawn Fire dept. ambulance is Chief Elmore Harker. Other firemen stand by, ready to give assistance.

Szymczyk, along with two children and another adult, was hurt in a two-car intersection collision at 93rd and Central near noon Saturday.

Photo by Waller Russ

Two small children and two adults were injured, none seriously, in an intersection crash near noon Saturday at 93rd and Central.

The children injured were: Eddie Zaleski, 2, and four-year-old Linda LaJoy. Five stitches were taken to close a wound on Eddie's forehead and a few more to close a body wound. Linda was treated for cuts and abrasions. Both were passengers in a car driven by Harry Szymczyk, 28.

Szymczyk received a compound fracture of the left ankle. The other adult injured was Mary Keating, a passenger in the other car driven by Maurice Doob, 5212 Woodlawn. The injured were taken to Little Company of Mary hospital by the Oak Lawn fire dept. ambulance.

Also passengers in the Szymczyk car were Celia Zaleski, 24, and Julia Zaleski, 7, and her three-year-old brother, John, all of whom were uninjured.

Hospital authorities said that all the injured were released the same day after treatment.

Oak Lawn Independent 9/28/1950, p.1

COUPLE TELLS KEY FOR LONG, HAPPY MARRIAGE

F. E. Harnews Served by Tolerance

Tolerance is the formula that brought 50 years of marital happiness to Mr. and Mrs. Frank E. Harnew of Oak Lawn. More than 65 friends, neighbors, and relatives gathered recently at the Harnew home to help them celebrate their anniversary.

Harnew, who is 72, has lived in Oak Lawn all his life. His grandparents settled on a farm there and Harnew worked the farm most of his life. He served on the village board for more than 25 years. This service included four terms as board president and terms as trustee, treasurer, and collector.

He retired about eight years ago but soon took a job as maintenance man at the Beverly theater, Beverly Hills.

Harnew's wife, Fanny, 68, was born in Chicago but her family moved to Oak Lown when she was 10. She and Harnew met in Oak Lawn schools. "Our family has a tradition of long marriages," Harnew said. "We just seem to be able to get along."

The couple has four sons. Frank Jr., Wilbur, Warren, and George, all of Oak Lawn.

Chicago Tribune
10/5/1950, p.A16

LEGION COLOR GUARD LEADS ROUND-UP PARADE . . .

Shown is the Legion color guard, made up of members of Southwest Side Legion posts, leading the Round-Up days parade down 95th st. Saturday.

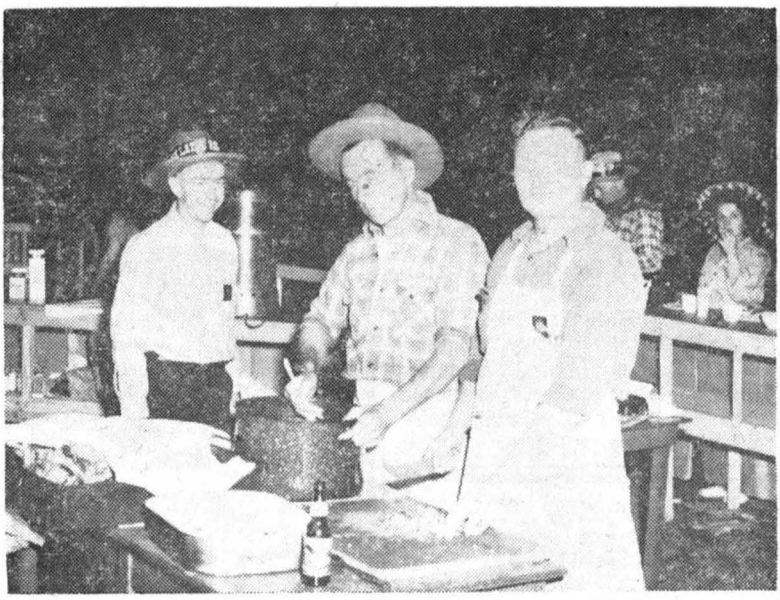
NEW SHOTGUN RIDERS FOR ILL-FATED STAGE

The ill-fated Round-Up Concord gets new shotgun riders to prevent more hold-ups similar to the one last Wednesday.

Holding the "whip hand" in the driver's seat (left) is Roney Henley, riding shotgun (right) is David Regal. Anxious passengers are Carole Phelan and Henry DeVries.

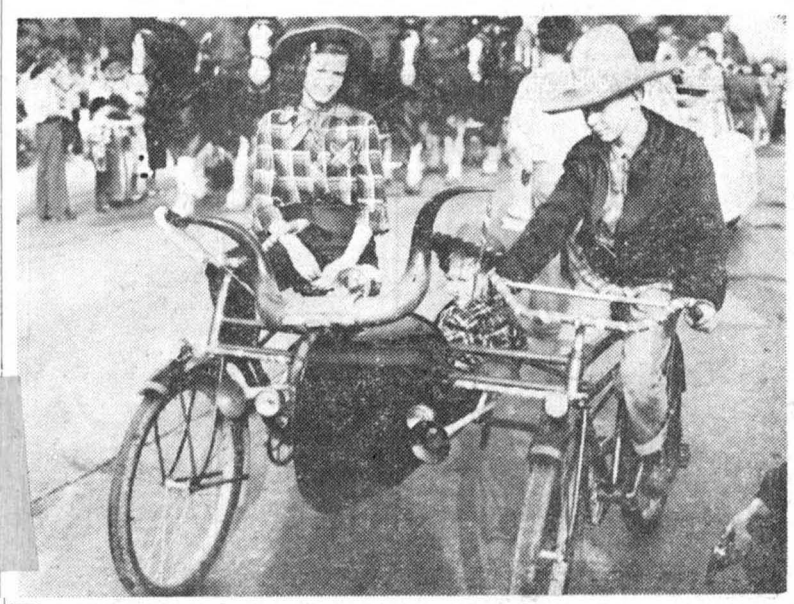
Oak Lawn Independent
10/5/1950, p.1

OAK LAWN FIREMEN LET THIS BLAZE BURN



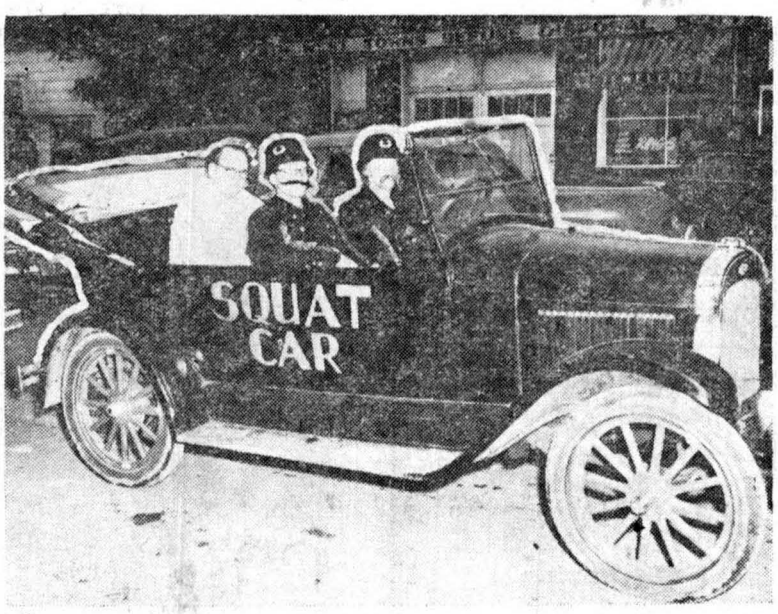
Shown working at the open air beef barbecue are left to right, Ed Bulow, Charles Boecker and Robert Relly. The barbecue was sponsored by the Oak Lawn fire dept.

LAWNERS TAKE BULL BY HORNS IN PARADE



Three young Oak Lawn residents take the bull by the horns when it comes to transportation during the Round-Up parade Saturday. They were (left to right) June Shank, 9717 S. Cook av.; Michael K. O'Brien, 5419 W. Edison, and Thomas Kettell, 9625 S. 52nd av.

COPS SQUAT CAR IS SITZEN POLICE SPECIAL



Shown in the Round-Up cops "Squat" car are left to right, R. W. Van Der Muil, James Hoekstra and at the wheel Bernard "Barney" Lenters. The car is known as a Sitzen special.

Oak Lawn Independent
10/5/1950

Capone Deals 2 Oak Lawners Out of $1000

Four young Chicago area men, including two Oak Lawn residents, in search of adventure, were reportedly swindled out of $2500 by Matt Capone in a fantastic confidence game this week.

The four, John S. Bohne, 30, of 9419 52nd av., William Schmalen, 33, of 5135 W. 95th st., Dick Ackerholm of Norridge Village, Chicago, and John Kurns of Evanston, became interested in making a trip to a South Pacific island when they read accounts of a fabulous Capt. Lamont in a Chicago daily which stated that he was planning an expedition three months ago.

Bohne stated that he contacted the newspaper in an attempt to reach Capt. Lamont and was referred to a reporter who then acted as an agent for Lamont, Bohne charged.

Through the reporter, Bohne said, a meeting was arranged and the four agreed to give money for the trip to Lamont if he could "show them something tangible."

Lamont then introduced the four to a R. Randolph Hunter and a trip to Wilmington, Calif. was arranged between the six men where the boat, a 104-foot reconditioned Navy gunboat, was kept.

After reaching California and

money.

In three weeks of waiting to get started on the trip, and finding their resources getting slim, the four began to get suspicious, Bohne said.

The tipoff that it was a "deal," Bohne said, came when they spotted an advertisement in a California paper that offered the boat up for sale, and the four then four to an R. Randolph Hunter by then had made his identity known to them as Matt Capone, for their money back.

Capone told them that he would agree to give them an IOU on a portion of their money. After an argument the four told Capone they would take the story to Chicago newspapers.

The four then returned to Chicago and took their case to the state's attorney's office and there it rests at the present time with more action being promised today.

Oak Lawn Independent
10/5/1950, p.1

Village Hunters Face Stiff Fines

Police Chief Bob Jelly warns hunters once again that there is no hunting within the village of Oak Lawn and anyone violating the law will be arrested and heavy fines inflicted.

Complaints have already been made to the Oak Lawn police department originating from 107th and Kostner where hunters are firing in and around homes.

Police reported that shot gun pellets are imbedded in the walls of houses in that area from careless nimrods who not only are violating village laws but risking lives as well.

Oak Lawn Independent
10/5/1950, p.1

Sues Oak Lawn in Fight for Trailer Camp

Oscar Vallera if 9535 Kilpatrick, Oak Lawn, Friday filed suit against the village of Oak Lawn, in his fight for permission to open a trailer camp at Cicero av. and 97th st.

Vallera's circuit court suit, prepared by Attorney Morris A. Haft, explains that he owns two acres of vacant land on the east side of Cicero between 96th pl. and 97th st.

The complaint points out that Oak Lawn is divided into five types of districts, for the purposes of zoning, but that a citizen allegedly cannot tell what his property is zoned for by reading the ordinance, which was passed in November, 1927.

Vallera says that he believes that some or all of his property on Cicero av. is zoned for business, but that trailer camps are apparently among the hundreds of uses not specified for one or more of the five zones set up by the ordinance, and therefore barred.

Only those uses specifically listed by the law are approved, Vallera says. Despite this, Vallera charges, there is a trailer camp in operation at 90th st. and Cicero av. Vallera's petition for approval of his proposed camp was turned down in March, 1950, and the board of appeals also denied his request.

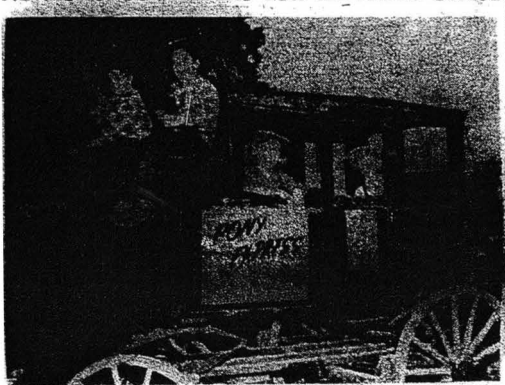
Friday's suit also asks that the [illegible] ordinance invalid; permit Vallera to open his camp; enjoin the village officials from interfering with him, and order the village to issue him the requested permit.

Oak Lawn Independent
10/5/1950, p.1

LEGION COLOR GUARD LEADS ROUND-UP PARADE . . .

Shown is the Legion color guard, made up of members of Southwest Side Legion posts, leading the Round-Up days parade down 95th st. Saturday.

NEW SHOTGUN RIDERS FOR ILL-FATED STAGE



The ill-fated Round-Up Concord gets new shotgun riders to prevent more hold-ups similar to the one last Wednesday.

Holding the "whip hand" in the driver's seat (left) is Roney Henley, riding shotgun (right) is David Regal. Anxious passengers are Carole Phelan and Henry DeVries.

Name Winners of Round-Up Days Awards

The Skirts and Jeans, square dancers, were winners of the Square dance Jamboree held during Oak Lawn Round-Up days last week and were presented with an imported Chinese statuette donated by Ben Gee.

Other winners were the Blue Is awarded an American flag by judges of the parade.

Winners of the blue ribbon awards for floats were Oak Lawn Mill and Lumber co., Speedy Taxi Service, Sugar Bowl Canteen, Mom's Pastry Shop, and Ed's Barber Shop.

Red ribbon winners (2nd place) were the Brownies, Miss Blue Flame; Congregational church, All Suburban Venetian Blinds and School district 123.

Winners of the third place yellow ribbon awards for floats were the Lions club, Crow's Nest, Cream Tob Cabs, Smith Cleaners and Snyden.

Those receiving honorable mention with white ribbon awards were Johnson-Phelps Post 5220, VFW, and the Green Oak post, American Legion; both of Oak Lawn; the "Squat" car and Oak Lawn police; Oak Lawn Federal Savings and Loan; Reggie Rausch, Florist and E. A. Wells for his portrayal of Abraham Lincoln.

Judges of the parade were Mrs. Adele Hayes, Mrs. Margaret Brown and Dolores Bland, chairman, all members of the Evergreen Park Chamber of Commerce.

Matt Smilde, president of the Oak Lawn C of C, said direction of the parade was easier because the committee was able to keep in touch with one another thru the use of radio equipped cars supplied them by the Chicago Mobile Radio assn.

He also said that the prize teams entered by Deans Milk co., Wilson and Co. and Canadian Ace Brewing co., helped carry out the theme of the old time western days, as well as the entries of the merchants and organizations of Greater Oak Lawn and the surrounding communities.

ROUND-UP PHOTOG.

Pictures on the Round-Up parade were taken by Biff Welch, Independent photographer.

More pictures inside.

Round-Up Ends in Only One Mishap

Despite the influx of an estimated total of 125,000 persons during Oak Lawn's three day Round-Up event only one serious accident was reported.

Don Sobolewski, 9, 9721 Southwest hwy. while riding a float in the Saturday parade belonging to Roy East Movers of Columbus Manor, accidently poked his foot into a wheel of the moving vehicle. He was taken to Little Company of Mary hospital by the Town Patrol where it was learned he had suffered a splintered ankle bone in addition to cuts and contusions.

George Smith of Columbus Manor was driving the horse drawn wagon float. It was believed the accident occurred when the parade stopped and Donald rested his foot on the wagon wheel. When the parade started again his foot skipped into the spokes.

Police Nab Two Horse Rustling Drugstore Cowboys

Two drug store cowboys, who came to Oak Lawn from Chicago to celebrate Round-Up days, were booked on horse thieving charges and turned over to juvenile authorities last week when their plans to ride the range on two stolen horses went awry.

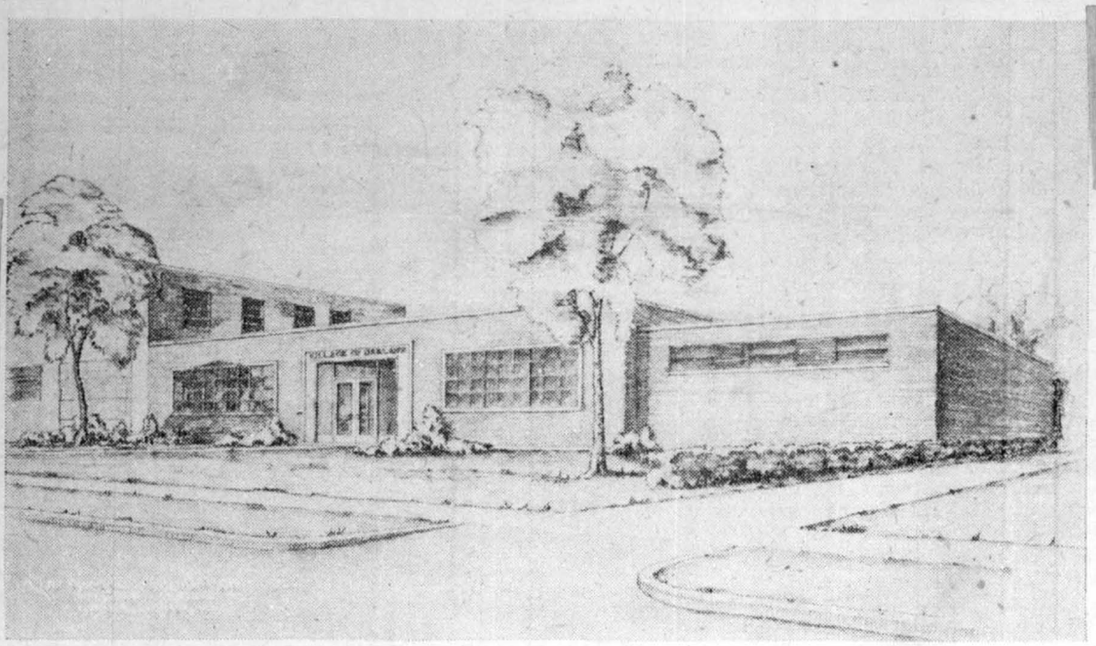
Oak Lawn's police force captured the two who attepted to flee on foot after Oak Lawn police began their pursuit.

Policemen Ken O'Brien and Andy Syverson captured the two who fled in different directions after the alarm had been spread.

John Madsen of Rt. 2, Lockport, who brought riding horses to Oak Lawn to rent during Round-Up days, told police that the pair started to ride off with his horses despite protests from the man in charge. Madsen's horses were tethered at 5300 W. 95th st.

Oak Lawn Independent
10/5/1950, p.1

SKETCH OF VILLAGE HALL AFTER PROPOSED FACE-LIFTING . . .



An architect's sketch of the Oak Lawn village hall shows how it would look following the $38,000 face lifting. The facade would be in the same yellow face brick of the fire house and would adjoin it.

By Charles Carner

Pedestrians will get a break in Oak Lawn.

A new gimmick in "stop and go" lights will be introduced into Oak Lawn in the near future, providing the residents of the village approve the $52,000 bond issue Nov. 4 to remodel the village hall and install traffic signals at 95th and Cook.

The new gimmick is a "pedestrian manual controlled" stop and go light. Tied in with the pedestrian control of the light is a system which will enable the Oak Lawn Fire dept. to manipulate the lights from the firehouse when fire calls come in so that time will not be lost by equipment in crossing or entering 95th st.

Contrary to the picture of general chaos which could seemingly be created by pedestrians being able to push a button and turn the light red every time one wants to cross 95th st., the signals are so equipped that a reasonable period of time must elapse before the signal can again be operated by persons waiting at the corner.

Included in the $14,000 expenditure would be the installation of street signs thruout the village. The signs will be made of stamped metal attached to a galvanized iron post in a concrete base set not less than three feet deep.

Tacked on the $14,000 street equipment program is the "rehabilitation" of the village hall to cost an estimated $38,000.

The present building would lose its facade and become the police department with a chief's office, two cells holding four prisoners, and a vault. This part of the building would be completely renovated, according to village officials.

A 23 by 35 foot council room would be constructed along with private offices in the rear for the clerk and the village president. Also included in the construction plans would be a boiler room; large 24 by 40 foot garage, a room for the water department and a public lobby.

The overall length of the building would be approximately 89 feet with a 52 foot depth. The facade would be of the same yellow face brick as the firehouse, with stone trim, and would be built to adjoin the firemen's quarters.

Oak Lawn Independent
10/19/1950, p.1

TO CELEBRATE 25th ANNIVERSARY . . .

Mr. and Mrs. Albert J. Smutney, 9340 Tully av., Oak Lawn, (above) are celebrating their silver wedding anniversary Saturday, Nov. 4, at the American Legion hall, 93rd and Raymond av. with 150 relatives and friends.

Mr. Smutney has lived in Oak Lawn since 1909 and Mrs. Smutney since 1914. They were married by the Congregational minister in 1925 at the home of Mrs. Smutney's aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Mann, 9513 Minnick.

Mr. Smutney was village clerk of Oak Lawn for 11 years. They have two sons, Robert and Charles (Duke), and a 21-month-old granddaughter, Linda Lou, whom they have been raising since the death of their daughter-in-law last July.

A year ago the Smutneys started the first Self-Service laundry in Oak Lawn, which they sold last spring. They are now operating a resort in New Auburn, Wis., during the summer months.

In addition to operating the resort, Mr. Smutney is head salesman of the Flame Seal corp., who manufacture fire retardent paint, in Wisconsin and part of Illinois.

Oak Lawn Independent 11/2/1950, p.1

Vote Saturday on Hall, Street Project Bonds

A proposition to issue $52,000 worth of bonds for the rehabilitation of the village hall and a street equipment program will be submitted to Oak Lawn voters Saturday, Nov. 4. Polls will be open from 6 a.m. until 5 p.m. and registered voters may vote in polling places as follows:

Precinct 1: Village hall, 9437 Cook av., for those living east of 53rd ct. and north of 95th st.

Precinct 2: Anderson Heating and Ventilating co., 5007 W. 95th st., for those east of 52nd av., south of 95th st., north of 99th st. and west of Cicero.

Precinct 3: Cornelius Ruiter residence, 9314 S. 54th av., for those north of 95th st. and west of 53rd ct.

Precinct 4: Walton's, 5307 W. 95th st., for those south of 95th st., north of 103rd st. and west of 52nd av.

Precinct 5: Lester Rock residence, 5040 Oak Center dr., for those south of 99th st., north of 103rd st., west of Cicero av. and east of 52nd av.

Precinct 6: Robert C. Denoya home, 4201 W. 99th pl. for those south of 95th st., north of 103rd st., east of Cicero av. and west of Crawford av.

Precinct 7: E. J. Engel home, 4611 W. 103rd st., for those living south of 103rd st.

One bond issue, for $38,000, is to remodel the village hall, which includes renovating the present building, which will become the police department with a chief's office, two cells and a vault for storage of village records which at present are housed in the basements or attics of the homes of village officials, and the construction of a council room with private rooms for the village clerk and president, a boiler room, room for the water department, a public lobby and a 24x40 foot garage.

Added to this would be $14,000 for the proposed street equipment program which would include installation of a stop and go light at 95th and Cook av. and the installation of street signs of stamped metal attached to galvanized iron posts in a concrete base, thruout the village.

Oak Lawn Independent 11/2/1950

Over $11,000 in Pool Fund Now

At a meeting of the Oak Lawn Swimming Pool fund committee Oak Lawn Swimming Pool fund held in the fire house last Thursday night, Robert Moyers, secretary, reported that the fund now has a balance of $11,376.19 on deposit at the Oak Lawn Trust and Savings Bank.

Harry Turner, chairman of the Fund's booth during Round-Up days, said that tickets sold amounted to $1,078.25 and that there are still tickets and money which have not been turned in.

Charles Lawrence, chairman of the annual theatre party held in October, reported that $289.36 has been turned in from ticket sales and E. Barger, proprietor of the Twin-Air theatre, had turned over to the Fund a check for $506.54 covering cash receipts at the gate. His report was also incomplete in that the bulk of tickets and money have not been turned in as yet, he said.

Warren Schlieske and Robert Moyers, of the site committee, reported that they investigated 12 sites and said they hope to have a report ready at the next meeting on one or two of the choicest locations for approval to purchase.

Oak Lawn Independent 11/2/1950

Restaurant to Give Turkey Dinner for Swimming Pool Fund

The Village Restaurant, 5207 W. 95th st., will close its doors to its regular trade next Wednesday at 7 p.m. and will donate 150 turkey dinners, entire proceeds of which will go to the Oak Lawn Swimming Pool fund.

The dinner will be complete with all the trimmings, owner John Kasotakis said.

Tunis Collings, president of the Fund, said that just 150 reservations for the dinner would be taken, since that is the restaurant's capacity. The restaurant will remain closed to its regular trade for the remainder of the evening.

The dinners will be $2 a plate, Collings said.

Oak Lawn Independent
11/2/1950

Max Larsonneur has plenty of experience in public activities field

Max Larsonneur, for 20 years a resident of Oak Lawn, and active in civic and American Legion activities during most of that time, is the Democratic candidate for state senator in the 7th Senatorial District.

During World War II Larsonneur served as acting coordinator of Oak Lawn Civilian Defense and had the responsibility of maintaining a control alerting center for nine neighboring towns.

Charter member of Green Oak Post 757 of the American Legion, he served his Post in all offices, including commander, served for many years as 8th District GAR Memorial Day activities chairman; served the Cook County Council of the American Legion Fourth of July committee, who are responsible for the annual show at Soldier's Field, for several years; Cook County Council executive committeeman from the 8th District; served on state and national convention committees; ways and means member of the Past Commander's club; Cheminot of Voiture 220 of the American Legion's 40 and 8 and is a member of the Loyal Order of the Moose and the Shrine.

Arlington Heights Herald
11/3/1950, p.25

KILL BANK BANDIT

One of Trio Shot After Robbing Oak Lawn Savings and Loan

One bandit was killed attempting to escape and two others apprehended thru the efforts of the Evergreen Park and Oak Lawn police departments 13 minutes after they had held up the Oak Lawn Federal Savings and Loan assn., 5015 W. 95th st., at 9:30 Wednesday morning.

Bank Official Tells Story of Robbery

The trio of bandits who held up the Oak Lawn Savings and Loan assn. at 9:30 a.m. yesterday made off with between $5,000 and $7,000 E. Gordon Stubbe, president, said. The money was all recovered.

According to bank employees, the trio entered the bank from the front door remaining there until asked if they were waiting for Mr. Stubbe by Mrs. Mary Eldridge, 35, of Oak Lawn, a teller.

One of the trio jumped to the tellers cage, drew a gun immediately and told Mrs. Eldridge, "You know what we want, sister."

The other two bandits immediately went in behind the cage and began handing money out to their accomplice in front of the cage.

After stuffing a black bowling bag with bills the trio ran out the front door to their waiting car.

Stubbe said Mrs. Eldridge immediately called the Oak Lawn police department. Stubbe was out of the bank on business at the time.

South Holland Bank Robber

The accomplices of Frank Wilson, dead member of the bandit gang, told Oak Lawn police that they had met Wilson only two weeks previously in a tavern in their neighborhood. Wilson outlined the robbery plan, telling the youthful bandits that the job would would be a "pushover."

Wilson was said to have served time in Bridewell penitentary for grand larceny. One of the sketches of the robbers of the South Holland bank, in which a trio took $20,000 in September, was said to have compared with Wilson.

Oak Lawn police had reports that Wilson had been identified by bank officials present at the South Holland robbery as being one of the trio.

Werner, one of the two caught, told police he had been in St. Charles. The other member of the trio said he had not served in a penal institution.

The trio was followed in a 100-mile-per-hour chase by Officer Kenneth O'Brien in the Oak Lawn police squad and Officer Leo Pniewski in Evergreen Park's special police squad. Pniewski picked up the chase at 103rd and Kedzie av. after O'Brien had followed the bandit car from 111th and Cicero.

Evergreen Park Police Officer Roswald Schonauer, informed of the robbery thru the suburban radio, had thrown up a blockade at 98th and Kedzie and the trio blundered into it with the two squads following.

Killed was Frank Wilson, 22, of 43rd and Ellis. He was pronounced dead on arrival at the Little Company of Mary hospital where he had been taken in O'Brien's squad.

Apprehended were Howard F. Werner, 18, of 930 W. 37th pl. and Bernard Pellach, 19, of 436 W. 38th st. All three were armed with .22 caliber automatics, police reported.

The trio almost hit the Oak Lawn squad at 111th and Cicero av. shortly after he had received a call to be on the look-out for the robbers.

O'Brien swung out after the trio's black sedan and chased them down to 111th and Crawford. At Crawford they turned north to 103rd.

At 103rd O'Brien said, the car made the turn east at 70 miles per hour, the Oak Lawn squad in hot pursuit.

The trio upon reaching Kedzie av. swung north and were traveling with such teriffic speed, O'Brien said, that their car rammed into an egg truck driven by John Walker of Piper City halted for the Evergreen Park police blockade.

Upon being stopped, the trio jumped out of the car and headed across the fields. The three policemen, after shouting for the bandits to halt, opened fire.

Police said two of the robbers immediately dropped to the ground to keep from being hit, but Wilson, continuing to attempt his escape, was hit in the back of the head.

None was certain of which bullet hit the bandit.

Bank officials said the trio had parked their car on 50th av. alongside the bank facing 96th st. and headed south on 50th, apparently turning east when they reached 96th.

The two apprehended bandits told Oak Lawn police that they had turned south on reaching Cicero after leaving the bank and sped toward 111th st. where they almost collided with Officer O'Brien.

Oak Lawn Independent
11/23/1950, Sec.1, p.1

Identify Loan Office Bandit In 4 Robberies

Leader of Trio Killed by Police in Gun Battle After Oak Lawn Holdup.

Questioning of two 16-year-olds seized by police shortly after the Oak Lawn Savings and Loan association was held up and robbed last Wednesday morning continued yesterday as investigation revealed that one of the pair has committed at least four other recent robberies.

Held by juvenile authorities are Howard Stanley Werner, of 930 W. 37th pl., and Bernard Pellack, 436 W. 38th st., arrested Wednesday morning by Oak Lawn and Evergren Park police after the pair and Frank Wilson, 4219 Ellis ave., had robbed the savings and loan association of $3,757.

Wilson, 21 years old and the leader of the trio, was killed as he ran from a road blockade the police had set up at 97th st. and Kedzie ave.

Identified at Showup.

At a showup in the criminal courts building Friday afternoon, witnesses identified Howard Werner as a participant in two recent robberies of taverns in Willow Springs and in two robberies of Chicago loan companies, according to Lt. James Oakey.

Lester Shapiro, one of the assistant state's attorneys assigned to the case, said Werner confessed taking part in the robberies.

State's witnesses will appear before the grand jury the first part of this week, Shapiro said.

"It was a well-planned robbery," stated Shapiro. "Werner had gone into the loan association office the day before the robbery and had bought a money order which was found in his pocket. He apparently had memorized all the details he needed, because the robbery went off without a hitch. Only excellent police work made it possible to catch them."

Asks About Mortgage.

According to police, the holdup got underway when Werner entered the loan company's establishment at 5017 W. 95th st. at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday while Mrs. Mary Eldridge of Oak Lawn, the teller, was the only person there.

Werner inquired about the possibility of arranging a mortgage and Mrs. Eldridge told him to wait until C. Gordon Stubbe, president of the association, came to work. At this point Wilson and Pellack entered the office with .32 caliber automatics in their hands and Werner produced a similar weapon.

"You know what we want, sister," Wilson said to Mrs. Eldridge. Two of the youths vaulted over the counter and stuffed currency into a bowling ball bag which they carried.

Escape in Stolen Auto.

The youths asked Mrs. Eldridge to open the rear door of the office, but she told them it has a time lock and could not be opened. They then leaped back over the counter and ran out the front door.

As the trio ran south on 50th ct. to enter the stolen car which they had parked there, Mrs. El-

(Continued on Page 5)

16-Year-Old Survivors of Police Bullets

—Economist Photos

PAIR NABBED, COMPANION KILLED SEVEN MINUTES AFTER HOLDUP. Shown in Oak Lawn police headquarters Wednesday are Howard Stanley Werner, in jacket, of 930 W. 37th pl., and Bernard Pellack, 436 W. 38th st., captured after an 80-mile-per-hour chase along suburban roads. The youths, both 16 years of age, admitted taking part in a $3,757 robbery of the Oak Lawn Federal Savings and Loan association offices. Oak Lawn and Evergreen Park police cars, directed by radio, converged on the youths' fleeing car at 97th st. and Kedzie ave. seven minutes after the robbery was reported to police.

COTTON CATCHES BULLETS FOR BALLISTICS. Patrolman Kenneth O'Brien of Oak Lawn is pictured firing his .38 caliber revolver into a box of cotton batting so that the bullet could be compared with those from the guns of police officers Leo Pniewski and Roswald Schonauer of Evergreen Park, in an attempt to determine which weapon killed Frank Wilson. Standing by is C. F. Dore of the coroner's office. Later it was discovered that the fatal bullet had passed through the bandit's body and could not be recovered for comparison.

END OF THE TRAIL FOR YOUTHFUL BANDIT. Michael Serritella, of the Evergreen Park police, is shown pointing out the place where Frank Wilson, 21, was felled by police bullets. The circle shows where a police bullet, ricocheting off the telephone pole, broke the glass and lodged inside the electric meter at the rear of the Evergreen Park American Legion post. Looking on is Charles Bulger, 3213 W. 97th st., who saw the gun battle waged by Oak Lawn and Evergreen Park police at a road blockade on Kedzie ave.

Identify Loan Office Bandit In 4 Robberies

Leader of Trio Killed by Police in Gun Battle After Oak Lawn Holdup.

(Continued from Page 1)

dridge was calling the Oak Lawn police.

The three boys apparently headed their getaway car east on 96th st. to Cicero ave., and south on Cicero ave. to 111th st. At that intersection was Kenneth O'Brien of the Oak Lawn police force, in a red squadrol which the boys apparently did not recognize as a police vehicle. The trio turned east through the stop sign at the intersection at an estimated speed of 60 miles per hour, whereupon O'Brien, who had not yet been notified of the robbery, set out in pursuit in the squad car.

Radio Goes to Work.

The chase, which reached speeds of over 90 miles per hour, continued east to Pulaski rd. Meanwhile Officer O'Brien had been told of the robbery over the radio in the squadrol and he broadcast his position in the chase. The fleeing bandits turned north on Pulaski rd. and were gaining speed when they turned east again on 103rd st.

At that point Officer Leo Pniewski, driving an Evergreen Park squad car which had been notified by radio of the bandits' position, swung ahead of O'Brien and began to gain on the trio's auto.

Also notified by radio was Officer Roswald Schonauer of the Evergreen Park police who headed his squad car south on Kedzie ave. as the trio turned north on Kedzie ave. from 103rd st.

Blocks Kedzie with Truck.

In front of the American Legion hall on Kedzie ave. at 97th st. Schonauer halted an egg truck driven by John Walker of Piper City and swung around it to cut off the escape of the bandit car.

The road block proved effective and the three young gunmen brought their car—which had been stolen Tuesday morning from Bruno Wolowiez, 4501 S. Francisco ave.—to a screeching halt, piled out, leaving the money behind, and started running across the Legion post's lawn.

The three officers opened fire and Pellack and Werner fell to the ground with their hands above their heads. Wilson sprinted for the corner of the Legion hall, when a bullet from the second burst of police fire caught him in the back. He took two more steps and dropped. He was pronounced dead at the Little Company of Mary hospital.

All in Seven Minutes.

Only seven minutes had elapsed between Mrs. Eldridge's call to the police at 9:36 a.m., and the call for an ambulance to take Wilson away at 9:43 a.m.

Pellack and Werner were taken to the Oak Lawn police station where, according to Robert Jelley, chief of the Oak Lawn police, they confessed taking part in the robbery of the loan company. They were then handed over to the juvenile authorities.

At an inquest Friday into the death of Frank Wilson, a coroner's jury returned a verdict of "justifiable homicide by either Roswald Schonauer or Kenneth O'Brien."

Southtown Economist
11/26/1950, p.1

Save 31 Million Gallons of Water With Meter Installations

A savings of 31,000,000 gallons of water was effected by the residents of the village within the past ten months, the village board learned Tuesday night.

The saving was effected, Trustee Olaf Christensen told the board, thru the installation of water meters thruout the village. It means water for the residents when they need it, Christensen stated, and the meters mean increased revenue for the village.

On a motion by Trustee William Brunn, seconded by Trustee Raymond Rausch, the board approved the expenditure of $21,311.46 for the payment of bills, but on an amendment by Trustee Manuel Mann, a payment of $826.75 to the Edward P. Lauten, village auditors, was withheld.

The payment was withheld because, Mann charged, the auditing firm had been "exceedingly lax" in submitting monthly reports on the condition of the village's finances.

Nearly one half of the total expenditure, $10,941.78, was from the water department income.

Largest payments included the following:

Fire department wages, $2,185; streets and alleys, $3,959.72 (the total included payments for garbage disposal); police department, $1,759.16; finance committee, $1,777.40.

Largest single expenditure was $5,649 for the sewer and water department.

Trustee Mann's countenance took on a slightly pink tint when President Tunis Collings called for the police committee report.

Mann, after commending the police department for its action in the recent bank robbery, told the board that he felt a "little sheepish' about having spent $400 for a police radio for the squadrol without first obtaining the board's consent. The item was among the $3,043 October expenses of the police department read to the board. Mann's report also showed a total of $704.25 collected in fines by Police Magistrate Tibstra for the October period.

The board chided Mann about the expenditure for the radio and the members had a laugh at Mann's expense when President Collings asked if the $400 expenditure mentioned in the report was for the radio.

Coloring. Mann admitted that it was, and the matter was dropped since the radio had played an important part in the capture of the savings and loan bandits.

Mann also requested that an investigation into the insurance coverage for the police department be launched by the board. It was his belief, Mann stated, that in the event that one of the department members was killed, the village, at the present time, could not offer adequate aid to the family.

In two economy measures for taxpayers, the board voted to amended the ordinance on six inch main water tap charges on Kildare from 102nd to 103rd st. The new charge became $55 plus $2 per front foot for the lot.

Christensen moved to amend the present ordinance with Trustee Harry Rech as second. Christensen moved for the adoption of the ordinance by the board with Mann as a second.

The second taxpayer saving is still in the offing altho the board, on a motion by Mann, seconded by Rech, voted to authorize the village attorney to draft an ordinance lowering the present sewer rate by

Saves 31 Million—

(Continued from page 1)

50 cents per month.

Mrs. Charles Pelnarsh, 9116 Tully, a widow, will be $150 richer in the near future as a result of action taken by the board at the suggestion of Trustee Christensen who moved that she be returned that sum as a refund for money she had paid the village for a sewer installed in October, 1948, along Tully av. from 91st to 92nd st. Three residents along Tully had originally paid $200 apiece for the sewer, and village ordinances stipulate that all but the tap in fee of $50 is to be refunded as other residents along the sewer build and pay the tap-in fee. Mrs. Pelnarsh, who wrote the board that she was in need of the money, is the first of the three residents to have the $150 refunded.

Harvey Wick, 9609 Brandt av., recently appointed civil defense director by President Collings, made a report to the board on his activities and requested the sum of $100 for the printing of defense material for the village. The request was granted.

Cited as a nuisance by the board was the lighting system of the Greater Chicago Service station. The board approved a motion by Trustee Brunn that a letter be written by the clerk giving the owner 10 days to erect blinds for the lights as previously requested or the lights would be shut off. Trustee Rech seconded the motion.

Tabled was a request that 49th av. from 93rd to 95th be opened. The street crosses a railroad and the move would entail petitioning the Interstate Commerce commission. The board agreed to leave it dormant for the time being.

The Beverly Lawn Civic assn's petition concerning the installation of slow signs along Crawford av. from 101st to 100th st. was also tabled pending investigation as to whether the county or state is responsible for the road.

Oak Lawn Independent
11/29/1950

Oak Lawn Music Association To Present Opera on Sunday

"Down in the Valley," a new American opera by Kurt Weill, will feature the second annual concert program of Oak Lawn's amateur singers, actors and instrumentalists which will be presented at 3 p.m. Sunday by the Civic Music Association of Oak Lawn in the Harnew school, 91st st. and Austin ave., under the direction of Theodore F. Lownik.

The program also will include 11 concert numbers by the Choraleers, mixed chorus of 55 singers, chosen from its repertory of popular, classical and sacred works.

Principal Singers.

Principal roles in the opera will be sung by Gloria Pugh, soprano, Lewis Ahner Jr., tenor, Paul McGuire and Oliver Deal, baritones, and Jonathan Pugh, bass, and a speaking role by James Ward, all of Oak Lawn and members of the music association.

The music is scored for an orchestra of substantial size and to give it adequate performance the Civic orchestra, which made its debut in the Spring in H.M.S. Pinafore, has been expanded to 23 players for "Down in the Valley."

Mrs. E. Donald Dill, president of the music association, reports that production costs for next Sunday's performance, including royalties, music, staging, lighting and equipment for the orchestra, have considerably exceeded the maximum revenue obtained from ticket sales at the established price of $1, plus tax, as the Harnew auditorium seats about 400 persons. This was made possible by the support given the association by a large number of local business people and other civic-minded citizens.

No Experience Needed.

It is the established policy of the association to employ no professional talent, with the sole exception of its musical director, and to fill all solo roles in all performances from among the active membership, on the basis of competitive auditions. Active membership is open to any interested person who can carry a tune and would enjoy learning to carry it better. Experience is not necessary—it is the purpose of the civic music organizations to provide the experience.

Southtown Economist 12/6/1950, p.1

NEED DIGGER LAW

Village Seeks Law to Halt Destruction of Streets

Sewer contractors who have torn up streets while operating within the village limits came under attack from the Oak Lawn village board at their meeting Tuesday night.

Trustee Christensen requested that an ordinance be adopted by the village which would require sewer contractors to post a performance bond with the village each year.

At the present time, Christensen pointed out, the village has no way to stop careless sewer contractors from coming into Oak Lawn and doing inferior work. Some contractors who have done extremely bad work are absolutely outlawed, Christensen said, but the village should either make provisions to publish a complete list of approved sewer diggers for the village or make the sewer contractors post the bond. Christensen set the bond at $5,000. The matter was referred to committee for further action.

Engineer Robert Moyer interrupted the proceedings to point out that reputable contractors all have boring augers that can dig holes under the surface of the streets without tearing up the pavement. He suggested that the board investigate the possibility of purchasing augering equipment to prevent streets from being torn up.

"The village won't remain small much longer," Moyer said, "and soon we'll have completely paved streets. If something isn't done, it will become a big headache."

A motion to adopt the Lion's club name plat for the village was approved by the board "in principle," but the board left the way open for other organizations that wish to submit petitions and properly drawn up plats on the name changing.

The Lion's plat was referred to committee for further study.

Following the close of the meeting it was pointed out by Trustee Raymond Rausch that 60 percent of the property owners fronting the streets effected that will have their names changed must sign the petitions.

Also attacked at the meeting was the Greater Chicago Service station nuisance. The board gave police Commissioner Manual Mann authority to bring Phillip Johnson, manager of the station, into court since the station had not complied with the order to erect light deflectors atop the building within the 10 days set by the board at its previous meeting.

A letter on the nuisance written by a home owner near the station, Mrs. William P. Wilson, was read to the board in which she asked what action the board was going to take on the matter adding that "perhaps you think I'm a pest, but the situation is unbearable."

A resolution approving the payment of $11,261.72 in bills was adopted by the board on a motion by Trustee Rausch, seconded by Mann.

In other action the board approved an amendment to the sewer rate which would drop it to 50 cents per month per owner.

A motion raising the pe
pay for the firemen from

VILLAGE SEEKS—

(Continued from page 1)

matter was referred to committee.

A letter from Edward P. Lauten, village auditors, was read to the board and filed. The letter covered the audit for the village for the fiscal year of 1949 which ended on April 30 of this year.

Eleven requests for house numbers were referred to committee. Board members pointed out that the establishment of a concrete numbering system for the village was being undertaken by the Lion's club.

A request for an undertakers "protective tariff" submitted by Trustee Mann was referred to committee after it was pointed out that Oak Lawn's undertakers were forced to pay morticians in other city's a fee if they were called to remove bodies in other towns.

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to the police committee's report and the results of an investigation by the committee into insurance benefits for the police department.

Mann's report of police expenditures for the month of November were $3,198.12 with $608 in fines collected by Tom Tibstra, police magistrate. This was an increase in operating expenses of $155 over the previous month and a decrease in revenue of $96.25.

Percy W. Cump Jr. of 5104 W. 101st., Oak Lawn, a representative of John O. Todd, insurance brokers, was called in by the board to present a possible solution to the insurance problem for the police department.

Cump informed the board that an accident policy for the six-man force would cost $387.15 per year and would protect the force 24 hours a day.

The board referred the matter to committee.

Oak Lawn Independent
12/14/1950

PURCHASE SIX PRIZE STEERS . . .

Norm Hesner, 4604 W. 98th st., Oak Lawn, with one of six prize blue ribbon Black Angus steers purchased by Oak Lawn Frozen Food Locker plant, 4828 W. 95th st., Oak Lawn, during recent Chicago Livestock show. Hesner is sales manager of South Chicago branch of Armour and co. and cattle buyer for the Oak Lawn Locker. The prize beef is on display at the Oak Lawn Frozen Food Locker plant.

Oak Lawn Independent
12/14/1950

Big Shopping Area Planned In Oak Lawn

Syndicate Buys 160-Acre Tract at 95th st. and Pulaski rd. for Huge Merchandising Center.

Sale of a tract of 160 acres in Oak Lawn for development of one of the largest shopping centers outside the Loop was announced yesterday.

The land was bought by a syndicate for which the Chicago Title and Trust company is trustee. The property was purchased from the American Turf association.

Boundaries of the acreage are 91st st., 95th st., Pulaski rd., and Kostner ave. John J. Kilgallen, president of the Evergreen Park real estate firm of Wiegel and Kilgallen, exclusive sales agent in the promotion and development of the area, said that present plans call for a diversified shopping center with department stores, supermarts and specialty shops.

Parking Lots and Homes.

Loop businesses will be approached with proposals to establish branch stores similar to those in North and Northwest suburbs, said Kilgallen. Property which is not put to commercial use or set aside for large parking lots will be subdivided for residential purposes, with restrictions as to types of construction, he added.

The sale climaxes seven years of negotiations between Kilgallen and the late Col. Matt Winn and his successors in the American Turf association. The land had been acquired by the association 30 years ago as a possible race track site.

Race Track Plan Abandoned.

After Lincoln Fields track was built in Crete and the association later acquired the Washington Park course in Homewood, plans for use of the 95th st. site were dropped. Since then the association has discontinued race track operations in Illinois and concentrates on Churchill Downs and its famed Kentucky Derby.

After the death of Colonel Winn, negotiations for acquisition of the property were continued by C. B. Dusnane, who, with Sylvester Peabody Jr. and Bruce Campbell, is an Illinois director of the association.

"It is still too early to know in detail just what businesses will be represented in the development," Kilgallen said yesterday. "We want to get branches of Loop stores, for one thing, and, more important, we want to build a well-balanced

(Continued on Page 8)

MORE ABOUT Shopping Center

(Continued from Page 1)

shopping center, with everything in one location."

Kilgallen estimated that the center will serve an area within a seven-and-a-half mile radius of the center. The tract is probably the only property in the area that can be conveyed by a single owner, Kilgallen said, and is served by major highways from all directions. Within a half-hour's driving distance live between 500,000 and 750,000 persons and the proposed center is in the heart of the rapidly growing Southwest suburban towns.

Southtown Economist 12/24/1950, p.1

Board Passes Law Removing 'Last Obstacle'

The last barrier to the $140,000 widening of 95th st. thru the Village of Oak Lawn was eliminated Tuesday night when the village board voted to limit parking in front of buildings not yet set back.

The ordinance, passed unanimously by the village board, was adopted at the request of the State Division of Highways which expects to start work on the "gift" improvement next spring, according to Major Edwin Hancock, village engineer.

Plans call for a widening of eight feet from 40, as it is now, to 48 feet with a bituminous concrete resurfacing. The state also expects to install curb and gutter thru the village.

In a letter to the village board read at the meeting by Tunis L. Collings, village president, the State Division of Highways requested that an ordinance be passed by the board which would make it unlawful to park in front of buildings that are not set back 50 feet from the center line of 95th st.

The new law sets a fine of not less than $5 nor more than $100 for violators.

A breakdown on the estimated construction costs of the improvement follows: $20,000 for curbs and gutters; $10,000 for grading; $60,000 for widening the street and $50,000 for the topping of 95th.

Questions directed at President Collings about drainage in the project were answered authoritively by Robert Moyers, representative of Edwin Hancock, village engineer. Moyers told the board plans called for "plenty of drainage," adding that he had checked the plans himself.

A report from the water department showed that the Lockwood Corp., had paid to the village a $1153 deficit incurred by the Smith and Hill Construction co. before going into bankruptcy. The sum was for the tap-in fees for sewer and water in the subdivision.

In other action a representative of the Greater Chicago Service station, on the carpet for failure to erect blinds for their "white way" lighting system, told the board that the blinds would go up as soon as the weather permitted. At the previous meeting Trustee Manuel Mann, chairman of the police committee, was authorized by the board to bring in a representative of the station if the signs had not been erected.

The board voted to deny the renewal of a license to operate within the village for the coming year to the GI Park miniature golf course and amusement center at 93rd and Cicero until village sanitation laws were complied with.

Mention of the problem was made by Trustee Olaf Christensen. The motion to deny the license was made by Trustee William Brunn and seconded by Trustee Raymond Rausch.

A letter from Cook County Coroner A. L. Brody commending the police work of Officers Kenneth O'Brien, Roswald Schonauer and Leo Pniewski in the recent Savings and Loan assn. robbery was read to the board.

Oak Lawn Independent 12/28/1950, p.1

IT'S IN THE BAG—THE TURKEY IS, ANYHOW

Pictured are the newly elected officers of the Oak Lawn Sportsmen's club following the club's recent turkey shoot.

Left to right are Joe Reinsel, sergeant-at-arms; R. Montgomery, treasurer; J. Jensen of the Southwest Distributors, board member; Ted Prillwitz, president; E. Melson, secretary; N. DeRuntz, vice-president and J. Leonard, board member (seated).

Oak Lawn Independent
12/28/1950, p.1

LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE NO.—

AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING PARKING IN CERTAIN PLACES ON 95TH STREET

WHEREAS 95th Street is the main business street of Oak Lawn and is also the main artery of traffic through the Village of Oak Lawn, carrying heavy local and through traffic; and

WHEREAS 95th Street is now improved with a forty-foot pavement without curbs or gutters and with inadequate drainage, resulting in a condition which is dangerous to motorists and pedestrians and of great inconvenience to the residents and merchants of the Village; and

WHEREAS the Division of Highways of the State of Illinois has proposed to widen the pavement on 95th Street from Cicero Avenue to Central Avenue to a width of forty-eight feet and to re-surface the entire pavement; and to install curbs and gutters and provide adequate surface water drainage on 95th Street; and

WHEREAS said Division of Highways has requested that before said work be undertaken provisions be made to prohibit the parking of vehicles on those portions of 95th Street where buildings project over the fifty-foot set-back line heretofore established for 95th Street so as to eliminate a traffic hazard on those portions of the street; and

WHEREAS the Board is of the opinion that the best interests of the village will be served by restricting parking in this matter and by securing the installation of such improvements by the Division of Highways; NOW THEREFORE

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF OAK LAWN:

SECTION 1. It shall be unlawful for the operator of any vehicle to stop, stand or park said vehicle on 95th Street in any place which is located in front of a building, the front line of which building is less than fifty feet from the center of 95th Street, except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with the directions of a police officer.

SECTION 2. Said places where parking is prohibited shall be designated by the Street Department of the Village by placing and maintaining suitable signs or markings thereon.

SECTION 3. Any person who shall violate or shall fail to comply with any of the provisions of this ordinance shall, on conviction, be fined at any sum not less than $5.00 nor more than $100.00 for each and every offense.

SECTION 4. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance hereby are repealed.

SECTION 5. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval and publication as required by law.

PASSED AND DEPOSITED in the office of the Village Clerk this 26th day of December, A.D. 1950.

WILLIAM B. GADDIS,
Village Clerk.

APPROVED this 26th day of December, A.D. 1950.

TUNIS L. COLLINGS.
Village President

PUBLISHED according to law this 28th day of December, 1950.

WILLIAM B. GADDIS,
Village Clerk.

I, WILLIAM B. GADDIS, do hereby certify that I am the duly elected, qualified and acting clerk of the Village of Oak Lawn and that as such I am the keeper of the official books and records of said Village of Oak Lawn, including the Journal of Proceedings of the president and board of trustees thereof; that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of an ordinance which was duly passed by the president and board of trustees of the Village of Oak Lawn held on the 26th day of December, 1950, at which meeting a quorum was present; and that the original of said ordinance is on file in my office.

DATED this 26st day of December, A.D. 1950.

WILLIAM B. GADDIS
Clerk of the [illegible]n.

Oak Lawn Independent
12/28/1950

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Oak Lawn Independent 12/28/1950, p.1

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12/28/1950