

# **RIVER FOREST**

**A Suburb of Chicago**

**HISTORY OF**

**Early Settlement and Early Settlers**

**Community and Municipality**

**Churches      Schools      Social Life**

**Transportation**

**Business and Industry**

**From 1836 to 1937**

**Centennial Celebration in 1936**

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**RIVER FOREST, ILLINOIS**

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## Foreword

River Forest is a community extraordinary. It stands out among Chicago's suburbs as an ideal residential municipality. Its homes, whether they be luxurious or moderate in cost, are marked by a refinement that portrays a high degree of citizenship. River Forest's churches, schools, and public institutions are indicative of the sentiment that prevails in public and private enterprises.

River Forest is finely situated. The wooded land extending east from the Desplaines river between Madison street and North avenue afforded an excellent site for development by suburbanites, who desired more than just a place to erect a domicile.

River Forest was fortunate in her early settlers—the Steeles, Thatchers, Quicks, Murphys, Yaldings, Griffens, Wallers, Broughtons, Brookes, were not just ordinary citizens. They built substantially the community's foundation, on which succeeding generations have erected an enduring superstructure of unusual excellence.

River Forest, as a municipality, has guarded its portals well. Nothing has been permitted to enter which would lower the standard; while encouragement has been extended to those people and institutions whose recognized merit tend to elevate, rather than lower the standard.

### Dedication

This history of River Forest is dedicated to Centennial, Inc., whose fine celebration in 1936 inspired the writer to undertake this work, and to River Forest Historical Society, organized in 1937 to carry on from where this volume leaves off so that the annals of River Forest may be as near complete as possible.

# History of River Forest

## CHAPTER ONE

### *Ashbel Steele, the First Settler*

ASHBEL STEELE is credited with being the first permanent settler in what is now River Forest. Indians roved over the land for centuries, but in 1830 the Pottawatomies, the last tribe of Indians to inhabit this section, departed for western areas at the insistence of the white settlers who were drifting in, and who had established Fort Dearborn at the mouth of the Chicago river.

There were other white men ahead of Mr. Steele, but they had moved on. The establishment of a steam saw mill on the east bank of the Desplaines (then the Aux Plaines) river preceded Mr. Steele's coming in 1836 by five years. It belonged to a Chicago firm doing business under the name of Bickerdike & Noble, and later became the property of Mr. Steele and Theophilus Smith. A small house had been erected south of the mill which Mr. Steele purchased, but it was deserted when Mr. Steele arrived. The occupant had departed, without leaving his identity.

But Mr. Steele came to stay. That he was a man of importance is evidenced by the fact that he was coroner of the newly formed Cook County when he came here, and that two years later he was elected sheriff of the county, during which time he made his home in Chicago, where the county jail was located, and where a residence, in connection with the jail, was provided for the sheriff. This was on the northeast corner of what is now the court house square in Chicago; Clark and Randolph streets. He retained his official residence in River Forest during his incumbency of the sheriff's office, and when his term expired, resumed his activities in his newly adopted home. He was a builder by trade, and erected some of the early buildings in this vicinity, one of the last being the old "Harlem" school building, built in 1860, which still stands at Lake street and Park avenue.

Mr. Steele was of English descent, and was born in Derby, Ct., in 1794. He moved from there to Rochester, N. Y., in 1825, and two years later married Harriet Dawley. The furniture which they bought at the time of their marriage, including a piano, was brought to Chicago with them in 1833, and to River Forest in 1836. Mr. Steele rode from Rochester, N. Y., to Chicago on horseback, sending his family and household effects by boat. They arrived in Chicago on the same day.

The Steeles established their home in Chicago, where Mr. Steele bought land and erected a house, the first brick dwelling in Chicago. The records show that he bought real estate in Chicago in 1830. If this is correct, he must have purchased this before he came west,

which is quite possible. He bought and sold other land at later dates. He was elected coroner on August 4, 1834, and was elected sheriff in 1840.

Mr. Steele lived in River Forest until his death in 1861. He was survived by his wife and nine children, seven of whom were daughters. One daughter died while young. The surviving children all married, and Ashbel had many descendants. A grandson, Sidney Steele, now resides at 1139 Lathrop avenue. He is a man of ability and is vice president of the Continental Can Company. Other grandchildren are scattered throughout the country, and several great grandchildren reside in River Forest. One of these is Robert Ligare, until recently engaged in business on Lake street.

The Steele homestead was comprised of 117½ acres, forty acres of which was on the west side of the river. Mr. Steele erected a commodious house, west of what is now Thatcher avenue and the Northwestern railway, which at first he used as a store as well as a dwelling. Lumber was obtained from the local saw mill. Later Mr. Steele moved his business to the Montezuma Hall, a large frame building which he had erected on the south side of Lake street, across the street from where the Methodist church now stands. Here he conducted a tavern, the post office, and a general store.

Mrs. Emma Robinson, a granddaughter who resides in Oak Park, describes him as "a slender man, about five feet ten inches, of the Uncle Sam type." She says he was jovial and kindhearted, but firm in a stand which he believed was right. This, she says, was often demonstrated while sheriff of this frontier county, and later in this community where his home was the center of much activity—business, social and political.

His certificate of election as coroner was signed by John Reynolds, governor of Illinois, and was dated August 20, 1834. He served four years. His certificate of election as sheriff was signed by Thomas Carlin, of Illinois, and was dated August 10, 1840. He was appointed postmaster of Noyesville on June 14, 1849, and his appointment was signed by Jacob Collamer, postmaster general of the United States of America. The postoffice which served practically all of western Cook county was first located in the Ten Mile House, a tavern located at what is now Lake street and First avenue, Maywood and later moved to what is now River Forest, but was still called Noyesville.

Ashbel Steele died September 26, 1861, and his wife, Harriet Dawley Steele died July 25, 1895. Mr. Steele was at first buried in a private cemetery on his own land in River Forest. In later years he was moved to Forest Home cemetery, where Mrs. Steele is also buried.

## Other Early Settlers

River Forest profited by its proximity to Chicago even in its early day. This was evidenced by the coming of Ashbel Steele, and his successors, most of whom came from Chicago, attracted by the beautiful topography, and the stream which bordered on the west. It was also on one of the leading highways to the west in that early day.

Among those early neighbors of Ashbel Steele, were some exceptions to this rule. These included Henry Quick and his son, John Henry, who came here from Harlem, New York, in the early fifties, and gave the name of Harlem to this section. The senior Mr. Quick purchased a large tract of land on the west side of the section road which he afterward named Harlem avenue. In 1856, he sent his son here to develop it.

The son remained, building a fine home on Lake street, one block west of Harlem avenue, and other dwellings on Quick avenue. He gave the original names to all the streets directly west of Harlem avenue, but most of them have been changed. William street was named for one of his sons, while other streets were given family names. Mr. Quick sold his land here, piece by piece, the last acreage which was on Madison street going to Concordia cemetery about ten years ago. He had in the meantime moved to Chicago to reside.

THEOPHILUS WASHINGTON SMITH was one of the early landholders in what is now River Forest. He at one time owned 320 acres of land along the Des-plaines river, which he must have purchased soon after it was entered in 1835. He died May 6, 1846. He was at one time a justice of the supreme court of Illinois, and was the first president of the Galena & Chicago Union Railroad Co., now the Chicago & Northwestern.

Judge Smith was born in New York, September 28, 1784. He served in the United States navy, and studied law in the office of Aaron Burr. He was admitted to the bar in 1805. He came west in 1816, locating in Illinois at Edwardsville. He was an unsuccessful candidate for attorney general in 1820, and served in the state senate from 1822 to 1826. He was a leader in a movement to legalize slavery in Illinois, and was for a time editor of a pro-slavery newspaper at Edwardsville. He was a member of the first board of commissioners of the Illinois and Michigan Canal, and was a quartermaster on the governor's staff during the Black Hawk war.

In 1825, he was elected an associate judge of the supreme court and served until he resigned on December 28, 1842, after a stormy period of service. In 1833, the house of representatives voted articles of impeachment against him, and his trial ended in a negative acquittal. Twelve senators voted him guilty; ten voted him innocent, and four were excused from voting. A two-thirds vote was necessary for impeachment.

He came to Chicago and engaged in the practice of law, residing in River Forest part of the time at

least. In 1835 he was one of the organizers of the Galena & Chicago Union railroad, which was built through River Forest, three years after his death. He was the first president of the company, serving less than a year. In 1840 he was a candidate for coroner of Cook County.

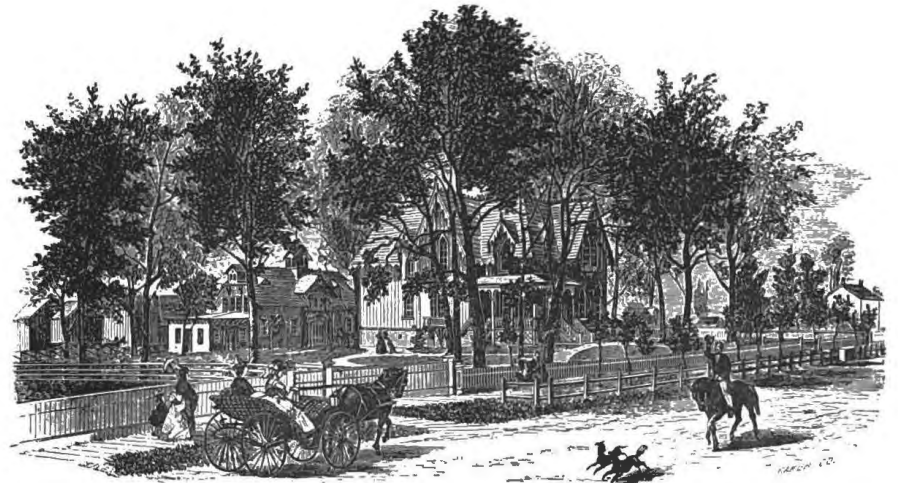
REUBEN WHAPLES was another pioneer who came from the east (Connecticut), where he was born in 1800, to Chicago, later locating in River Forest, and building a large log cabin at the southwest corner of Lake street and Harlem avenue, on the site on which the Wieholdt company has erected their great department store building. Mr. Whaples came to Chicago in 1838. He purchased a farm in DuPage county, near Elgin, and lived there a short time. He then came to a Proviso township farm, where his home was destroyed by a great wind on April 21, 1845. He then came to what was then called Kettlestring's Grove, and built the log house referred to. He sold this property to Mr. Quick, and went to a farm near Udina in Kane county. Selling out there, he returned to this section, and again bought some Kettlestring land on the south side of Lake street, in what is now Oak Park, east of the Presbyterian church. There he resided until his death in 1865. His progeny included many well-known Oak Park people—Hulls, Furbecks, Kettlestrings, Topes, Herricks, and others. Mr. Whaples was a tinner by trade and a natural land speculator.

DAVID CUNNINGHAM THATCHER, a Chicago merchant of wealth and vigor, came here in 1854, when he bought 640 acres of land on both sides of the river, extending from First avenue, Maywood, to Lathrop avenue, and from Madison street to Division street.

Mr. Thatcher came to Chicago from Massachusetts in 1837. He established an arms and ammunition store at Lake and Franklin streets, and prospered. He first bought land to the south of Chicago, and selling this at a profit, decided to come west. He first occupied a house that stood on the west side of the river, and later erected a palatial brick dwelling facing Lake street in River Forest. Here he lived until his death in 1866. He gave his name to Thatcher avenue, and to Thatcher woods in forest preserve.

Mr. Thatcher left many descendants, who were and are important factors in the growth and development of the community. The old home stands now at 511 Edgewood place, where it was later moved, and is occupied by two granddaughters, Mrs. C. A. Bradley and Mrs. Vernon Wright. His sons and grandchildren have helped make River Forest what it is today.

David Cunningham Thatcher had three sons and a daughter—William, who was killed in the civil war; George, who became a prominent attorney; David A., who became a contractor, and Clara, who became Mrs. Solomon Thatcher, Jr.



Home of John Henry Quick on Lake Street, at What Is Now Corner Bonnie Brae. This House Was Erected About 1858, and It Burned in 1860

SOLOMON THATCHER, senior and junior, came to River Forest in 1860. They had come to Chicago from Hopewell, N. Y., in 1855. The father was not active locally, so far as records show, but Solomon, Jr., was an important factor in the community for many years. He married Clara Thatcher, daughter of David Cunningham Thatcher, to whom he was in no way related previous to the marriage. This intermarriage of the two Thatcher families has since caused much confusion among newer residents and later generations.

Solomon, Jr., engaged in the real estate business and became one of River Forest's early subdividers. He purchased a tract of land west of Lathrop avenue between Chicago avenue and Lake street, from his father-in-law, divided it into lots and laid it off in streets. He engaged John Murphy to grade them, gave lots to the Methodist and Catholic churches, and began to sell lots. He set an example by erecting for himself a large house on Keystone avenue. This house is now 518 Keystone avenue and was for a number of years the property of John Higgins, still a prominent citizen of River Forest.

Aside from his business, Mr. Thatcher's activities centered largely about the Methodist church. He contributed heavily to the first Methodist edifice erected here, and he served in an official capacity in establishing the Lake Bluff camp grounds, and the erection of Moody Temple.

Locally, he helped organize River Forest Literary society in 1870, and served as a school director for a number of years.

Mrs. Florence Little, deceased, an attorney, occupied the parental home after her father's death. Frederick, the only son, is also an attorney, residing in Denver. Mrs. Florence Logan and Mrs. Claribel Cannon, live in New York City. David W. and Warren Thatcher were brothers of Solomon, Jr.

GEORGE L. THATCHER, son of David Cunningham Thatcher, came to River Forest as a boy of eight in 1854, and remained here until his death in 1911. He had an active part in the development of River Forest, and particularly in the municipality. He was the first village attorney, serving from 1880 to 1890. After the death of his father in 1866, upon George developed the responsibility of looking after the large property interests of the family.

George was born in the Chicago home on Wabash avenue, between Madison and Washington streets. His early education was obtained in River Forest at Lake street and Park avenue. After passing through the grade school here, George attended a high school in Chicago, where he graduated. He also attended and graduated from the Northwestern Law College.

He was admitted to the bar, and practiced law in Chicago for many years. His law office was burned in the great Chicago fire of 1871. For many years he had his office in the Reaper building at Clark and Washington streets, and in later years he was located at 29 South La Salle street. Felix J. Griffen was his law partner, some of the time.

Mr. Thatcher was twice married. His first wife was Ann Louise Casselberry of Philadelphia, to whom he was married in 1875, and his second wife was Martha Prouty of Vermont, a niece of Henry Broughton.

George Thatcher first lived in the house his father built here, and later in the house erected at 543 Edgewood place, now occupied by Elijah T. Harris.

He had five children, all but one of whom live in River Forest or Chicago. They are Mrs. Verne (Bertha) Wright, Mrs. Charles A. (Ann Louise) Bradley, G. William, David H. and Mrs. T. T. Rhoades who lives in New York City. Mr. Thatcher's older brother, William, lost his life in the Civil war.

JOHN MURPHY came to River Forest in 1852, to be near his work, which was in the Chicago & Northwestern R. R. shops, then in Harlem, about where the Barr & Collins coal and lumber yards are now located. Mr. Murphy was a native of Ireland, and came to America and Chicago in 1843. He ended his days here, living to the ripe age of 98 years. His wife, Ann, who also came from Ireland, and to whom he was married in 1857, out-lived her husband by six years, dying in 1925 at the age of 99 years.

The Murphy home on the north side of Lake street, between Lathrop and Ashland avenues, was erected in 1860, and stood until 1936. Mary Murphy, a daughter, continued to occupy it after her parents died, and she sold it in 1936 to St. Luke's Catholic parish, which has erected their new edifice where the old one stood, and wanted the land between the church and their school to the west. The little frame house, so long a land-mark has disappeared and Miss Mary Murphy, who spent the first sixty-eight years of her life in that house, has gone to Oak Park to reside with a sister, Mrs. Hannah Faulkner on Austin boulevard.

John Murphy graded River Forest's first streets to be graded—the north and south thoroughfares between Lake street and Chicago avenue, and between Lathrop avenue on the east and Forest avenue on the west.

JOHN HENRY HILLMER was one of the early settlers who formed the group of Germans who comprised a considerable portion of the population in those early days. Mr. Hillmer came to what is now River Forest from Addison in 1856, and carried on his trade as a carpenter contractor, which his sons continued after the father's passing, at the age of 82.

Mrs. Hillmer was a woman of considerable prominence in her days. She had studied medicine in Germany, and, as doctors were scarce here, she was able to minister to her neighbors, and was also called to surrounding communities. She was widely known for her generosity and kindly ways.

When River Forest was incorporated in 1880, Mr. Hillmer was elected a member of the board of trustees and served ten years.

Mr. and Mrs. Hillmer had a family of six children—four sons and two daughters. The last two of these, August and Charles, died during 1936. August, who was only six months old when the family came here, died in June, and Charles, who was born in River Forest in 1862, died on December 30. The sons moved to Forest Park, and carried on their father's business there, extending it into many western suburbs.

HERMAN HENRY SCHARENBERG came to River Forest from Blue Island in 1868, and remained until his death in 1920 at the age of 86 years. He brought his bride, to whom he was married at her home in Wheeling, W. Va., and here they established a home at Monroe street and Quick avenue which they continued to occupy so long as they lived. Mr. Scharen-

berg was a Civil War veteran, and he was for thirty years, from 1876 to 1906, a bailiff in the Circuit Court of Cook county.

Locally, Mr. Scharenberg did his part in serving the community. For twenty-one consecutive years, he served as a village trustee, longer than any other man. He was elected when the village was incorporated in 1880, and was re-elected so long as he would accept the honor and the responsibility that went with it.

His son, the late Ed Scharenberg, was also active in village affairs, serving as a member and treasurer of the park board during its earlier days. Mrs. Blanche Willing, daughter of Ed Scharenberg, serves the village now in dual capacity—in the clerk's office, and as police matron, a position established in 1935.

HENRY TREBASS, a native of Germany, came to River Forest in 1868, a few months after he had arrived in this country and in Chicago. He was a farmer, and leased forty acres of land in the north part of town from Henry Quick, operating a dairy farm there until 1880, when the land was sold to Henry Longfield, one of whose sons, August, still resides on part of that land at 7777 North avenue, and another, John, lives at 514 Ashland avenue.

Mr. Trebass moved from here to DuPage county in 1880, but his descendants returned to River Forest. Albert Trebass, a son, became a contractor and builder, and as such erected a number of dwellings and business houses in River Forest, although he resided in May-wood.

A grandson, Wesley Trebass, lives in River Forest and operates a garage at Lake street and Ashland avenue in a building his father erected in 1917. Wesley was chief of the fire department of River Forest in 1929 and 1930.

ABRAM J. HOFFMAN, a Chicago business man, came to River Forest to live in 1869. He erected the house at Thatcher and Chicago avenues, now on forest preserve land, and used by the county as the home of Trailside Museum. In this building he opened, in 1881, River Forest Young Ladies' Seminary which Mrs. Hoffman operated for the first few years, until she became incapacitated through an injury she received in Chicago.

Mr. Hoffman was born in Albany, N. Y., in 1834. He grew up there and learned the trade of lithographing, and engaged in that business there. In 1863, he came to Chicago, where he entered the drug business, and later the lithographing business. He abandoned these lines for real estate.

After coming to River Forest, he took an active interest in civic affairs and church work.

ADOLPH WESTPHAL, a native of Germany, came to River Forest in 1873. He migrated to America in 1865, locating in Chicago, where he was a photographer. Being interested in outdoor pictures, he used to come out to the Desplaines river district on Sundays to take pictures. He was attracted to River Forest, and decided

to locate here, buying property at what is now Lake street and Clinton place.

He first engaged in the grocery business in partnership with a man named Hansen, their store being located where the Marshall Field store now stands at the northeast corner of Lake street and Harlem avenue. He later had a photograph gallery where the Fair store is now located at Lake and Marion streets.

He established a tavern and dance hall on his property which he continued until 1890, when he closed the saloon, and began bottling beer. In 1894, owing to local restrictions, he changed to bottling soda water, which business is still carried on by his son, also Adolph. The sale of bottled beer at wholesale has been carried on continuously since 1894.

The present Mr. Westphal was born in Chicago on the old Haymarket site on West Randolph street. His father died in 1913, and his mother a few years later.

JACOB A. COST, who came to River Forest in 1871, after having erected a home here the previous year, was born in Clifton Springs, New York, March 26, 1846. He grew up there and when about twenty years of age came to Illinois, securing employment with the American Express Company in Aurora.

Mr. Cost paid his first visit to River Forest in 1868 when he came here to visit at the Thatcher home, having known Mrs. Thatcher in the east. He liked the town, and when he became associated with a Chicago insurance company, he decided to live in River Forest. In 1871 he married Miss Ada G. Terry, whom he had met in Aurora, but who had moved to Rockford with her family.

The great Chicago fire that year destroyed the building in which the insurance company with which Mr. Cost was associated was located, and the company found temporary quarters on the south side. On account of the poor transportation facilities at that time, Mr. and Mrs. Cost lived in Chicago that winter, returning to their River Forest home in the Spring.

Mr. and Mrs. Cost were active in the Methodist church here, where Mr. Cost was a member of the official board and superintendent of the Sunday school for many years. Mr. Cost was one of the incorporators of the village, and served as trustee, village president, member of the school board, and member and president of the park board.

Mrs. Cost died in 1889, and Mr. Cost later married the present Mrs. Cost, who was Miss Isabella Nicks, a native of Red Hook, N. Y. They continued to make River Forest their home until 1919; when they sold their home located at what is now 732 Keystone avenue, and moved to Oak Park, keeping an active interest in River Forest, which was their home for so many years.

Mr. Cost died in Oak Park, December 15, 1936. His funeral was held in River Forest Methodist church, and he was buried in Forest Home cemetery.

Mr. Cost had three sons, all born in River Forest. The eldest, Irving T. Cost, lives at Clifton Springs, New York, the town in which his father was born. He is

purchasing agent for the large sanitarium there. Ralph H., the second son, resides in Sacramento, Calif. The third son, James N., lives at Hinsdale, Ill. He is a division head for the Western Electric Company.

TIMOTHY KIRK, a member of the first board of trustees of the village of River Forest, was a resident here only six years, but he took an active interest in the community while here. He died in 1881, one year after the village was organized, and thus he served only one year as trustee and president.

Mr. Kirk was born in Mt. Pleasant, Ohio, in 1823. He came to River Forest in 1875, and purchased the land at the northeast corner of Lake street and Thatcher avenue, now owned by the Methodist church for their parsonage and bowling green. He built a home and lived there. The family lived there many years after Mr. Kirk died. He was engaged in the wholesale shoe business in Chicago.

He was twice married. He had three sons by his first wife, none of whom are living. His second wife was Nancy Gill Kirk, and she bore four children, who are all still living. They are Mrs. Edward C. Waller, and James G. Kirk of Chicago, Mrs. Edwin R. Hurlbut of Evanston, and Mrs. James W. Gill of Steubenville, Ohio.

ROBERT S. ODELL of the Continental Fire Insurance Company of Chicago was the son of Hiram Odell, who came to River Forest to reside in 1871. They came west from Ontario county, New York, when Robert was twenty-one years of age. The Odell house was on Keystone avenue, now owned and occupied by Grant Barber at 535 Keystone avenue.

Mr. Odell was a member of the first board of trustees of the village, being elected in 1880 and serving two years. The next three years he was village treasurer.

He was active in the Methodist church here, serving as treasurer of the Sunday school. He was also active in the Masonic fraternity, and was a charter member of Siloam Commandery of Oak Park.

MR. AND MRS. HERMON W. YALDING came to River Forest to reside in 1872. Mrs. Yalding is still here, and resides at 615 Thatcher avenue, where her two daughters—Mrs. Leslie Wood, and Miss Alice Yalding—also live.

Mr. Yalding was born in 1842 in Alstead, Cheshire county, New Hampshire, but lived most of his life in Lowell, Mass., until his family moved west. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan P. Yalding. In 1857, he came to Illinois with his father, locating on a farm in DuPage county. In 1862, Mr. Yalding enlisted in Company M., Eighth Illinois Cavalry, and served three years in the Union Army. He had been a year in Beloit College when he enlisted, at the age of 19 years. In October, 1865, he entered the employ of the American Express Company, as a train messenger and in 1875, he was appointed a route agent.

Mrs. Yalding, who was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert S. Janes, was born in Will county, Illinois.

and later moved to Glen Ellyn, DuPage county, where she and Mr. Yalding were married September 26, 1872.

Mr. Yalding continued with the American Express Company until his death in 1902. Mrs. Yalding has been an active worker in the Methodist Church and Sunday school since she came here, and her interest in that church has not abated as the years progressed.

HENRY E. BROUGHTON, father of the late John W. Broughton, 530 Keystone avenue, came to River Forest with his family in 1876, from Chicago, where he was engaged in the grain business and a member of Chicago board of trade. He was one of the substantial citizens of those early days, and a member of the first board of trustees of the village. After serving two years, he retired from the board but was re-elected again in 1884, and served the second two-year term.

Mr. Broughton was born in Washington county, New York, September 21, 1830. He was reared on a farm, and at the age of twenty came west, locating in Winona county, Minnesota. He later engaged in the grain and elevator business in St. Charles, in that county; but in 1871, sold out there and came to Chicago. This was right after the great fire. He lived in Chicago for five years, and then came to River Forest.

His son, John W. Broughton, was associated with his father in business, and carried it on after the father's passing January 1, 1898. John W., like his father, served the village as a trustee, being elected in 1893, and serving two years. When River Forest State bank was organized in 1912, John W. Broughton was its first president, serving in that capacity until his passing in May, 1929.

HENRY L. M'KALLOR, associated with the Western Bank Note and Engraving Co. of Chicago, came to River Forest to reside in 1874, occupying a house near the Northwestern depot on Thatcher avenue. Mr. McKallor was born in Wargyle, Washington County, New York, in 1830. He was reared on a farm, but later went to Waterford, N. Y., and learned the machinist trade.

In 1866 Mr. McKallor came to Chicago.

He was a member of River Forest school board for seven years, and in 1883 and 1884 served as police magistrate.

EDWARD C. WALLER was a leader in the development and growth of River Forest from the time he came here from Chicago in 1880 until his death in 1931—a period of more than fifty years. Mr. Waller was born in Kentucky, the son of Henry Waller, who migrated from Kentucky to Chicago in 1855, continuing the practice of law in the Illinois metropolis. The elder Mr. Waller also lived in River Forest, coming here in 1886, and remaining until his death in 1893.

Edward Waller was a realtor. He operated from an office in LaSalle street, Chicago, and invested heavily in River Forest property, which he developed and improved. He purchased a tract of land from the

Thatchers in the west part of the village on both sides of Lake street, and erected a large dwelling on that land on the north side of Lake street, east of the river, making that his home until his death. The property still belongs to the estate.

In 1885, Mr. Waller purchased the tract of land known as the North Woods and kept it off from the market until 1918. He was then able to develop there one of the finest residential sections in the Chicago area, adding to the fame and prestige of River Forest as a community of fine homes. This was an eighty-acre tract between Chicago avenue and Division street and Lathrop and Park avenues.

Mr. Waller owned considerable property on Lake street, and gave a great impetus to the business section, when he erected the fine three-story building at the southwest corner of Lake street and Franklin avenue. He organized River Forest State bank, soon after the building was erected, and became one of the first directors of the bank, which was located in his building.

While Mr. Waller accepted no public office, he was keenly interested in civic affairs. He was ready to give the benefit of his wide experience to village officials, school officials, and park commissioners. Many of the improvements in the village were due in a large part to his energy and assistance. He aided the Presbyterian church in securing a site, and also River Forest Tennis Club, and was one of the promoters of River Forest Masonic Temple, being himself active in masonry, and a past commander of Siloam Commandery, Knights Templar, of Oak Park.

Mr. Waller was twice married, and is survived by his second wife, Mrs. Mary Kirk Waller, a member of another pioneer family in River Forest. He is survived by six children—Mrs. Robert Eckart, Mrs. Spencer L. Adams, Edward C. Waller, Jr., Henry, and Mrs. E. W. Cornell, all children of his first wife, and by Mrs. George T. Langhorne, daughter of his widow.

WILLIAM F. BLOCKI, pioneer Chicago druggist, came to River Forest to reside in 1880. He erected as his home one of the show places of that day, the large brick house that stands on the west side of Keystone avenue, at the corner of Hawthorne avenue. It is now owned and occupied by J. J. Ryan. Mr. Blocki was elected one of the village trustees in 1882, and served for two years.

Mr. Blocki was born in 1850 in Germany. He came to America at the age of ten, and located at Sheboygan, Wis. In 1859, he came to Chicago, and secured employment in the Gale drug store. Two years later, he became a member of the firm, and Gale & Blocki was one of the best known of the early retail drug firms in Chicago. The name is still used by a loop store.

A son, Gale Blocki, and a grandson, Gale Blocki, Jr., still reside in Chicago.

E. O. Gale, Mr. Blocki's partner, acquired extensive real estate holdings on the west side, notably Galewood, to the north of Oak Park. G. Whittier Gale of Oak Park, and Oliver Marble Gale are sons.

CHARLES OWEN REED, manager of the manufacturing department of Wilson Bros. Shirt Co., came to River Forest to reside in 1873. He resided at first on Forest avenue, near the Northwestern tracks, and later moved farther north on the same street to what is now 523 Forest avenue, the home of Krank W. Ward.

Mr. Owen was born in Troy, Ohio, April 21, 1846. As a youth he was a farmer, and in 1864, he enlisted in the Union army, as a member of Co. H., 147th Ohio volunteers. He became a sergeant and later a second lieutenant in his company which was assigned to garrison duty in the vicinity of Washington. After the war, he resumed farming until 1870, when he came to Chicago and secured employment with the shirt manufacturers. He was advanced rapidly to the superintendency of the plant.

Mr. Reed was elected a village trustee in 1882, and served two years.

FELIX J. GRIFFEN, Chicago attorney, was a leader in civic affairs in River Forest from the time he came here to reside in 1880 until his death in 1918. Mr. Griffen was a native of Wayne, New York, attending the Albany Law School, and graduating from the Columbia Law School in Washington, D. C., while General Grant was president.

Mr. and Mrs. Griffen came to Chicago from the east in 1876, and four years later came to River Forest to reside. While Mr. Griffen maintained his offices in Chicago, his law business centered largely about the western suburbs—River Forest, and the villages of Proviso township, and residents with whom he came in contact in his official connection.

The village of River Forest was being incorporated the year Mr. Griffen came here, and he assisted in that undertaking. Two years later he was elected village clerk, which office he filled for six years, or until 1888, when he was elected president of the village. One year later he was appointed village attorney, and he held that office until 1894. He was also attorney at times for Forest Park (then Harlem), Maywood, Melrose Park, LaGrange, LaGrange Park, and Hinsdale.

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AND FAMILY  
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IN 1860  
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IN 1936  
AFTER 76 YEARS



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ST. LUKE'S  
CHURCH ON  
LAKE STREET  
AND WAS SOLD  
TO THE CHURCH  
IN 1936



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*In this history of River Forest, we are glad that we can take part.*

*We are proud to be citizens of this fine and progressive community, and be privileged to take part in its Social and Civic life.*



**CHARLES F. BAUMRUCKER**  
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Jones & Baumrucker  
State Senator of the  
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Village of River Forest  
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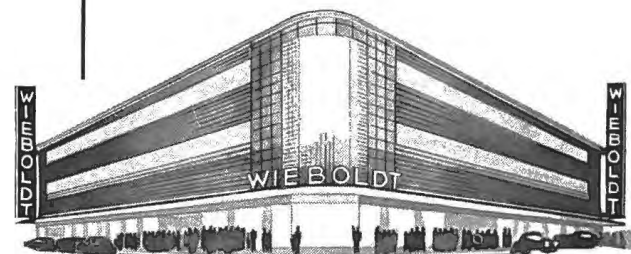
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## River Forest, a Municipality

Chapter  
Two

THE VILLAGE of River Forest was incorporated October 24, 1880. An election had been held earlier in the year, following the circulation of a petition which had been presented to the judge of the county court, and approved by him. What is now River Forest, Forest Park and part of Oak Park had been known in earlier years as Harlem. River Forest and Forest Park were part of Proviso township, and Oak Park was part of Cicero township.

Although River Forest was the smallest of the three communities, it was the first to incorporate as a municipality, leading Forest Park (Harlem) by four years and Oak Park by twenty-two years. The matter of saloons was then a vital issue, and Harlem was getting ready to incorporate, and take in River Forest or part of it, at least. Harlem having saloons, citizens of River Forest objected to the alliance, and hastened to be the first, taking in that portion of land south of the Northwestern tracks and west of Lathrop avenue, which geographically belonged to Harlem.

Jacob Cost, Henry L. McKallor, and Amos Pack were designated by Judge Loomis to conduct the election, which was set for September 24, 1880. Residents of Harlem obtained an injunction against the election being held, and the election judges were served by a deputy sheriff when they appeared to open the polls in the Northwestern depot, which had been designated as the polling place.

George L. Thatcher and Felix Griffen, attorneys, hastened to Chicago to have the injunction dissolved, and upon the advice of John P. Wilson, a noted Chicago attorney, the judges were advised to continue with the election. The polls were opened at eleven o'clock, and fifty-two votes were cast, only seven of them being opposed to the incorporation. The election was contested and carried to the Supreme court, which decided in favor of the village, and an election was then called to choose officers.

Under the law at that time, the voters elected six trustees, and from themselves they elected a president and a clerk. The first trustees were Timothy Kirk, Robert S. Odell, Herman H. Scharenberg, John H. Hilmer, John S. Zimmerman, and Henry Broughton. Mr. Kirk was selected as president, and Mr. Zimmerman as clerk.

After the village had been incorporated, the trustees decided that they could not operate the municipality without the funds from saloon licenses. They, therefore, divided the village into two zones—east and west. The west zone was made dry territory and the east zone wet territory. Saloon licenses were fixed at \$100 each. In 1882, the licenses was raised to \$250, and in 1884, it was again raised to \$500. Two saloons were operated.

In 1881, Timothy Kirk died and he was succeeded as a trustee by David A. Thatcher, and Trustee Odell was made treasurer.

In 1882, W. F. Blocki, Charles O. Read, and Albert Miller succeeded Trustees Odell, Zimmerman, and

Broughton. Mr. Odell continued as treasurer, and Felix Griffen was made clerk. George Thatcher continued as attorney. In 1883 Louis C. Bitting succeeded Trustee Miller. There were no other changes.

In 1884, Henry E. Broughton was again elected and Frank B. Tascott was also elected. They succeeded Trustees Read and Bitting. There were no other changes. In 1885, the only changes were the selection of Joseph H. Chambers as treasurer, and Thomas L. Humphreyville as police magistrate.

In 1886, Trustees Blocki and Broughton were succeeded by Charles J. Barnard and Jacob Cost. In 1887, Frank Hilmer succeeded J. H. Hilmer.

Before the election of 1888, the law had been changed so that a president was elected by the voters in addition to the six trustees. Felix Griffen was the first president chosen by the voters. He served one year and was succeeded in 1887 by George L. Thatcher, who in turn was succeeded by Jacob Cost who served four years.

In 1894, Mr. Cost was succeeded as village president by Robert S. Odell, who served one year and was succeeded by Thomas M. Jackson who was president for five years. Henry Struble was the next president. He was elected in 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, and 1906. Mr. Struble then dropped out of office for seven years, but in 1923 and 1924, he again served as head of the village.

In 1907 and 1908, F. B. Klock was village president, and in 1909 and 1910, it was Paul Armstrong. John E. Adams was elected president in 1911, 1912, 1913, and 1914. He was succeeded by John T. Muir who served in 1915 and 1916. C. F. Durland succeeded President Muir, serving in 1917 and 1918. Robin L. White was the next, serving as president in 1919, 1920, 1921, and 1922, up to the years of Mr. Struble's return.

Charles P. Molthrop was elected for a two-year term in 1925, and Frank H. Shaw succeeded him in 1927, serving four years. Charles F. Baumrucker was village president in 1931 and served four years. He was succeeded by John L. Brink in 1935, who is still president.

In 1888 Julius G. Ellithorpe and Herbert C. Leach succeeded Trustees Cost and Barnard. In 1889 Thomas M. Jackson, Willis E. Vigus, Sydney C. Miller and George Voras became trustees, succeeding Tascott, Leach and Hilmer; and in 1890, Allan P. Grant and John J. Kennedy were elected to succeed George Voras and Julius Ellithorpe. In 1891, Louis Wagner came onto the board, succeeding Sydney Miller; and in 1892, Samuel E. Baker and Frank C. Smith succeeded Messrs. Wagner and Grant.

John W. Broughton became a trustee in 1893, and served two years. William Arnold became a trustee in 1894, and served four years. John F. Barrett was elected in 1894, and served as a trustee two years. Robert T. Walbank and Joseph Binks also became trustees in 1894. Mr. Walbank served two years and Mr. Binks five years.

Charles W. Juergens became a trustee in 1895, serving for ten years. Frank E. Munroe and Harlan E. Page were elected in 1896, Mr. Munroe served three years, and Mr. Page served six years. William F. Quick was elected in 1898 and served six years. William C. D. Gillespie was elected in 1899. He died in 1900 while in office, and J. J. Ryan was chosen to serve out the unexpired term. Mr. Ryan continued in office until 1907.

Frank J. Reichman became a member of the village board in 1900, and served four years. N. F. Phillips was elected a trustee in 1901, and served five years. L. B. Mayo was elected in 1902, serving six years. E. A. Davenport and L. E. Moore became trustees in 1904, and held office four years.

W. T. Barbour was first elected a trustee in 1905. He served two years. E. A. Armbruster, John Watkins and L. D. Price were elected to the board in 1907, each serving two years. W. H. Reedy, W. H. McCullough and T. L. Johnson, Jr., became members of the village board in 1908, and all served two years. In 1909, three more new trustees were elected—John E. Adams, E. L. Cutting, and E. F. Ligare. Mr. Adams became president after two years as trustee. Mr. Ligare served two years and Mr. Cutting served three years.

F. C. Hazelton and R. P. Vastine were elected trustees in 1910. The latter served two years and the former four years. G. T. Turner and R. P. Vastine became trustees in 1911. Mr. Vastine served two years and Mr. Turner served four years. A. F. Millikan was elected a trustee in 1911, serving four years.

Three new members went onto the village board in 1912—H. F. McFarlane, George L. Meyer and Wm. Von der Lehr. McFarlane served three years and the other two each two years. In 1913, there was no change in trustees. In 1914, three more new members arrived—Howard S. Strider, Edward Topping and Fred J. Watson. They all retired at the end of two years. In 1915, H. H. Mahler was the one new member. He stayed two years.

William Rieger, P. H. Sullivan and V. A. Wright became trustees in 1916. All remained four years. In 1917, Harry L. Clute and C. H. Grier were elected. They, too, served four years. L. A. Urban was also elected in 1917, and he served three years. There was no change in 1918 or 1919. William Bently became a trustee in 1920, serving one year.

Four new trustees were elected in 1921—Alfred J. Austin, William Beye, A. B. Gates, and Marshall H. Jackson. Mr. Beye served only one year. Mr. Austin and Mr. Jackson served two years, and Mr. Gates served three years. H. L. Cavender became a trustee in 1922, serving two years. J. F. Grosevenor and Dr. A. M. Tummel were elected in 1923. The former served two years and the latter four years.

George W. Hubbard, Edward H. Kubitz, and Arthur Rose became village trustees in 1924. Mr. Hubbard served eight years; Mr. Kubitz served six years, and Mr. Rose retired after two years. Max Berns was elected in 1925, serving only one year, when he re-

signed. William J. Lynch was also elected in 1925. He served eight years. William Lohrer and Joseph T. Scott were elected in 1926. Mr. Scott served two years, and Mr. Lohrer four years.

Wm. G. Schmitz and Theodore Olson were elected trustees in 1929 and served two years. George F. Schindler and C. E. Christopher were elected in 1930. Mr. Christopher served two years, and Mr. Schindler is still a member of the village board.

In 1931, Ewald A. Balgeman, John L. Brink, Roy D. O'Brien, and Roy W. Troxel were elected trustees. In 1932, Wm. E. Prendergast succeeded Roy Troxel. In 1933, William D. Kerr and Samuel M. Stone, Sr., were elected to succeed Trustees Christopher and O'Brien.

Earl J. Bush, Thomas J. Rigney and Oscar P. Wodack were elected trustees in 1935, to succeed Messrs. Balgeman, Brink and Kerr. The present trustees are Messrs. Bush, Prendergast, Rigney, Schindler, Stone and Wodack.

In April, 1937, President Brink, and all of the village trustees — Messrs. Bush, Prendergast, Rigney, Schindler, Stone and Wodack; Village Clerk Hazelton, and Police Magistrate O'Brien, comprising all of the elective officers of the village, were re-elected.

A new state law had been enacted providing that the terms of office in cities and villages shall be four years, beginning in 1937. The law provided that aldermen elected in April, 1937, should cast lots to determine which should have the full terms, and which the half terms to end in 1939.

The law said nothing about village trustees, but some legal authorities held that trustees were intended to be covered in the broader term. River Forest trustees decided to accept this view, and, at the May meeting, they cast lots for the long and short terms. The short terms were drawn by Messrs. Bush, Prendergast and Wodack.

Felix Griffen was the first village clerk who was not a member of the board of trustees. He served in 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886, and 1887, or until he was elected village president in 1888. The next village clerk was George W. Shearburn, who served four years and was succeeded by Sanford A. Chappell in 1892, and in turn succeeded Mr. Shearburn one year later, serving continuously from then until 1900.

Charles A. Butler became village clerk in 1901. He served four years and was succeeded by Wallace H. Douglas in 1904. Mr. Douglas served only one year, and was succeeded by Ralph Scarritt in 1905. Mr. Scarritt served three years and was succeeded by Arthur S. Hatch, who continued to occupy the office until his death in January 15, 1930, a period of twenty-two years.

Mrs. Mary Lodge, who was deputy clerk under Mr. Hatch, was appointed acting clerk by the village board after Mr. Hatch's death, and Purdy W. Hazelton, who is still clerk was selected in May, 1930. Mrs. Lodge returning to the office of deputy clerk, which she still holds.

Thomas Humphreyville served the village of River Forest continuously as police magistrate from 1885 until 1903. According to the village records, as pub-

lished, he was River Forest's first magistrate, but the biographical sketch of Henry McKallor, appearing elsewhere in this volume states that he served in that capacity during 1883 and 1884.

Mr. Humphreyville was succeeded by Walter G. Krafts, who was elected in April, 1903, and served two years. S. A. Chappell was elected to the office in 1905, and served four years, being succeeded by W. M. Oliphant who served eighteen years continuously until April, 1927.

George Arthur Rossman was the next police magistrate, being elected in 1927, and filling the office until his death in 1932. Roy D. O'Brien, a village trustee, resigned that office, and was appointed to succeed Judge Rossman. Mr. O'Brien was elected to the office in 1933, and re-elected in 1934. He is the present police magistrate.

Robert S. Odell was the first village treasurer. There was no money on hand when the village was first incorporated, in 1880, but Mr. Odell, who was one of the first board of trustees, was chosen by his colleagues to handle the money when it did come in from taxes the next year. While Mr. Odell served only two years as trustee, he continued as treasurer until April, 1885, when Joseph M. Chambers succeeded him.

Mr. Chambers was succeeded by Henry J. Struble, and the latter held the office two years, and was elected again in 1897 for a second two-year term.

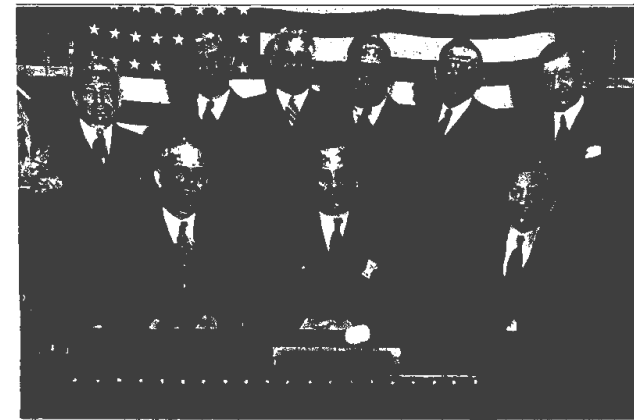
Chris Schlund was treasurer in 1891 and 1892; Louis Wagner in 1893 and 1894, and Samuel E. Baker in 1895 and 1896.

Cora L. Brown, the first woman to hold office in River Forest was treasurer in 1899 and 1900. Successive treasurers were Thomas L. Jackson, 1901; John T.

Adams, 1902; Wallace H. Douglas, 1903; Mary L. Douglas, 1904; John E. Adams, 1905; Palmer Rossman, 1906; J. N. Chesbrough, 1907; William Matthews, 1908; John Watkins, 1909; Clyde R. Harrison, 1910; C. F. Durland, 1911; A. P. Grant, 1912; Edward S. Bristol, 1913; Newton F. Phillips, 1914; Sanford A. Chappell, 1915; Arthur Rose, 1916; George B. Masslich, 1917; Ralph Scarritt, 1918; James Thompson, 1919; E. A. Davenport, 1920; Ralph Scarritt, 1921; H. E. MacNiven, 1922; P. H. Sullivan, 1923; Fred B. Rossman, 1924; Harry L. Clute, 1925; John F. Grovennor, 1926; John A. Klesert, 1927; W. W. Meyer, 1928; Otto H. Luhman, 1929 and 1930; John B. Castino, 1931 and 1932; Oscar P. Wodack, 1933 and 1934, James P. Hosty, 1935, and Frank W. Hughes, 1936.

William Iken was the first village engineer. He was not an engineer as known today, but carried on a small contracting business, and was appointed by the village board for special engineering jobs needed. He was designated as engineer for the Lake street brick sewer, but owing to differences of opinion between him and members of the village board, he was supplanted by Robert L. Lackey, who served until Robert E. Williams was appointed in 1898. Mr. Williams served until his death about 1925, when L. L. Harper, another resident of River Forest, was named. He was engineer while the big lighting system was installed. When President Baumrucker came into office, he appointed Robert Wallace of the Chicago engineering firm of Barker, Flavin, Sheets & Wallace, who designated Fred Gerdes as resident engineer. In 1935, President Brink appointed Chas. DeLeuw & Co., another Chicago firm, as engineers, and they designated Merrill B. Knox, 527 Monroe avenue, as their resident representative.

## Village Officers in 1937



Seated, right to left—Hugh Gardner, justice of the peace; John L. Brink, president; Purdy W. Hazelton, clerk. Standing—William D. Prendergast, Earl J. Bush, Thomas J. Rigney, George A. Schindler, Samuel L. Stone, and Oscar P. Wodack, trustees.



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BELMONT 1247

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**MICHAEL BRISCH, President**  
941 Clinton Place, River Forest, Illinois

## River Forest Police Department - 1937



Front row—Officer Joseph Welch, Sergeant Frank Bramhall, Lieutenant Raymond Rheingruber, Captain C. Wm. Soderlin, Sergeant George Rauch and Officer Charles Broehl. Second row—Officer Leslie Watson, Officer Robert Carr, Officer Bernard Gerard, Jr., Officer Walter Gray and Officer Charles Wilson. Third row—Desk Sergeant Harold Niles, Officer Edwin Petersen, Officer Oliver Schultz and Desk Sergeant Walter Allen. Top—Desk Sergeant Lawrence Reedy.

Starting with one man, whose duties were not even wholly confined to police work, River Forest police department has grown into a force of sixteen men, well trained, and well equipped for their duties. In 1937, in personnel, and in all other ways, the police department is the pride of the community, and the envy of many other municipalities.

C. A. Wilmarth was one of the early policemen in the village, starting as early as 1889 if not earlier. He died in 1905, while still in office. Some of the time Mr. Wilmarth had an assistant, part time or in full, and there were always a number of special policemen ready for call when needed. Walter Murphy and John Morrison were also policemen in the early days.

The first jail was established in 1891, just where the writer does not know. The records of the village board in that year show the sum of \$30 voted for the jail. In 1894, there was an ordinance passed by the village board establishing a calaboose, which was undoubtedly more pretentious, and was probably in the water works building, which is now the police station, as that building had then been erected.

James Pake had been appointed as a policeman by the village board in 1894, but he soon resigned.

In 1895, the following were appointed as special police to serve on Sunday: George E. Steele, C. J. Schoening, W. Hearstal, William John, William Rieger, D. H. Chambers and F. C. Smith.

Herman Pingel was a policeman serving with Mr. Wilmarth in 1905, at the time of the latter's death.

James Kunst was appointed a policeman in 1905, and in 1910, the village board created the office of chief of police by ordinance, and Mr. Kunst was made the first chief. His salary was fixed at \$80 a month, which was an increase of \$5 a month over his salary as policeman.

Arthur Schoff was appointed chief of police in May, 1912, but resigned soon after, and T. P. Gearing was appointed and continued to serve for several years. Tom Curran, now captain of police at Oak Park, Harry Auspice and Roy Goss, all held the office for short terms, and in 1919, Frank W. Laatz was appointed and served five years, until he resigned in 1924 to become a candidate for police magistrate. William Friberg, a member of the force, was appointed to succeed Mr. Laatz. He died the following year.

C. M. Atkinson, a former captain of Chicago police, who had retired and moved to River Forest, was appointed chief in 1925, serving until 1928, when Carl William Soderlin, who had been a member of the police force for a number of years was appointed to the position, and is still serving, having been reappointed in 1937 by President Brink.

As the size and duties of the police department increased, regular quarters were needed, and equipment was essential. When the "village hall" was moved to

the north lot, and made into a fire station, the police department was also given quarters there.

The switchboard connected with all village offices was installed in the police department, and operated by the desk man, which it continues to be up to today, when three desk men on eight-hour shifts give a twenty-four hour service.

The police department was moved from the fire station to the new village hall in 1922, and occupied the small room now used by the commissioner of public works. They remained there for four years, and then when the water works plant was moved to the new building in Berkshire street, the police department was given quarters in the former water works building back of the village hall, and facing Central avenue. Their quarters have twice been enlarged, and in 1937, they are well furnished, and large enough for the village of its day.

The first motorcycle used by the police in the regulation of traffic was purchased in 1910. They were continued in use until 1931, when six of them were being used. In that year, it was decided to abandon motorcycles for squad cars, and the motorcycles were disposed of. However, in 1935 it was decided that the motorcycles were more efficient for some purposes, and

## River Forest Fire Department in 1937

The first organized effort to protect the village from fire was made in 1893, when Henry Struble was appointed fire marshal, and the following citizens became volunteer members of the fire department: C. C. Collins, Harry T. Richards, H. D. Chambers, John J. Wolf, James Pake, Adolph Westphal, R. L. White,

two new ones were purchased and are now in use.

The first squad car was purchased in 1920, and two of them are now in daily use. In 1921 police call boxes were installed throughout the village, sixteen of them. When the radio was installed in the police station, the use of call boxes was discontinued, although two boxes were kept for emergency use.

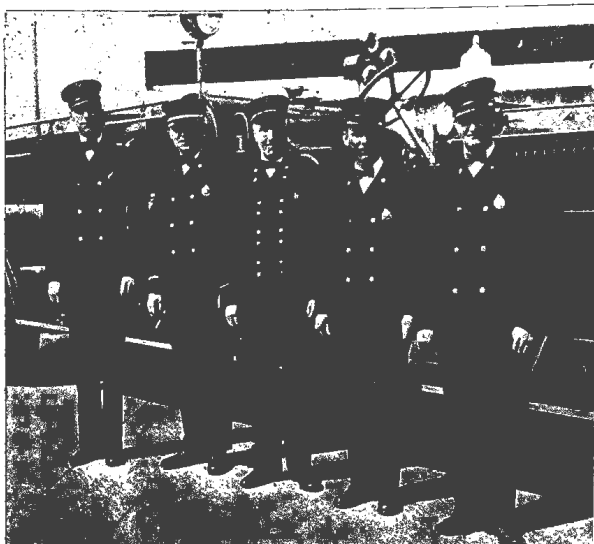
A combination ambulance and patrol wagon was purchased for the police department, in 1929, and has been a valuable addition to the equipment.

A radio station was installed in the police department in 1932, and the following year it was made a two-way station so that men in the squad cars could call the station as well as the station call the cars. The station was further modernized in 1936, and is now one of the finest for a municipality of its size in the United States.

The first stop and go signs for the regulation of motor traffic were installed in Lake street at Lathrop and Thatcher avenues in 1926. The sign at Franklin avenue and Washington boulevard is one that is operated by motorists approaching Washington boulevard from either direction. This type of sign is not used in many places, but is especially adapted for intersections where most of the traffic is on one street.

Lewis C. Stafford, L. D. Humphreville, Leslie Stafford, Wm. C. Walsh, Jr., George Bitting, H. M. Thompson, Peter E. Wolf, Edward Scharenberg, Al Fairhead, Harry E. Parker, Hoyt Barber, W. E. Boyce, Will Morrison, and M. K. Parke.

Leonard C. Moore was assistant fire chief under



Left to right: Edward Doering, Alfred Zay, lieutenant; John Matthews, chief; Fred Jannisch, and Arthur Milchofer.

Mr. Struble, and the following year he was appointed chief, which position he held for eight years. Those were the days of frame barns, kerosene lamps and none-too-good furnaces. Fires were frequent and with the limited equipment they were quite destructive.

Thatcher avenue seems to have been the center of these fires, as Mr. Moore remembers. Two Thatcher barns burned; the Klock barn and the O'Keefe house were scenes of bad fires, as was the Jackson property, all on Thatcher avenue between Lake street and Oak avenue. The Broughton home on Keystone avenue burned, and the two-family frame building known as the Baker flats burned so rapidly in the night that the members of the two families escaped only with their night clothes. The Waller barn and the Standard Oil Co.'s tanks were two other disastrous fires.

The equipment consisted of a man propelled hose cart and 600 feet of hose.

Ed Scharenberg succeeded Mr. Moore as fire marshal in 1904, the department at that time being reduced to twelve men, including the chief. Mr. Scharenberg was succeeded in 1907, by John Matthews, the present head of the department, who joined the local fire fighters in 1898, and has been connected with the department most of the time since then.

Mr. Matthews resigned in 1915, but returned the same year. He resigned again in 1918, and was succeeded as chief by Herman Schoff, who had retired from Oak Park fire department. Mr. Schoff was head of the department for ten years, the last five of which

Mr. Matthews was his assistant, and became chief again when Mr. Schoff retired.

Wesley Trebas was appointed fire chief in 1929, and served two years, after which Mr. Matthews was again appointed and is now serving in that capacity.

When the new village hall was erected in 1910, the old "town hall" was moved to its present location on the next lot north and converted into a regular fire station, with living rooms for the chief on the second floor.

Prior to this, in 1904, the village purchased a one-horse ladder truck. In the latter year, members of the force were John Matthews, chief; his brothers, George and Will; Bert and Ed Hawkins, John Wallace, Otto Anderson, and Phil and Emerich St. Peter. The latter two cousins.

In 1915, the village purchased a Packard motor fire truck, which was used for four years and then traded toward an American LeFrance 750-gallon pump, which is still in use.

In 1930, the big Ahrens Fox, splendidly equipped fire truck was purchased at a cost of \$16,000, so that the department has two good trucks. This truck has a pumping capacity of 1000 gallons a minute.

In 1915, the two St. Peter men were still on the force, and working with them and Chief Matthews were George Phillips, Alfred Payette, George Riordan. These men were then full-time employees.

The present personnel is shown under the picture of the men which appears near this article.

## Village Acquires Land

During the early days of the village, the municipality owned no real estate. It was a renter. Not until the water works system was being installed did the village see the necessity for land. In 1892, it purchased two lots on Park avenue, at the corner of Central avenue, with a total frontage of 100 feet. Since then, that corner has been the center of the village's official activities.

On the back end of these lots, the village located its water works plant, and erected the brick building now known as the police station. In this building the village board held its meetings from the time of its erection until a few months before the present village hall was completed in 1910.

The second building erected by the village was more of an assembly hall than anything else. It was a frame building, erected on the second lot from Central avenue, about where the rock garden between the fire station and the village hall is now located.

While this building belonged to the village, it was never used as a village hall as we know it today. In those days, the village clerk and other officers did not have a regular office. The village hall, or "town hall" as it was often called was rented out to various organizations for regular meetings, and sometimes for entertainments. For some reason, there is quite a diversity of opinion, not only as to what this building was called, but what it was used for. Men who were members of the village board at that time have said that the

village board met there for "a long time," and citizens have verified this; but the minutes of the village board show that their meetings were held in the water works building up to April, 1910, and the first meeting was held in the new municipal building in December, 1910, so that left only from April to December for the meetings in the "town hall."

Among the many organizations which used to hold meetings in this old hall were University Association of River Forest, which began meeting there in 1906, and River Forest Athletic club, which began meeting there when the building was new in 1901. The charge for use of the hall was \$1.50 for each meeting; but in 1896 this rental was increased to \$3 for an evening meeting and \$6 if it was to be a "pay" affair.

When the time came for the erection of the brick village hall, the frame building was moved to the lot farther north where it now stands and was remodeled into the present fire station. This required shortening it some as the water works reservoir occupied the back part of the lot. The second story was added at that time and an apartment for the fire chief. The building has since been lengthened so as to provide sleeping quarters and rest rooms for the firemen. Early in 1937, other changes were made to make room for the two fire engines and the patrol wagon. This was done by putting the stairway to the second floor on the outside.

When the Northwestern Railway Co. elevated their

tracks through River Forest, they paid the village \$20,000 in cash for damages. The village board decided to use part of this money for erecting a municipal building, to be used as a general office for the village, with a room for board meetings, assemblies, and court.

At this time there appeared to be a political division in village affairs. A controversial question arose, and F. B. Klock was elected village president in 1907 over Henry Struble. It was during Klock's term that this money was collected from the railroad; and the first talk of using it for a village hall was broached.

It was proposed to spend \$15,000 on the municipal building, and a special election was called for February 13, 1909, to obtain public approval. Through a disagreement between the village clerk and the board, no ballots were prepared, and hence no election. Another election was called and held on April 3, 1909, when by a vote of 47 to 129, the proposal was defeated.

In that same month, the regular election was held, and President Klock was defeated for re-election by Paul Armstrong, who carried into office with him three new trustees—John E. Adams, E. F. Ligare, and E. L. Cutting. The board then decided to go ahead with the

proposed municipal building. A contract was awarded to Harper and Butendorf, and the building was completed in 1910, at a total cost of \$9,376.95. The previous administration had paid \$749 for the lot to the north, which the new building necessitated.

The next land acquired was bought for the purpose of erecting a village incinerator. This land faces Jackson avenue, between Lake street and Central avenue, and has a frontage of 225 feet and a depth of 300 feet. This was in 1924. The incinerator was erected, the contract having been let on competitive bids to the Superior Incinerator Co., for \$22,000.

The incinerator was guaranteed to operate without coal, simply burning the garbage, after the fire was once started. It failed to do this, using great quantities of coal, and residents in that part of the village complained bitterly about the odors. As a result it was abandoned as an incinerator. The building and lot are now used by the department of public works for storage.

In 1926, the village purchased land on the south side of Berkshire street, corner of Monroe avenue and established a new water works plant there.

## Street Names and Numbers

River Forest has thirty-four streets, sixteen of which run north and south, and eighteen east and west. Most of these streets extend from one edge of the village to the other. Three of these streets are on the border line, and hence are only half in River Forest. These are Madison street on the south, separating River Forest and Forest Park; Harlem avenue on the east, separating River Forest and Oak Park, and North avenue on the north, separating River Forest and Elmwood Park.

North and south streets in their order west from Harlem avenue are Bonnie Brae, William street, Clinton place, Monroe avenue, Jackson avenue, Lathrop avenue, Ashland avenue, Franklin avenue, Park avenue, Forest avenue, Keystone avenue, Thatcher avenue and Edgewood place; and Park drive and Gale avenue, which do not come north of the Northwestern tracks. Park drive is on a curve, extending from 121 Park avenue, to the junction of Franklin avenue and Washington boulevard, a distance of less than a block. Gale avenue starts at Madison street between Keystone and Thatcher avenue, and ends at Hawthorne avenue.

All streets between Lathrop and Harlem avenues end at Central avenue, which is the south end of the village in that section, although the Northwestern tracks are really the dividing line. Bonnie Brae ends at Division street, and resumes at Greenfield street. Clinton place ends at Augusta street and resumes at Greenfield, and William street ends at Augusta street and resumes at Division street. Forest avenue, ends at Hawthorne street and resumes at Lake street; ending again at Division street and resuming at Greenfield. Keystone avenue ends at Division street and resumes at Greenfield, slanting west before it reaches North avenue and running into Thatcher avenue, where that

street bends east. Edgewood place starts at Central avenue, and extends north about two blocks, then bending east to connect with the west end of Oak avenue.

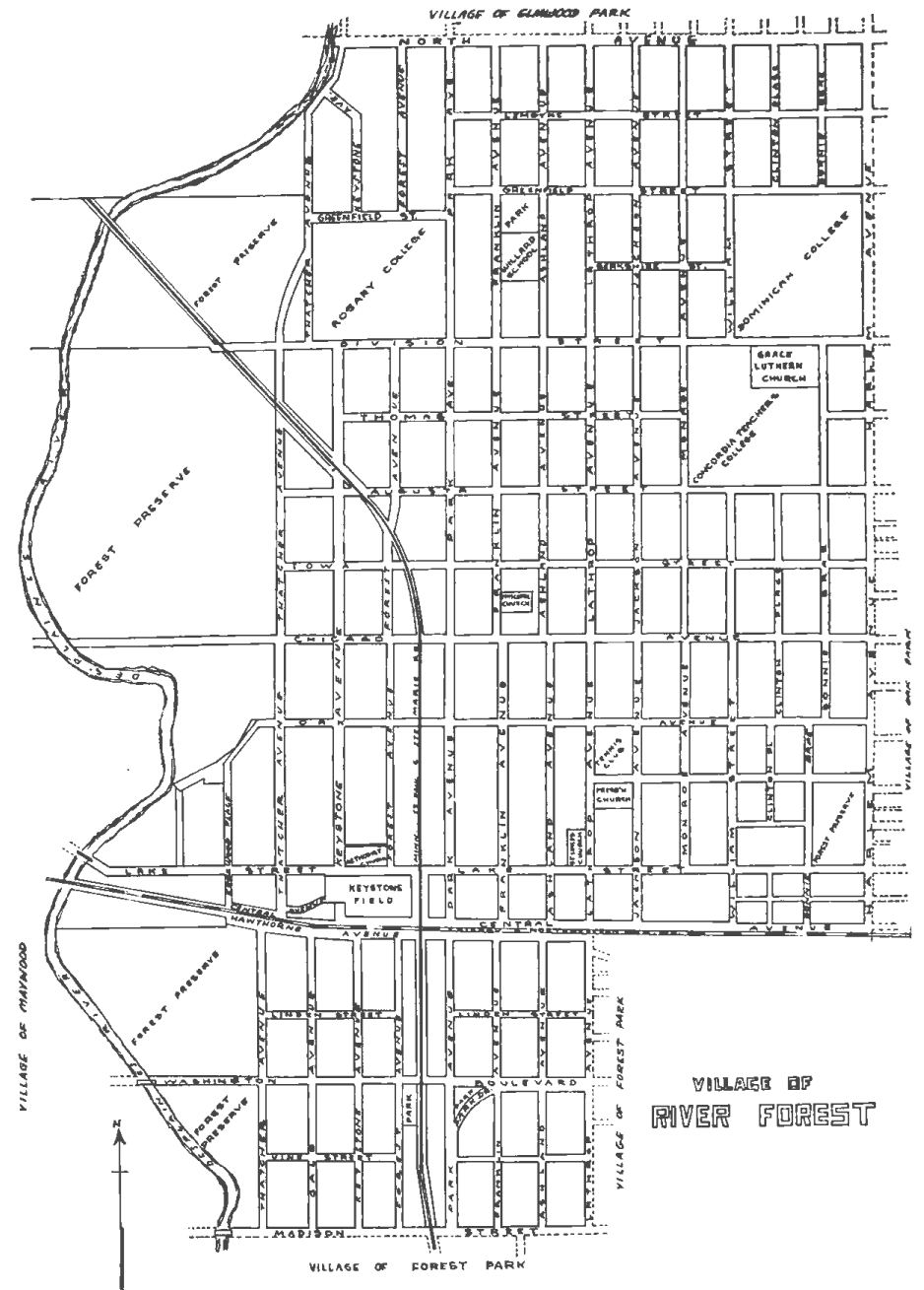
East and west streets, north of Madison are Vine, Washington, Linden and Hawthorne, starting at Lathrop avenue and extending west to Thatcher avenue. Streets which start at Harlem avenue and extend west are Central avenue, Lake street, Quick avenue, Oak avenue, Chicago avenue, Iowa street, Augusta street, Thomas street, Division street, Greenfield street, Lemoyne street, and North avenue. Holly court, one block north of Lake street, starts at Bonnie Brae and extends to William street. Thomas street ends at Bonnie Brae and resumes at Monroe avenue, extending to Keystone avenue. Berkshire street, one block north of Division, starts at William street and ends at Lathrop avenue. Lemoyne avenue ends at Park avenue. Garden court, scarcely more than an alley, starts at Harlem avenue, between Central avenue and Lake street, and extends west to William street.

Three former streets have been vacated since the land was included in forest preserve. They were Harold and Maple avenues, north of Division street, and Oak avenue, west of Thatcher avenue, between Linden avenue and Washington boulevard.

During the development and history of the village, a number of street names were changed. Lake street, the oldest street, extending west from Fort Dearborn on the lake, was first named Pennsylvania avenue.

Franklin avenue was formerly Boutell and Park was Kimbell. Mr. Quick named streets in his property in the east end after his sons, John, Henry and William. Later John was changed to Bonnie Brae and Henry to Clinton, but William still retains his name in the street. A short street in the east end was Madison ave-

## Map of Village in 1937



ue, but caused much confusion with Madison street and so was changed to Holly court to correspond with a street of that name in Oak Park. As a historical name, Quick avenue has been retained.

Many east and west streets conform to street names in Chicago or in Oak Park—Madison street, Washington boulevard, Lake street, Chicago avenue, Iowa street, Augusta street, Thomas street, Division street, Berkshire street, Greenfield street, Le Moyne street and North avenue.

The names of many streets in River Forest have been changed, some of them unofficially before the village was incorporated, and some of them since by action of the village board.

Lake street was first called Elgin road, then Pennsylvania, before it was given its present name.

Harlem avenue was at first called Washington street.

Central avenue was Railroad avenue.

Thomas street was Olive street.

Iowa street was Myrtle street.

Augusta street was Birchwood street.

Park drive was Circle avenue.

Thatcher avenue, south of the tracks was Forest.

Keystone to the south was Grove.

Washington boulevard was Elm street.

Forest avenue to the north was Canandiago, and to the south it was Morgan street.

Gale avenue was Riverside drive.

Park avenue to the south was first Magnolia street and then Kimbell.

Franklin avenue to the south was Boutelle.

Holly court was Madison avenue.

Bonnie Brae was John street.

Clinton place south of Lake street was John street.

Hawthorne avenue at its extreme west was changed to Thatcher avenue.

Lathrop avenue was Oak street.

Monroe avenue was Henry street.

Edgewood place was formerly part of Oak avenue. It was intended to extend south to Central avenue, but

Central avenue did not extend west of Thatcher avenue, and Edgewood stopped at Lake street.

An effort to change Quick avenue to Ontario failed in the village board in 1907.

The original boundary of River Forest at the north was Division street. In 1916, all that territory bounded by Division street, North avenue, Harlem avenue, and the Desplaines river was annexed to the village. All except that portion which is forest preserve was plotted, and improved with sidewalks, sewers, water, and pavement. This added more than one third to the acreage of River Forest, and opened up a fine residential section, which is rapidly being built up. In this area are located Rosary College, Dominican House of Studies, Trinity high school and Frances Willard public school.

Street numbers became a requisite in River Forest, when free delivery of mail was established about 1900. The system of numbering was as follows: North and south streets started with No. 1 at Madison street, and the numbers increased to the north. On east and west streets, the numbers started at one at Harlem avenue, and increased to the west.

In 1928, the system of numbering was changed to conform to the Chicago plan. Thus, instead of the numbers running continuously, they run fifty to the block, skipping such numbers as are not reached in the previous block.

In this way the numbers run higher. For instance, under the old system, the highest number south of Chicago avenue was 376; now it is 753; and on streets that do not run all the way through, they are numbered to correspond to those that do. Thus, Bonnie Brae formerly started at Central avenue with No. 1, and now starts there at 400. The highest number south of Augusta street on Bonnie Brae was 524; now it is 944.

On the east and west streets, the numbers under the new system start at 7200 and continue west on the same plan as the north and south streets. Under the old system, the highest number on Lake street was Swanson's greenhouse, No. 469. The same place is now No. 8227.

## Street Lighting

River Forest's first street lights were kerosene lamps placed on posts at corners. They had to be lighted at dark, and turned out again when it was bedtime—ten o'clock. Walter Murphy, son of John Murphy, had this job part of the time at least.

Electric lights followed in 1890, when a contract was let to C. W. Kimball of Maywood. These were arc lights and hung over the middle of street intersections. They were so arranged that they could be let down to the ground, as the carbons had to be changed each day. Felix St. Peter, now deceased and brother of Joseph St. Peter, now living at 325 Ashland avenue, had this job for awhile, and was paid \$30 a month. He was given the use of a cart and harness that belonged to the village, but he had to furnish his own horse, and keep the cart and harness in repair at his own ex-

pense. The job was later turned over to John Morrison, policeman, who was paid \$65 a month for both jobs.

Mr. Kimball contracted to supply eighty-five 20-candle power lamps for which he received one dollar a month for each lamp, with ninety cents a month for each additional lamp. They were to be lighted each night except when the moon was scheduled to shine, from dusk until 12:30.

The Kimball contract was afterward in the name of Maywood Power & Electric Co., which was probably the same as Mr. Kimball. In May, 1894, the bill for street lighting was \$94. In December, 1906, a contract for street lighting was let to Oak Park Yaryan Company. This probably included both arc lights and incandescent, as both were being used in 1906 and 1907.

In January, 1906, the Yaryan Company was changed to Oak Park Light, Heat and Power Co., and in 1913, it became the Public Service Company of Northern Illinois, continuing to serve River Forest for light throughout the intervening years, as it does in 1937.

In 1929, the village board decided to replace the old electric lights by a comprehensive, modern system. The engineers prepared the plans, a special assessment was levied, and a contract awarded for a complete unified lighting system to cost \$343,645.41. The work was

divided into two jobs, north side and south side, but the system is uniform, and the south side work was continued as soon as the north side work was completed.

A five-year maintenance contract was awarded to the Commercial Light Co. of Chicago, the same company that had the construction contract. When the five years expired a new contract was awarded to the same company at a lower rate. In fact the original maintenance price was cut during the contract by agreement between the village and the company.

## Water Works System

The water works system was installed in 1890, at a first cost of \$81,741.12. This included mains, a well, pumping equipment, a tower tank, and the building, which is now used as a police station. The contract was let to George C. Morgan & Co., and the original contract was completed in 1892.

A well was sunk on the rear of the village lots on Park avenue at Central avenue, pumps installed, and a tower tank erected. The tank held 42,000 gallons. It was a round steel tank on top of a brick foundation which made a total height of 105 feet. The base of the tank was forty feet above the ground level. The supply was sufficient at that time so that River Forest sold water to Harlem in 1896.

A brick building facing Central avenue two stories in the front and one story at the rear was erected to house the plant. The second floor was used for living quarters for the superintendent of water works. The front part of the lower floor was used for offices, the board holding their meetings there for a number of years.

As the village grew and more water was needed, another well was sunk, and then a third one. Two underground reservoirs holding 208,000 gallons were erected, to the north of the tower.

But the village kept on growing, and more water per capita was needed, as sprinkling lawns and gardens became general, and the new houses were equipped with a greater amount of water-consuming plumbing.

The three wells did not give three times the amount of water that one of them did, as they were fed by the same vein, and eventually two of them were abandoned.

A connection was made with Oak Park mains so that, in emergency, water could be secured through Oak Park, which was buying water from Chicago. But Oak Park was having trouble at times getting sufficient water, as Chicago with the lake at its front door was not equipped for delivering water to all its borders as rapidly as it was needed.

By 1920, supplying water became a problem in River Forest, as it was in most communities, and in 1922 the village decided to establish a new and separate plant in the north part of the village. Land was purchased at the southeast corner of Jackson avenue and Berkshire street, having a frontage of 250 feet on Jackson avenue and 187 feet on Berkshire street. A bond issue of \$175,000 had been sold to finance this Berkshire street plant.

A well was sunk on this property to a depth of

2102 feet, and at a cost of \$22,000. The contract for the well was let to J. P. Miller Well Co., of Chicago, and the well was completed in 1926, after three years work.

In the meantime, an underground reservoir holding 550,000 gallons had been built, and mains had been laid connecting this reservoir with the Chicago main at Harlem and North avenues. Other mains also connected the new reservoir with the old plant at Park and Central avenues. The reservoir was completed early in 1924, and put into use in that same year by construction of a temporary frame pump house.

But Chicago was shy on water at that time, and restricted River Forest to 300,000 gallons a day. This had to be drawn between 11 p. m. and 5 a. m. Later the amount was increased to 600,000 gallons a day, but the hours were still restricted, which was unsatisfactory, as it was during the daytime that the extra water was needed.

After the well was sunk, a substructure for a permanent building was put in, and equipment installed in 1927. Pumps manufactured by the American Well Works of Aurora were installed at a cost of approximately \$10,000. The new well had a large flow of water, and the pumps were efficient, producing 1,400,000 gallons of water a day, which with 600,000 from Chicago made a total of 2,000,000 available. The restriction on hours still made this Chicago water less valuable, and later Chicago agreed to allow this to be spread over the twenty-four hour period.

In 1928, the building was completed, an attractive brick structure, the height of a two-story house, and fifty-five feet wide by forty-five feet deep. The same year, another reservoir holding 2,000,000 gallons of water was completed, since which time River Forest has had a sufficient quantity of water at all times, Chicago also agreeing to let River Forest draw what it needed, provided it spread it out over the twenty-four hours, and did not draw enough to affect the supply for Chicagoans in the vicinity of Harlem and North avenues.

In 1929, the smaller reservoir was remodeled to permit of more attractive landscaping. In that year, the old plant near the village hall was abandoned, and the tower tank razed.

It was discovered that buying Chicago water was cheaper than pumping it, and for the past five years the well has not been used, except to keep it in shape for emergencies. Chicago's west side mains have been increased and all the lake water needed has been avail-

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When the water works system was first installed, Ernest Micklish, was engaged as superintendent. He had been the foreman in charge of construction for the Morgan company, which installed the plant. He was continued in that capacity until 1916 when Charles R. Hussey was appointed to that position, and served two years, Mr. Micklish was then reappointed, and served

### Street Improvements

Many problems confronted the village board after the incorporation of the village. Improvements were needed, and demanded; but the revenue was not sufficient to provide them. Their job would indeed have been a hard one, had not the special assessment law come into existence. This permitted the board and board of local improvements, which the village board created under the law to finance needed improvements.

Sidewalks, sewers, pavement, water works and street lights were needed, from time to time, and in increasing volume; and up to 1931, when the depression caused a cessation of such improvements, which has not been resumed, there was a steady flow of "specials."

After the streets were graded, as was done usually by the subdivider, sidewalks became essential. First came the wooden sidewalk, then tar, asphalt, and concrete. Sometimes one kind of walk would be ordered on one street and another kind on a different street at the same time. The cost of the newer and better types were naturally higher, but it was usually left to a majority of property owners on each street to make the decision.

Roadway improvements came later, and met with more opposition on the part of property owners. Gravel and macadam were used prior to pavement, and the first pavement was cedar blocks, a form that did not last long, and yet was a great step in advance over mud and even crushed stone. There were no automobiles nor motor trucks in those days, and the strain on the pavement was not so heavy. On residential streets, lighter pavements stood up fairly well. Then came brick and asphalt. Brick followed cedar blocks on Lake street and asphalt followed cedar blocks on Thatcher avenue. Up to 1920, a large proportion of the pavement was in brick.

Under the present system, where the state has supervision over the pavement on through streets, concrete has been specified, and North avenue, Harlem avenue, Washington boulevard, Madison street and Thatcher avenue are now paved with concrete, in part at least, under specifications supplied by the state highway department. These streets being state aid roads, the pavement is now being maintained by the state.

Keystone avenue was the first residential street on which concrete pavement was laid upon decision of the property owners. There was a sharp division of opinion on the matter at first, and the repaving improvement went over for a year, and then concrete was adopted.

Today, there are only one or two short stretches of streets in River Forest that are not paved in some manner. Some of the streets have their third pave-

ment, and many of them have the second.

When Mr. Foster became commissioner of public works in 1927, Paul Diebold, who had been his assistant, became superintendent. Later the village board consolidated the office of superintendent of water works with that of commissioner of public works, and Mr. Foster again took over the superintendency, and Mr. Diebold again became assistant superintendent, which position he still holds.

ment, and many of them have the second.

New sidewalks have replaced the old sidewalks, and today the cement sidewalk is universal.

Even before the water works system was installed, there was a demand for drainage, and drains, as they were called, were laid in a number of residential streets. Lake street had a real sewer, although not large nor well constructed. It was really a wooden conduit.

Following the installation of the water system, and the use of plumbing in the house, a more adequate system of drainage was needed, and in 1892, a large brick sewer was laid in Lake street at a cost of \$18,590. This started at Harlem avenue as a twenty-inch conduit from Harlem to William street; from William to Lathrop avenue, twenty-four inches; from Lathrop to Keystone avenue, thirty inches; and from Keystone avenue to the river, thirty-six inches.

A sewer was laid in Thatcher avenue in 1894 at a cost of \$1,543; a section called the Jackson avenue sewer, serving that part of the village was laid in 1907, and in the same year another system called the south side sewer system.

As the village grew and different sections became more thickly settled, additional sewers were added until a comprehensive sewer system served the village. This was extended into the north part of the village when the land north of Division street was added to the village.

### VILLAGE PHYSICIAN

The office of village physician, afterward changed to commissioner of health, was created by the village board in 1905, and Dr. John Bates Lyon was appointed by President Struble to hold the position. He continued to serve until 1915, when President Muir appointed Dr. Charles A. Griffith who served two years. Dr. Lyon was reappointed by President Durland in 1917 and served until Dr. Griffith was again appointed by President Baumrucker in 1931. He served two years, and was succeeded by Dr. Charles J. Weigel in 1933. Dr. Weigel was reappointed by President Brink in 1935 and again in 1937.

### VILLAGE MANAGER

The office of village manager or general superintendent was created by the village board in 1913, and the salary was fixed by ordinance at \$1,800 a year. K. M. Mitchell was appointed to fill the office which he did until the position was abolished on May 27, 1915, following an advisory vote of the citizens, when the vote was 306 to 82.

—25—

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## CHURCHES - Chapter Three

RIVER FOREST is a church community. Its people are a church-going people. This is attested by the five prosperous churches of today, each with a large membership, and the early and continued establishment of religious services and churches here. Five denominations are represented by River Forest churches in 1937. Three of these—Methodists, Catholics and Episcopalians—came into the field in the sixties. The Presbyterians established a church here in 1887, and the Lutherans came in 1929, when Grace Lutheran church moved from Oak Park into River Forest.

The first religious services were held in River Forest about 1860 when a Union Sunday School was formed, and held in the little frame school house on Lake street. Miss Frances Willard and her brother, Rev. Oliver Willard, who were teachers in the public school, were teachers in the Sunday School, as was Miss Clara Thatcher, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David C. Thatcher, who later became Mrs. Solomon Thatcher.

Out of this Union Sunday School evolved First Methodist church of River Forest, because it so happened that a majority of the leaders in that Sunday School had been affiliated with that denomination in their former homes. In 1869, the Methodists formed what they called a "Society." They had no regular minister, preachers from Methodist churches not too far away came to preach to them from time to time.

It was on February 14, 1871, that First Methodist Church of River Forest was incorporated, and the Rev. S. A. Griffith was called as pastor. Charter members were W. S. Lasher, Hiram Odell, Mary Odell, Solomon Thatcher, Sr., Sussanah Thatcher, Solomon Thatcher, Jr., Clara E. Thatcher, Frances M. Thatcher, Janet E. Morey, Martha VanElla, Henry Willett, Sarah Willett, Jacob A. Cost, and Ada G. Cost.

Services were held in the school house, in private homes, and sometimes in the Northwestern station. It was in 1872, that the organization attained the full status of a church. The presiding elder at that time

was Rev. W. C. Dandy, the pastor was Rev. W. E. Beans, and the Sunday School superintendent was Sylvester T. Count.

In 1874, the Thatcher families, under the leadership of Rev. Watson Thatcher, built and presented to the church a frame building at the corner of Lake street and Keystone avenue. The only condition to the gift was that the church members were to provide the furniture and equipment, which cost about \$1,500. The property when ready for use was valued at \$10,000, and was dedicated by Bishop C. H. Fowler, a personal friend of Solomon Thatcher, Jr.

An attractive edifice was erected on the same site in 1912, during the pastorate of Rev. Edward D. Schutz, D. D. The cost of the new building was \$30,000.

In 1921, the church purchased the Thatcher avenue frontage from Lake street north. On that corner was later established the Bowling Green, which is unique and unusual in this section and age. In 1927, the church parsonage was erected on that portion of the lot north of the Bowling Green. This was during the pastorate of Rev. Irving Ellsworth Putnam. A. M. Wolf of River Forest was the architect, and Roy Troxel was the builder. The cost was \$35,000.

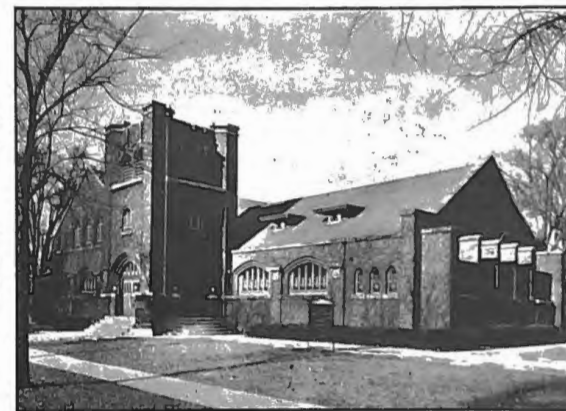
The church building was remodeled and enlarged in 1929, at a cost of \$20,000. Mrs. Frances M. Odell Thatcher bequeathed the church \$3,000 and a room in the church was named the Odell room. Portraits of members of the family who were active in the early history of the church are hung there. This room was dedicated June 22, 1930.

The church has had numerous pastors. For many years, it was served by students at Garrett Biblical Institute of Northwestern University, a Methodist school. These pastors were mostly seniors, and so were available for only one year. Following Rev. Griffith and Rev. Beans, already mentioned there came Rev. M. S. Kauffman in 1872; Rev. A. J. Scott, 1873; Rev. W. H.

(Continued on Page 33)



Left—Methodist Edifice erected in 1874.



Right — Present Methodist Church Building erected in 1912 and enlarged in 1929.

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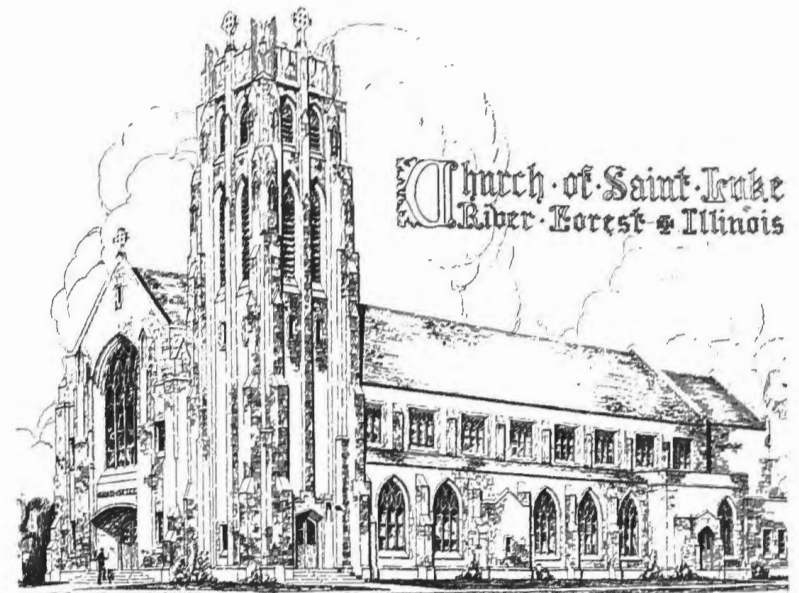
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In the year 1865, a Roman Catholic church was organized here, and was at first called St. Thomas; but this name seemed to conflict with a St. Thomas Catholic church in Chicago, and in 1887, the name was changed to St. Luke, which it remains to this day.

Fr. Tom Burke was the first priest to serve the "mission" as it was called, and although the parish extended east to Crawford avenue, Chicago, west to Elgin, Franklin Park on the north, with no boundary line on the south, there were but few families to worship in the first frame edifice that was erected at Lake street and Lathrop avenue, on a lot donated by Solomon Thatcher, Jr. This building had a capacity of 100.

Mass was celebrated once a month, Fr. Burke, who had a church in the city, used to come out to "Thatcher" on a hand-car, escorted by John Murphy, one of the early settlers whose home was next door to the church.

In 1874, Father Burke was succeeded by Father Athanasium, who was in turn followed by Fathers Becker, Kohn, and Sweetheart, who celebrated Mass every other Sunday at 10:30 A. M., coming out on the preceding Saturday to give the children doctrinal instruction. These four priests were Benedictines, and after each had served one year, they were succeeded by Servites and for the next six years "Father Tom" Moreschini came from Chicago with a horse and buggy on alternate Sundays to minister to the parish.

The Servites gave up their jurisdiction in 1884, and Father P. J. McDonnell of St. Mel's church took charge.

Father John Waldron was assigned to the parish as a resident pastor in 1887, and he decided that the mission should be replaced by a more appropriate building. Through his efforts and the efforts of the members, the building was erected that was razed during the past year to make room for the new stone struc-

ture. The edifice was dedicated on September 25, 1887, by Archbishop Feehan.

This period was marked by many activities, including church picnics at Nelson's park, Chicago and Park avenues, and Altenheim grove. Dramatics were presented in Hoard's hall in Oak Park, and Myer's hall in Maywood; a Sacred Heart society was organized; the choir flourished and "fairs" with oyster suppers were popular. Knights of Columbus were organized and a Women's Catholic Order of Foresters was established.

Father Richard Dunne became pastor after the death of Father Waldron in 1893. The church membership grew rapidly to about 1,000 persons, although the size of the parish had been restricted to River Forest, Oak Park, Harlem (now Forest Park), Maywood and Melrose Park. An assistant pastor became necessary, and Father Patrick Clancy, brother of Mrs. Eugene Halligan, 558 Lathrop avenue, was assigned. He was appointed to a city curacy, and Father P. L. Kennedy took his place. He was followed by Father Frederick Weber. Father Dunne died in 1905, and was succeeded by Father Thomas Burke. About this time the parish was divided, leaving only River Forest, and the extreme northern part of Forest Park. The church building was remodeled and modernized during the pastorate of Father Burke, who also purchased property for a church school. Owing to illness Father Burke resigned in 1920, living only a few years after that. He was replaced by Father David L. McDonald, who purchased additional land and erected St. Luke's school at the corner of Lake street and Ashland avenue, west of the Murphy home.

Father Thomas Canty, the present pastor was the next to take charge, and to him fell the duty and honor of erecting the beautiful \$250,000 edifice now in the course of construction. Father Canty has two assistants—Father J. W. Morrison, and Father S. D. Ryan.

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## First Presbyterian Church

First Presbyterian church of River Forest was organized July 29, 1887, with the following charter members: Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Barnard, Mrs. Lottie E. Barton, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Coombs, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Day, Mrs. Cora Gale, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Goodman, Mr. and Mrs. Asa Hall, Mr. and Mrs. E. Marble, Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Thompson, Miss Minnie Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Riddel, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Robbins.

Six pioneers of the community had met on January 1, of that year at the Charles C. Marble home and discussed plans for a church. On February 24, twenty-four citizens signed a compact of organization.

The first church building was a frame structure at Gale avenue and Linden street on a lot which belonged to Mrs. Harriet Steele, who gave the church free use of the lot for ten years.

Kenneth J. Duncan, a senior at McCormick Theological Seminary, was the first pastor, beginning his service December 14, 1887. After two years Mr. Duncan was succeeded by Rev. Walter H. Reynolds, who served as a supply for a time and was installed as pastor June 5, 1890. In November, 1895, the church accepted the

offer of George E. Gertz of a lot at the southwest corner of Park and Oak avenues, with a frontage of seventy-five feet on Park avenue. They proceeded at once toward the erection of a church edifice there, which was first planned at a cost of \$6,000, but which amount was increased to \$10,000 before the building was completed. The cornerstone was laid May 6, 1894, and the dedicatory service was held November 25, 1894.

Mr. Reynolds resigned April 1, 1896, after seven years of service. In May he was succeeded by Rev. Joseph N. Boyd, who served as pastor until November 1, 1899. On February 14, 1900, Rev. Wm. W. Johnstone was chosen as pastor. He remained eleven years, and on June 25, 1911, he was succeeded by Rev. C. Harmon Johnson, who resigned September 1, 1917.

Rev. C. K. Orsborn was elected pastor August 5, 1918, and remained seven years. It was during his pastorate that the congregation decided to erect the beautiful building which they occupy today. The site at Lathrop, Quick and Jackson avenues was purchased, plans were adopted and the building almost completed before Mr. Orsborn resigned in August, 1925.

The church was without a regular pastor until October 17, 1926, when Rev. William H. Marbach accepted the call. The church was completed during Mr. Marbach's pastorate. He resigned January 1, 1930, and was succeeded by the present pastor, Dr. Clarence A. Spaulding, in September of that same year.

The land on which the church stands is located on the south side of Quick avenue with a frontage of four hundred feet. This land has been appraised at \$100,000, and the church edifice cost \$250,000. The present membership is approximately 800.



Original  
Church  
Edifice at  
Gale Avenue  
and Linden  
Street



## Grace Lutheran Church

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church of River Forest is not a native of this community. It was started in Oak Park, and moved to this village thirty-five years later. And while it moved here from Oak Park, it was really, in its infancy, a branch of St. John's Lutheran church of Forest Park, or Harlem as it was then called.

St. John's church served not only its own village, and River Forest but had many members in Oak Park. In 1896, the pastor, Rev. F. M. Grosse, yielded to the request of members living in North Oak Park, and established a branch of the church school at Augusta street and Belleforte avenue, so that the children would not have too far to go each day.

The parents of these children continued to attend church in Forest Park until 1902, when they decided to organize a church in their own neighborhood, in connection with the school. In this they had the co-operation of the pastor of St. John's church, and when the organization was formed, he acted for a time as their pastor, as well as performing the duties of pastor of the parent church, services being held at the school house Sunday afternoons.

Late that year, members sent out a call for a pastor, and on January 1, 1903, Rev. G. W. Wolter was installed. In March of that year, the congregation decided to build a church edifice, having purchased the school property from St. John's church. The corner stone was laid June 28, and on November 15, the structure was completed ready for use, the cost being \$15,533.98.

Rev. Wm. M. Roecker was chosen as the second pastor of the church, assuming his position May 21, 1911. During his pastorate, Concordia Teachers College was moved from Addison to River Forest, and as the members of the faculty, their families and many of the students attended Grace church, the attendance, which had been dwindling for several years, was greatly augmented. Students at the college took over a large portion of the duties of teaching in the day school, which was helpful.

Rev. H. C. Engelbrecht succeeded Mr. Roecker, when the latter resigned on account of ill health in February, 1918. Up to that time all services had been in German, but the new pastor conducted part of the services in English. In 1922, Rev. Engelbrecht received a call to teach in a Lutheran college in New York, and Rev. O. A. Geiseman, the present pastor, was called.

Four years after Rev. Geiseman became pastor, the church decided to sell their church building in Oak Park, and build an edifice in River Forest. In 1929, a lot was purchased at the southwest corner of Bonnie Brae and Division street. Plans were adopted and building started. The parish house was dedicated September 21, 1930, and the church proper on February 8, 1931.

It is a beautiful building, attracting the admiration of all who view it. It is constructed of Indiana Bedford limestone, and the architecture represents a modern



adaption of the clerestory English Gothic type. The cost was \$275,000.

While Grace church has been in River Forest but a few years, it has taken its place in the community as one of the leading religious institutions of the village, and contributes largely to the community's welfare.

## ST. VINCENT FERRER CHURCH

River Forest's youngest church is St. Vincent Ferrer, a Catholic parish, with the Rev. William P. McIntyre, O.P., pastor and organizer. It is located on North avenue, between Lathrop and Jackson avenues. The first service was held in Trinity high school gymnasium, November 22, 1931, where services were continued until a temporary building was erected on North avenue.

Ground was broken for the building, a frame structure, on November 15, 1932, and a month later the new building was dedicated by the Very Rev. Monsignor Frank M. O'Brien. The sermon was preached by Rev. Maurice A. Dorney.

Preparations are being made for a parochial school as an adjunct to the parish, and architect's plans for the school building have been tentatively approved. The school building will be fire proof construction, two stories high, and will be used for church services as well as for the school. The gymnasium will have a seating capacity of 450.

The building will be so planned that it can be added to on either side of the central portion, as needs of the parish require additional space for the school.

The pastor is assisted in his duties by professors from the Dominican House of Studies, where Rev. Fr. McIntyre makes his home.



## Christ Episcopal Church

Episcopalians came into this field as early as 1863, and John Henry Quick, one of the pioneer settlers, erected a frame building at the corner of Lake street and what is now Bonnie Brae, and gave the property to the church. The church continued in that location until 1882. At that time, the membership was largely in Oak Park, and River Forest joined with them in organizing a mission, which later became Grace Episcopal church.

In 1923, the number of members of that denomination had increased in River Forest, when it was deemed wise to again establish a mission here. Christ Church mission was organized that Fall, and Rev. F. R. Godolphin, rector of Grace church, was appointed by Bishop Anderson as priest in charge. Services were held in the Woman's Club building, on Ashland avenue, north of Lake street, the first services being conducted by Rev. Godolphin and Bishop Griswold, October 7, 1923.

During the succeeding year, Rev. A. Gordon Fowkes, curate of Grace church, administered to the needs of the mission. The congregation grew rapidly, and it was deemed advisable to have a resident clergyman, and the bishop appointed Rev. Francis J. Troomp, as priest in charge.

In the Spring of 1927, Rev. Walter C. Bihler succeeded Rev. Troomp as priest in charge, and he in turn was succeeded by Rev. George W. Ridgeway in September, 1930. He remained for three years, and was succeeded by the present pastor, Rev. John M. Young, Jr.,

who became rector of the charge when the diocesan convention recognized the mission as an independent parish.

In February, 1925, it was decided that the growth of the church warranted the erection of a church building on land on Franklin avenue, just north of Lake street, which the Diocese of Chicago had provided for that purpose. The building committee was comprised of W. H. Chenoweth, H. C. Finlay, A. G. Gulbranson, E. S. Pashley, W. F. Sims and L. P. Findlay.

The plans provided not only for the present attractive stone building but included a large church building when necessary to be located on the north side of the lot, extending out to the street, and connecting with the tower of the present building which is then to become the parish house. The building as it stands today was completed in the Fall of 1926, the first service being held there on October 3, of that year.

Like the Methodists, the Episcopalians held their first services in the local school house, continuing to worship there until their first building was erected two years later. The first church here was called Christ church. Rev. L. Cooper, rector of Church of the Ascension, Chicago, was the first minister.

Rev. Wm. M. Reynolds became pastor of Christ church in February, 1872, and remained until his death in September, 1876. Rev. T. N. Morrison, D. D., served the church from May, 1877, until October, 1878.

## FIRST METHODIST CHURCH (Continued from Page 27)

Thatcher, 1878; Rev. P. H. Swift, 1879; Rev. W. D. Simmonds, 1880; Rev. C. M. Stuart, 1881-1882; Rev. O. W. Bland, 1883; Rev. R. W. Farquar, 1884; Rev. G. C. Mars, 1885; Rev. Charles Albertson, 1886; Rev. E. W. O'Neal, 1887-1888; Rev. A. W. Burton, 1889; Rev. W. A. Shanklin, 1890; Rev. Clarence A. Abel, 1891; Rev. J. J. Rapp, 1892-1893; Rev. I. Villars, 1894; and Rev. G. I. Larzsh, 1895.

This apparently brought a change from student pastorates. Rev. William Fawcett came in 1896, and remained five years. Rev. A. W. Kistler came in 1902 for one year, and was followed by Rev. A. N. Kistler in 1904, also for one year, and he by Rev. J. R. Creigh-

ton for one year. Rev. Chapman Lewis came in 1904, and remained three years.

Rev. Schutz, who built the brick church came in 1908 and remained seven years. In 1915, Rev. P. H. Swift, who was one of the student pastors in 1879, returned for two years. He was succeeded by D. D. Vaughn who remained one year. Rev. William C. Collins came in 1919, and was pastor for three years. Dr. Frank D. Sheets came in 1923 for two years. He was succeeded in 1925 by Rev. Irving E. Putnam, who remained until 1932, the longest term of any of the pastors. Rev. I. Hasie Odgers succeeded Rev. Putnam. In the Fall of 1936, Dr. Odgers retired from active ministerial work, and was succeeded by Rev. Lester R. Minion.

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## SCHOOLS-Public and Private Chapter four



River Forest's First Brick School House, Erected in 1859, and Still Standing at Lake Street and Park Avenue

SCHOOLS have been an important factor in the history of River Forest since the first little frame building was erected near Lake street in 1850 until today, when the village has four fine buildings devoted to elementary public schools; two elementary parochial schools; a parochial high school; an interest in three colleges and a magnificent township high school.

The school building erected in 1850 was only about twelve feet square, and its exact location is not known; but it evidenced an early demand for education in the community, and it was replaced one year later by a larger frame building which stood where St. Luke's church now stands, at the northwest corner of Lake street and Lathrop avenue.

The first building stood somewhere between Lake street and the Northwestern tracks, and between Lathrop avenue and Park avenue. The second building which served the community was moved soon after its erection to make room for the church, and was used for nine years. It still stands on the south side of Lake street, at 7571, a few doors east of Lathrop avenue.

The first brick building, called the Harlem school, still stands at the corner of Lake street and Park avenue, and is used today as a recreation center by the playground and recreation board and the park board. It was erected in 1859. Ashbel Steele was the contractor for that building, which was the largest and finest school building between Chicago and Elgin.

Harlem school served not only River Forest, but Maywood, Forest Park and Oak Park, or what is now those municipalities. It is a two-story building, and, in its day, was ample for the large territory which it served. It was the only school in River Forest until 1889, although River Forest was made a separate district in 1881. It was district No. 8, and its first directors elected that year were Charles E. Rose, H. L. McKallor and Jacob A. Cost. The school tax levy made that year was for \$2,500, which was increased next year to \$3,000.

River Forest school district was originally part of district No. 1, which comprised River Forest and Forest Park. Upon the separation of River Forest from

Harlem, district No. 8 was organized out of the northern part of district No. 1.

The first part of what is now Lincoln school was erected in 1889. It stands just east of the first brick building on Lake street. An election was called that year to authorize the sale of the north part of the original lot, a piece of ground ninety by one hundred and ninety seven feet on Park avenue, and the purchase of a piece ninety by two hundred feet on Lake street, giving the district a frontage of 277 feet on Lake street. To this lot another ninety feet on the east was added in 1889. The grounds now extend to Franklin avenue.

This red-brick building with stone trim contained six rooms and was indeed a show place in the community. Trustees at that time were Solomon Thatcher, Jr., W. H. Vigus, and George W. Homer. The village was growing rapidly, and the school was soon considered too small, so that in 1893, an election was called to authorize an addition at a cost of \$4,339. There were thirty-one votes cast at that election, and all were in favor of the proposal.

The addition was not built, however, until 1904, and it was bigger than the original building, and on the rear. It conformed as near as possible to the first building in color and materials. The cost was \$20,000 instead of less than five thousand. In 1901, the number of the district was changed from eight to ninety-one. Lincoln school was further increased in size and modernized in 1923. It was at first called Central school, but the name was changed to Lincoln in 1916.

In 1899, River Forest joined with Oak Park to establish Oak Park and River Forest Township high school. There was some question about the legality of the action, and River Forest pupils did not attend the Oak Park school until 1900. Felix J. Griffen and James H. Heald were River Forest's representatives on the first high school board of education.

Oak Park has been using the building on Lake street at East avenue where the Catholic school now known as Bishop Quarter is now located, for a high school for eight years, before River Forest became part of the high school district. Although the high school began to serve both townships in 1900, it was not given the official name of Oak Park and River Forest Township high school until 1905.

There were legal proceedings that were in the courts for two years, with Mr. Griffen representing the school in the litigation which was carried to the supreme court, and which was decided in favor of the consolidation. Later, a law was passed by the state legislature legalizing the local school and other township high schools in the state, and providing for the further growth of township high schools in Illinois.

In 1906, when the enrollment had increased from 308 pupils the first year to 616, the high school was moved into a new building erected on the north side of Ontario street, between East and Scoville avenues, one block from the original location on Lake street.

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**Roosevelt School Building, Which Contains Memorial Hall and the  
Offices of the Superintendent of Schools**

The new high school building in Oak Park was erected at a cost of \$171,448.34, and three additions were made to the building between 1910 and 1920. A block of ground diagonally across Ontario street to the west of East avenue was purchased by the school in 1914 for an athletic field, and a substantial brick and concrete stadium was erected along Lake street in 1925. Land directly across Ontario street from the school was also purchased, and in 1928 a field house and girls' gymnasium was erected. The present value of the high school plant is estimated at \$4,000,000.

River Forest's second elementary school building was erected in 1910 at Washington boulevard and Keystone avenue. It was originally called Elm school, but was changed to Washington, when the name of the street was changed from Elm to Washington. This is a one-story building, and the first structure contained four rooms, of which only two were used at the beginning.

In 1927-28, the building was enlarged to include a gymnasium, office, teachers' rest room, work room, and four class rooms. These, plus the four rooms in the original building, and three rooms in the basement of the old building, of which one is used as a work room, one for a library, and one is empty, make a rather large building.

The third school building to be erected as part of the present system was Roosevelt school and Memorial Hall, on the north side of Oak street between Jackson and Lathrop avenues. At the close of the World war, a movement was started to build a memorial to World War Veterans of River Forest, without first determining just what form of memorial it was to be. Various ideas were presented, and a total of \$37,586 was raised. It was eventually decided to turn this money over to

the board of education, and have the board incorporate in the new school building a Memorial Hall, which was for use of the public, as well as a memorial to the soldiers.

Roosevelt school was completed in 1924. Besides Memorial hall, with a seating capacity of 720, a large stage and a balcony, the building contains office rooms for the superintendent of schools and principal, eight class rooms, a library, and a kitchen to be used in connection with Memorial Hall, and the first kitchen given over to the general use of the school.

After Memorial Hall was completed an additional fund of \$2,750 was raised to erect a bronze memorial tablet, and to buy furnishings and stage equipment. The names of Herbert Brock, Albert Hagen, George Norris Hammond, Leander C. Riordan, and Harold C. Schriener, all of whom made the supreme sacrifice in the war, are inscribed on the bronze tablet. The laying of the cornerstone on Armistice Day, 1923, was the occasion of a fine patriotic program, in which the entire village joined.

Frances Willard School, named in honor of one of the village's first teachers who afterward became famous, was erected in 1928 on the west side of Ashland avenue in the 1200 block. It was designed to serve the fast-growing north part of the village. It contains eight rooms. While this building seemed more than ample when erected, the large number of new houses in that section since then indicate it is none too large.

From 1881, until 1894, the local school district was governed by a board of three directors. In that year, the village having attained a population of 1,000, it was, under the state law, entitled to a board of education consisting of a president and six members.

During the years from 1881 to 1936, nineteen men have served as president of the board of directors or board of education, as follows: H. L. McKallor, 1881-82; W. H. Whitehead, 1882-84; Solomon Thatcher, Jr., 1884-89; W. E. Vigus, 1889-93; C. C. Collins, 1893-94; F. B. Klock, 1894-1900; A. F. Milliken, 1900-01; F. C. Smith, 1901-02; J. L. Jackson, 1902-07; J. E. Ingalls, 1907-11; Charles Lane, 1911-16; Robin L. White, 1916-18; J. P. Piggott, 1918-25; Edward Topping, 1925-26; Dr. G. P. Conger, 1926-27; J. P. Baldwin, 1927-30; F. C. Pilgrim, 1930-32; E. W. Priebe, 1932-36; Glenn Tyrell, 1936, incumbent.

Thirteen men and no women served as school directors between 1881 and 1894. The men, directors who were not president were J. A. Cost, Charles Rose, Wm. Hatch, L. C. Bomberry, Walter H. Gale, George W. Homer, and O. L. Comings.

Fifteen women have served on the board of education, beginning with Helen M. Jackson and Katherine Butler who were elected in 1895. Other women and the year of election are as follows: Esther Goodman, 1898; Anna Collins, 1901; Ida B. Chase, 1904; Mrs. J. W. Broughton, 1910; Mrs. A. F. Milliken, 1913; Mrs. O. M. Barr, 1916; Mrs. E. S. Wells, 1919; Mrs. B. H. Baderock, 1922; Mrs. A. Sittig, 1925; Mrs. T. Hage, 1926; Mrs. E. S. Pashely, 1931; Mrs. M. A. Berns, 1928; Mrs. John Phelps, 1934; and Mrs. John L. Brink, 1937. Mrs. Phelps is now a member of the board and its secretary.

Men who served as member of the board of education, and the year of their election are the following: Henry Struble, 1896; A. F. Milliken, 1897; R. R. Bailey, 1898; George B. Townsend, 1897; J. R. Cummings, 1899; J. W. Broughton, 1900; A. P. Grant, 1902; J. E. Adams, 1902; C. M. Porter, 1902; J. Hilams, 1902; Charles Lane, 1903; Daniel Strickland, 1903; Fred J. Watson, 1905; Robin L. White, 1906; W. H. Winslow, 1907; Wm. H. Chittenden, 1908; George L. Meyer, 1909; E. S. Wells, Jr., 1911; Ralph Scarritt, 1911; J. S. Robinson, 1912; J. P. Piggott, 1912; F. A. Stambaugh, 1917; Dr. G. P. Conger, 1918; C. H. McClure, 1918; Edward Topping, 1917; F. J. Thielbar, 1924; J. P. Baldwin, 1925; Daniel Hinckley, 1926; Howard Todd, 1926; E. W. Priebe, 1930; George Hamilton, 1933; Austin Pope, 1932; Ralph Wescott, 1932; Glen Tyrell, 1933; L. K. Burno, 1936; H. L. Nichols, 1936. Messers. Pope, Wescott, Burno and Nichols, are members of the present board.

Miss Sarah Jane Jones was the first school teacher in what is now River Forest, serving here in the year 1850. No record is available of the enrollment, but as the school building was only twelve feet square, the enrollment could not have been large. Miss Jones was succeeded by Henrietta Ferguson, and with a larger building, she probably had more pupils. Miss Ferguson remained only until Winter, but when the big boys began to arrive with cold weather, the board engaged Rev. Oliver Willard, brother of Miss Frances Willard. Mr. Willard had been conducting a bible school in this vicinity. He was followed by his sister, Miss Frances, who afterward became famous as national head of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, and in whose honor Willard school was named. She taught here two years, 1859-60.

Teachers who succeeded Miss Willard were Mr. Kettlestrings, Miss Emma Steele, Mrs. Delos Hull, George W. Wilcox, and Mrs. Delphine Knapp, who taught here fourteen years, and later lived in Elmhurst where she was often visited by residents of River Forest who knew her when she was here. J. E. Dow and Miss Knapp were the teachers in 1881. In 1889, when the faculty had increased to three, the teachers were Mr. and Mrs. I. Walton Fitch and Miss Knapp. Miss Knapp died in 1937.

Henry G. Clark became the head of River Forest schools in 1890, and, in 1891, he established a high school with a four-year course. This was continued until 1894, when the first class was graduated, with only two members—Henry Todd Richards, who now lives at 542 Park avenue, and Marion Barton, now Mrs. Harry Thompson, 543 Forest avenue.

John E. Adams, now residing at 563 Park avenue, succeeded Mr. Clarke in 1894, as head of River Forest schools. He continued the high school, but only as a two-year course, until 1899. When Mr. Adams left River Forest schools to teach in Chicago, the high school course was abandoned entirely, and River Forest pupils were sent to Austin high school, the district paying a tuition of fifty dollars each per annum. This continued until River Forest joined with Oak Park to establish Oak Park and River Forest high school.

L. T. Gould succeeded Mr. Adams as superintendent of schools, and he remained two years. When he left, Miss Gertrude Elliot, who had been a teacher in the schools here, was elevated to the superintendency which she held until 1905, when she was succeeded by William A. Nida, who remained for fifteen years. Mr. Nida left here to go to San Diego, California, and died there on August 14, 1936.

Miss Anna Lois Shinn, 923 Forest avenue, who, like Miss Elliot, had been a teacher in the schools here, succeeded Mr. Nida. She, too, served as superintendent for fifteen years. In 1935, Miss Shinn was succeeded by Dr. Ray E. Cheney, who is superintendent of River Forest schools now.

The enrollment, like the population of the village has increased rapidly, and the size of the faculty naturally had to keep pace with the enrollment, and even do better than that, as the modern school requires special instructors in addition to the regular teachers.

As early as 1886, Prof. C. T. Wycoff was engaged to teach music in the schools, which he did for one hour each day. His remuneration was ten dollars a month. A kindergarten was established in 1895 in the old building at Lake street and Park avenue. Miss Helen McArthur was its first teacher.

Miss Edith Dudgeon was employed as an art teacher in 1889, and that department has since been continued. In 1901, a manual training department was established in Lincoln school basement, with Miss Winifred Woolford in charge. J. A. Sarley was engaged as a penmanship teacher, and both teachers and pupils were expected to conform to the Palmer system.

In 1925, the school board joined with the new recreation board to establish physical education in the

schools. A Mr. Laurance was the first instructor.

General science and nature study was made a part of the course of study in 1920, with Miss Esther Cragmile as supervisor.

Miss Esther Nessell was placed in charge of an "opportunity" room in 1927. This room was re-established during 1935.

In 1921, the board of education and the village department of health united to engage Miss Bess Grampe as school nurse. In 1925, Miss Alice Eveleth was engaged as secretary to the superintendent, which position, she still holds.

A school orchestra was organized in 1934, with Walter Haderer as leader.

Miss Kathryn Rahn was made principal of Lincoln school in 1923, and held that position until she became principal of Willard school in 1928. Miss Annie Linden has been principal of Washington school since 1920. Mrs. Bessie Lanning became principal of Roosevelt school in 1928, and Mrs. Inez C. Narum became principal of Lincoln school, when Miss Rahn went to Willard school.

A religious education program was started in River Forest schools in 1920. J. B. McKendry was the first instructor. This was organized outside of the regular school system; and in 1933, a Religious Council was organized with churches and organizations participating. This work has been placed upon a fee basis, and is optional. Mrs. L. Louis Auten is now engaged as full-time instructor for this work. There was an enrollment of 400 this year.

The following comprised the faculty and employes of the River Forest schools for the year ending June 1, 1937: Dr. Ray E. Cheney, superintendent.

Lincoln School: Inez Narum, principal; Mildred Preucil, kindergarten; Nanette Yetter, first grade; Anna Kilbridge, second grade; Esther Maier, third grade; Betty Champion, fourth grade; Jean Smith, fifth grade; Mildred Macdonald, sixth grade; Alice King, seventh grade.

Roosevelt School: Bessie Lanning, principal; Norma Kramer, kindergarten; Nina Taylor, first grade; Annis Leeds, second grade; Ethel Leake, third grade; Ada Porter, fourth grade; Ethel Coombs, fifth grade; Olive Wilson, sixth grade; Ethel Shaffer, seventh grade; Elsie Davis, eighth grade; Alberta Huff, eighth grade; Lydia Rahn, eighth grade; Donald A. Walter, eighth grade.

Washington School: Anne Sinden, principal; Gladys Cameron, kindergarten; Bess Hilliard, first grade; Grace Wright, second grade; Margaret Uren, third grade; Florence Erickson, fourth grade; Eileen Brydges, fifth grade; Ethel Kilner, sixth grade, forenoons; Anne Sinden, sixth grade, afternoons; Florence Peeken, seventh grade.

Willard School: Kathryn Rahn, principal; Theresa Peterson, kindergarten; Mabel Pumphrey, first grade; Theresa Gilligan, second grade; Helen Farr, third grade; Mildred Sims, fourth grade; Ethel Christoffersen, fifth grade; Lucille Turner, sixth grade; Bessie Alford, seventh grade, forenoons; Kathryn Rahn, seventh grade, afternoons; Ruth Weaver Mikesell.

Special Teachers and Supervisors: Josephine Belsly,



Young Ladies Seminary, First Private School in River Forest; Now Trailside Museum in Forest Preserve

**Young Ladies Seminary**  
THE FIRST private school in River Forest was established by Mr. and Mrs. Abram J. Hoffman, who came to Chicago in 1863 from Albany, N. Y., and six years later moved to the little village of Thatcher. They bought land in Thatcher's woods overlooking the Desplaines river.

In 1881, at a cost of \$13,000 they built the sixteen-room house of stone at what is now 738 Thatcher avenue near the entrance to the forest preserve at Chicago avenue. This was known as the River Forest Young Ladies Seminary and was conducted by Mrs. Hoffman as a high class "finishing" school for young women. Mr. and Mrs. Hoffman and their pupils were great entertainers and invitations were eagerly sought by the young people of the surrounding territory to this hospitable mansion.

Mrs. Hoffman later met with a severe injury, and the school passed to the management of Mrs. Martha L. Hakes, a former principal of a Rock Island school. Mrs. Catherine D. Buell, now of 5201 Cass street, Omaha, Neb., and the first president of the River Forest Women's club, was a teacher there. Mrs. F. A. Deacon was a daughter of Mrs. Hakes, who came here in 1884.

The house was vacant after that until the property was sold to Hugh McFarland, who served as a village trustee for three years—1912, 1913, 1914. With his family he moved in 1917 to a farm near Charlottsburg, Virginia, after selling the property to Cook County Board. The house was occupied by Robert H. Ryder for a time, when he was employed by Cook county in charge of the forest preserve along the Desplaines river—then called Thatcher Woods. In 1929 it was established and equipped as the Trailside Museum, and the house that was built for educational purposes is still disseminating knowledge to all.

art; Conrad Hogue, manual arts; Bessie Alford, domestic science; Frank Brown, physical education; Esther LaRowe, physical education; Mary Vernon, music; Ann Trimmingham, music; J. R. Peters, opportunity; Esther Cragmile, science; Walter Haderer, orchestra.

Janitors and engineers: Henry Baker, A. G. Hendrickson, Ed Hoerich, Stanley Klemke, John Nicholson, Ray Rushton, R. R. Grant.

Office Clerks: Alice M. Everleth and Linna Peterson.

## Concordia College

Concordia Teachers College, an institution established, owned and operated by Missouri Synod of Evangelical Lutheran church, is located on the north side of Augusta boulevard, where it purchased a large tract of land twenty-five years ago, when it was decided to move the college here from Addison, ten miles west on Lake street, where it had been located for forty-nine years. Before coming to Addison, the college was located at Ft. Wayne, Ind., for seven years.

Graduates of Concordia become teachers in the Lutheran schools of Missouri Synod, which includes Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Missouri and Ohio.

Soon after the decision to move to River Forest, plans were made for buildings, and on October 12, 1913, the buildings facing on Augusta street, and nine homes for members of the faculty, facing Bonnie Brae and Monroe avenue, were dedicated.

On February 28, 1914, only a few months after completion, the administration building was destroyed by fire, entailing a heavy loss, including many important historical documents pertaining to the college. Churches in the synod arose quickly to the occasion, and funds for rebuilding were soon raised. The second administration building was dedicated October 11, 1914.

## St. Luke's Parish School

St. Luke's Parish school, conducted by Dominican Sisters from Sinsinawa, Wisconsin, is located in a fine large brick building, at the northeast corner of Ashland avenue and Lake street, on the lot adjoining the church.

The school was established in 1921, and was dedicated with ceremony on October 21, 1921, by Most Reverend George W. Mundelein, now Cardinal Mundelein, with Rev. James M. Scanlan and Rev. Francis M. O'Brien, acting as deacons of honor to his grace. Solemn high mass was celebrated by Rev. William D. O'Brien, with Rev. Sidney Morrison acting as deacons and Rev. James Horsburgh as sub-deacon. Rev. John W. Melody preached the sermon, and Rev. Dennis J. Dunne, D.D., was master of ceremonies.

There were 156 pupils enrolled when the school opened. Of these 21 were in the first grade, 24 in the second grade, 21 in the third grade, 25 in the fourth grade, 20 in the fifth grade, 22 in the sixth grade, 15 in

## Rosary College

Rosary College is a Catholic College for Women, located on the north side of Division street, west of Park avenue. It has a beautiful wooded campus, and splendid buildings, of excellent architectural design, and of fine materials.

Rosary College came to River Forest in 1922. It was a continuation of St. Clara College, at Sinsinawa, Wis., which was a development of St. Clara Academy, established in 1852, at Benton, Wis., by that zealous missionary priest, the Very Reverend Samuel Maz-

From 1914 to 1937, the college has enjoyed great growth and development under the leadership of its president, Dr. William C. Kohn. Eight other faculty members came to River Forest with the college. Three have since died, but the others are still here, and to them have been added eleven professors and three assistants.

As the student body has steadily increased, new buildings have been added. Additions were made to the original buildings, and nine more houses for members of the faculty were placed on the campus. In 1927, a spacious gymnasium building was completed and dedicated.

Other growth is seen in the library where the number of volumes has increased from a few hundred to 18,000. There is an art collection of 3,800 mounted prints and almost 1,000 classified stereopticon slides. The music department is equipped with ten pipe organs and twenty-nine pianos. The museum contains many rare and valuable specimens.

Extra-curricular activities include a college chorus, a symphonic band, lectures, musical programs, moving pictures, a college paper, "The Spectator," football, baseball, basketball, tennis and track. The athletic field is ample.

the seventh grade, and eight in the eighth grade.

The first principal was Sister Siena, who served one year, and was succeeded in 1922 by Sister Albertine, who served from 1922 until 1930. Sister Dominique was principal from 1930 to 1933, and Sister Carlotta, incumbent, came in 1933.

The present faculty is comprised of Sister Carlotta, principal; Sister Giovanna, seventh grade; Sister Anyasia, sixth grade; Sister Ancilla, fifth grade; Sister Hermiana, fourth grade; Sister Miles, third grade; Sister DePadua, second grade; Sister Edmunda, first grade; Sister Rosilla, music teacher; Sister Antoinine, vocal music, and Sister Remberta, art.

The enrollment in 1937 is 320.

Members of the faculty at first lived at Rosary College, but in 1924, a residence was purchased adjoining the school on the north, and was used as a convent until 1927, when it was replaced by a handsome brick building since used as a convent by the faculty.

zuchelli, O. P., a native of Milan, Italy, who came into this section of the northwest in 1835 and continued his labors until his death in 1864. The Benton Female Academy was the first school for girls in the northwest.

The land on which Rosary College is located was purchased from the McGurrin estates in 1917, and five Sisters from the Dominican congregation at Sinsinawa took up their residence in the McGurrin house on the property. This constituted the first community at Rosary, the first superior being Sister Catherine, the

present director emeritus of the art department at the college. The first mass was said in Rosary Convent chapel August 15, 1917.

Rosary high school, now Trinity high school, was started in September, 1918, in make shift class rooms in Rosary House. There were fifteen students from River Forest, Oak Park and Forest Park.

That month, Ralph Adams Cram, American master of architecture, came to Rosary to confer on the proposed buildings. Scholastic Gothic style of architecture was adopted. The late Charles W. Kallal of River Forest became directing architect. In February, 1920, the first ground was broken. In June the corner stone of Mother Emily Powers Memorial hall was laid.

The formal opening of the college took place on October 1, 1922, when Cardinal Mundelein blessed the new halls of residence for students and Sisters, the natatorium, and Science Hall. Cardinal Mundelein had encouraged the Dominican Sisters to bring the Wisconsin college to River Forest.

From 1922 to 1937, Rosary College has had three presidents. Sister Mary Hyacintha, B. M., was the first. She served until August, 1928, and was succeeded by Mary Ruth, Ph. D. Sister Thomas Aquinas Ph. D., was the third. She assumed the position in 1934.

In 1931, the main unit of the college buildings was completed by the opening of Lewis Memorial Hall, a fine liberal arts and administration building, the gift of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Lewis, 5448 Washington boulevard, in memory of their parents.

Rosary College has had students from twenty-nine states in the union, as well as from Canada, Porto Rico, France and China. The college opened with a capacity resident registration and a non-resident registration of forty. The registration for the year 1936-37 was 453.

The new stone gateway on Division street was formally opened May 5, 1936. The speakers on that occasion were Homer J. Buckley of River Forest and Mrs. Glenn E. Plumb of Chicago.

## HOUSE OF STUDIES

Dominican House of Studies, the House of Philosophy for the students of the Catholic Dominican Order of the Province of St. Joseph is located in River Forest on a large tract of ground at the northwest corner of Harlem avenue and Division street. The building, which was erected in 1925 is a magnificent structure of stone, of splendid architectural design.

More than 150 young men from all parts of the United States are housed there and instructed for the priesthood by the faculty of twenty. After three years at the local college, following a four-year regular college course, the students are sent to Washington, D. C., where they complete their studies for the priesthood.

The head of the college is called a prior, and the incumbent is V. Rev. R. P. O'Brien, O.P., S.T.Lr., Ph.D., who has served since 1934. He is a brother of Roy D. O'Brien, local police magistrate. The first prior was V. Rev. D. A. Casey, O.P., S.T.Lr. He served from 1925 to 1927, and was succeeded by V. Rev. V. R. Walker, O.P., S.T.Lr., J.C.B., who served until 1932. The third

prior was V. Rev. J. L. Callahan, O.P., S.T.Lr., Ph.D., who served from 1932 until 1934.

The House of Studies has been made headquarters of the recently established Vicariate of St. Albert the Great, the V. Rev. Raphael M. Burke, O.P., P.S., Vicar.

## TRINITY HIGH SCHOOL

Trinity high school is a Catholic school for girls. It was opened in September, 1926, but had been in existence under the name of Rosary high school for eight years on the Rosary college campus.

The school is located on Division street at Lathrop avenue. The building is a three and one-half story structure of Bedford stone and contains a chapel, a library, classrooms, laboratories, home rooms, offices and studios for music, art and expression. A well lighted and ventilated basement provides space for a large cafeteria and dining room. A fully equipped gymnasium with locker and shower rooms occupies the north wing of the building.

The courses offered are designed to meet the needs of those entering college or normal. In addition to the regular classical course, courses are given in the department of home economics, art, piano, voice, violin, harp and dramatic art.

Trinity high school is accredited to the University of Illinois and the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary schools. It is under the direction of the Dominican sisters of the congregation of the Most Holy Rosary of Sinsinawa, Wis.

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## Community Development Chapter five

FROM the four-horse, cross-country Frink & Walker coaches of a century ago, to the modern high power gasoline bus of 1937, with steam trains and electric cars intervening, is the story of River Forest's public transportation facilities in the hundred-year period.

In the days of Ashbel Steele, Montezuma Inn, and Noyesville post office, Frink & Walker stage coaches came crashing into town with the driver cracking his whip over the heads of the leaders, and stretching them into a twelve-mile-an-hour gallop, bringing passengers and mail to the then frontier post. Today the greyhound buses, with a possible speed of eighty miles an hour skim over the smooth concrete that forms our highways, only restrained by state laws and local ordinances. For them River Forest is not even a stopping place, as they race across the continent, somewhat after the order of the old-time pony express.

River Forest was the first western terminus of the first railroad that was built into or out of Chicago, the Galena & Chicago Union Railroad. While the road was not built between Chicago and River Forest until 1849, it had its inception fourteen years earlier. The financial panic of 1837 made it impossible to raise the required money. This railroad was the beginning of what afterward became the great Chicago & North Western railroad system of today.

### Chicago and North Western

On January 10, 1836, the year Ashbel Steele came to River Forest, the Galena & Chicago Railroad was incorporated by a special charter authorized by the state legislature of Illinois. Among the incorporators were Theophilus W. Smith, owner of large acreage in what is now River Forest. Judge Smith was president of the company until November 29, 1837, and was succeeded by Elijah K. Hubbard, who held eight eighty-acre tracts of land here, receiving the grant direct from the government in 1835.

The preliminary survey between Chicago and



Old North Western Depot

River Forest was started in the Spring of 1837 by James Seymour who came west from the Erie railroad for that purpose. It began "at the foot of North Dearborn street in Chicago due west to the Desplaines river." Frederick A. Nash who worked on the survey, said: "Much of the time we waded in water waist deep. The high grass where the fire had not swept over it required four feet stakes."

Between 1845 and 1847 there was a new set-up for the proposed railroad, which eliminated Judge Smith and Mr. Hubbard, brought in many new men, and gave them an amended charter which provided for a capital stock of one million dollars.

In 1847, construction was started from the Chicago end, and in 1848, it was completed through River Forest, with trains starting in January, 1849. The local stop was called Harlem, and was somewhere near the present freight depot. For the convenience of settlers living in the west part of this community, a make-shift station, which was really nothing but a big box, was located west of what is now Thatcher avenue. This station was called Thatcher, and its establishment was said to have been an inducement to David Cunningham Thatcher to locate here. He was a wealthy Chicago merchant at the time. He came here in 1854, so "Thatcher" station must have been established after that.

Later, residents of Oak Park succeeded in having the other station moved further east to Wisconsin



Chicago & North Western Station and Tracks in River Forest in 1937

avenue, and called Oak Park station. At this time, the name of Thatcher station was changed to River Forest.

Lathrop avenue station, established later, was named for John Lathrop, a resident of Elmhurst, who was a friend of the president of the railroad, and who owned, at one time, the tract of land where Rosary college is now located. He also bought a few blocks of land near Lake street, and subdivided it.

While this first railroad gave River Forest a means of transportation, east and west, it was quite limited, there being only one or two trains a day each way for some years. This gradually increased, and commuters were given a fairly good service between here and Chicago, which in time became excellent.

In 1911, the North Western tracks were elevated through River Forest, and two new brick depots erected at Thatcher and Lathrop avenues. A matter of considerable controversy at that time was the openings through the elevation. The result was full width openings at Thatcher, Keystone, Franklin, Ashland, and Lathrop avenues, and a passage for pedestrians at Park avenue. There are no openings between Lathrop avenue and Harlem avenue, a distance of half a mile, which has since been regretted, particularly by users of the Lake street elevated line. This was due largely to failure of proper co-operation between Forest Park and River Forest.

In 1881, the Chicago, Harlem & Batavia Co., built what was called the "Dummy" line into River Forest. The line started at Fortieth and Harrison streets, Chicago, came north to Randolph street, and west on Randolph street to a station in River Forest called "Conway Park" which was about where the triangular park at Washington boulevard and Park drive, formerly Circle avenue, is located.

From there it extended south into Waldheim and Forest Home cemeteries. Irregular trips were made over this line by dummy trains at irregular intervals until 1887, when the line was purchased by the Wisconsin Central Company, which in 1886 has extended

## Postal Service

**T**HERE has never been a River Forest post office. Noyesville post office, serving much of the surrounding territory was located here for a number of years. An effort was made at that time to have the local office called Harlem, but there was already a Harlem post office in Illinois, near Rockford.

The Noyesville postoffice was first located in the Ten-Mile House west of the Desplaines river. When it was moved to this side of the River, Ashbel Steel was made postmaster, and he kept it in Montezuma Inn, which he owned and operated. He was appointed June 14, 1849, and served until John Barber was named in 1858.

Mr. Barber moved the office to a separate building on the north side of Lake street, about opposite the Westphal property near William street. He was succeeded by Amos Pack, who held the office six years, and who was the last postmaster of "Noyesville."

O. W. Herrick of Oak Park was appointed in 1871.

their line from Rugby Junction, Wis., south through River Forest, on its way into Chicago.

The Wisconsin Central, which afterward became part of the Minneapolis, St. Paul & Sault St. Marie Railroad, generally called the "Soo" line, established one station in River Forest and another one just on the southern border of the village. It came into the village from the northwest, crossing the river just south of what would have been Greenfield street, if that street had been extended farther west. The line extended southeast until it reached Chicago avenue, half way between Forest and Park avenues. From that point it extended straight south between these two streets to Madison street.

River Forest station was located just north of Oak avenue, and Altenheim station was on the south side of Madison street. Altenheim was changed to Forest Park station about fifteen years ago, and River Forest station was closed and dismantled about eight years ago. The tracks are elevated much of the way through the village. At first the tracks were on piles, but afterward they were filled in with dirt and gravel. They pass above the North Western tracks, and this required an extra high elevation when the North Western tracks were elevated in 1911. Lake street has gone under the Soo line since the railroad was constructed. The subways at Washington boulevard and Oak Street were made at the time the North Western was elevated.

In 1889, a group of Oak Park men including E. A. Cummings and D. J. Kennedy, formed a company to operate electric street cars, and incorporated under the name of Cicero & Proviso Street Railway Co. This company extended its lines into River Forest on Lake and Madison streets leading into Maywood. They also bordered River Forest on Harlem avenue. Today, Chicago & West Towns Railway Co. operates these lines, its systems including several other lines built in the western suburbs between 1890 and 1912. The West Towns Co. was organized by the Cummings brothers and has since been operated by them.

The name was changed to Oak Park and the office was moved eastward to be nearer the North Western depot then established near what is now Marion street. This was the beginning of the name "Oak Park," the community having formerly been called Kettlestrings Grove, and later "Oak Ridge." Mr. Herrick conducted the office in a grocery store at what is now 1038 Lake street, the Sias building.

John Merton succeeded Mr. Herrick in 1873, and was in turn succeeded by E. W. Phelps in 1875. The latter served until the Cleveland administration, and William Steiner was appointed as the first Democratic postmaster in 1885. Delos Hull succeeded Steiner in 1889, and A. W. Giles succeeded Hull in 1894. Giles was succeeded by W. A. Hutchinson in 1898, and the latter served until R. C. Sherrard was appointed in 1916. W. A. Spickerman succeeded Sherrard in 1925, and he was succeeded by Lester McAllister in 1931. In February, 1935, Joseph L. Lynch was appointed to succeed Mr. McAllister, and is now serving. Delivery

service was established under Postmaster Hull, whose term extended from 1889 to 1894.

In 1905, the United States government erected a building at the northeast corner of Lake street and Oak Park avenue, to serve Oak Park, River Forest and Forest Park. A branch office was started in Forest Park, and on March 1, 1927, a branch office was established in River Forest. This is located on the south side of Lake street, west of Park avenue.

In 1931, congress appropriated money for a new post office building to serve Oak Park and River Forest; the building erected in 1905, although since almost doubled in size, being by far inadequate to present-day

## Village Board Meetings

The first meeting of the village board was held in the North Western depot, where the election took place, and after that a few meetings were held in the old school house at Lake street and Park avenue.

The next place of meeting was on the third floor of a brick building located at what is now 7971 Lake street. This must have been a new building then, and was probably the only three-story building in River Forest. The top story was removed a few years ago, by a new owner. This room was furnished suitably for use by the village, which needed no place except for board meetings, as there were no paid employes who needed office space. This room was used for about nine years, or until 1890.

From 1890 until 1893, the board meetings were again held in the school house, and by that time the

## First Land Owners in River Forest

Land that now comprises the village of River Forest was "entered" by settlers who secured it from the government in the years 1835 and 1836. This is all in township 39, north, and is located in sections one and two, which extend from Chicago avenue to North avenue and sections 11 and 12, which lie between Chicago avenue and Madison street. The east half of section twelve is now part of Forest Park. Sections two and eleven extend west from Thatcher avenue, and hence a great portion of this land is now either in forest preserve or lies west of the river. A section of land is a mile square, and it was ceded by the government in quarter sections.

Section one is the only section entirely within the village of River Forest. In this section Elijah K. Hubbard had four eighth sections which he secured on June 25, 1835. This comprised all of the southeast quarter and half of the northeast and southwest quarters, making him the owner of 320 acres bounded by what is now Harlem, North, Park and Chicago avenues. The rest of the section had four owners, all securing the land on the same day as Mr. Hubbard. George E. Walker had the east half of the northwest quarter. George Bickerdike, one of the original owners of the local saw mill, had the west half of the southwest quarter. Cornelia Miller had the west half of the northwest quarter, and John B. Newhall had the east half of the northeast quarter.

needs. A site was purchased at the southwest corner of Lake street and Kenilworth avenue, and three old-time residences were razed to make room for the new building.

Plans were made for a fine, large building, and a contract was awarded on November 11, 1932, the building to be completed the following year. The contractor became involved in financial difficulties, and work was halted for a long period. A new contract was awarded; an additional appropriation secured after some delay, and the building was completed and dedicated late in 1936. It is one of the finest post office buildings to be found anywhere.

water works building on Central avenue, near Park avenue had been erected, and the meetings were held there in a room on the ground floor, where the police station is now located. This was the meeting place for fourteen years.

In 1907, the board began meeting in what was then called the village hall, which had been erected in 1902, and at first stood where the rock garden now stands, between the fire station and the present village hall. This building was really an assembly hall, and was used by various organizations in the village. When the water works system was installed in 1890, it was moved to its present location, and when the present village hall was erected in 1910, it was converted into a fire station, with an upper floor to be used as an apartment for the fire chief.

John Brown owned the northeast quarter of section two, only about one-fourth of which is east of the river. Alexander Lafrombois had the east half of the southeast quarter which is all in River Forest, and Sharlan Decant had the west half, which is nearly all in River Forest, the river running through the corner of his land. Elijah Hubbard, James Rees and George Davis, owned the remainder of that section west of the river.

George Bickerdike had the northeast quarter of section eleven, nearly all of which is east of the river. This was undoubtedly the land on which the saw mill was located. It was part of this land that David Cunningham Thatcher later secured. The southeast quarter went to Joseph Mush, and it was part of this land that Ashbel Steele secured a year later.

The west half of section twelve is in River Forest, the east part being now in Forest Park. Mr. Bickerdike owned the eighty acres just east of Thatcher avenue, the west half of the northwest quarter. Peter Bolles had the adjoining eighty acres to the east. Geo. W. P. Maxwell had the 160 acres now bounded by Hawthorne street, Lathrop and Thatcher avenue and Madison street.

From the foregoing information, anyone now holding a deed to real estate in River Forest, should be able to tell who was the original owner.

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## Early Business and Industry

While River Forest has never become marked as a commercial nor industrial center, its career in this respect dates back more than 100 years. The first industry was a steam saw-mill, on the east bank of the Desplaines river, approximately half a mile north of what is now Lake street. This was established in 1831.

The owners of this early mill were John B. Noble and George Bickerdike, doing business under the firm name of Noble & Bickerdike. Early history records these two men were residents of Jefferson township, Cook county, now part of Chicago.

Joseph Kettlestrings, Oak Park's first settler, was a friend of George Bickerdike, back in England, from which both had migrated. When Kettlestrings came to Oak Park in 1833, he was given employment at the mill, and Mrs. Kettlestrings boarded the mill hands. This continued for two years, when Kettlestrings is said to have acquired an interest in the mill.

Ashbel Steele secured the lumber there for the erection of his house here in 1836. Mr. Steele and Theophilus W. Smith afterward bought the mill, and it was operated under the name of Steele & Smith.

Ashbel Steele was the first merchant, conducting his store in his residence at first, and later at Montezuma hall on what is now Lake street, opposite the present site of the Methodist church.

Another local industry of early days was the Bellinger brick yard located just south of where the Hostess Cake plant is now located, Lake street and Jackson avenue. It is said that the brick used in erecting, in 1839, the school building at what is now Lake street and Park avenue, were made at the local brick yard. Thus, Ashbel Steele, the early builder in this community, was able to secure his lumber from the local mill, and his brick from the local brick yard, which was operated only four or five years. The clay pit was afterward used as a wading pool.

Late in the fifties, George B. Davis purchased from D. C. Thatcher forty acres along Keystone avenue between Lake street and Chicago avenue. There he established a fruit farm and a greenhouse for the growing of exotic grapes and other fruits. He carried on this business for a number of years, until the land became too valuable for such purposes, and it was sold for building lots. Some of the fruit trees may still be found there, or were in quite recent years bearing fruit for the home owners.

John Henry Quick built the Harlem House, River Forest's first hotel, on Railroad avenue, now Central avenue, opposite the Harlem depot, in 1856.

William Archdeacon established a drug store on Railroad avenue two blocks west of Harlem avenue. This building was later moved to Lake street and used as a tavern.

Christian Schlund conducted a meat market on Lake street near Harlem avenue in 1863.

Soon after Mr. Quick erected his hotel, Israel Heller erected a store building at Lake and William streets, and conducted a store there with his sis-

ter, Kate Pattock. Mrs. Pattock married William Steiner and continued in business for herself for a number of years.

George Voras started a store at 89 Lake street in 1866. This building is still standing between Clinton and William streets. John Wolf, member of the first fire department and now a manufacturer of sauer kraut at Burlington, Wis., was one of Voras' clerks. His was known as a grocery and feed store. He continued in business until 1902.

Henry Haertel, who laid out Concordia and Waldheim cemeteries in Forest Park, established a greenhouse and monument business in River Forest about 1878, and continued it until 1901 on the north side of Madison street between Gale and Keystone avenues. One of his sons, Theodore, is now conducting a monument business at the northwest corner of Madison street and Gale avenue.

Frank Troost established the business at the present Haertel location in 1873, and a son carried it on until about ten years ago, when it passed into the hands of the Anderson Monument Co., for whom Theodore Haertel managed the business for two years, before taking it over on January 1, of this year.

Paul Maier, a stone cutter, acquired some property in the same block with the first Haertel business and established a small store there in front of his residence. He continued until 1910, when he sold his property for a reported price of \$5,000 and decided to return to Switzerland, his native land, carrying his money in a belt. Some say that he never got out of Chicago with the money, and there is no record of his ever arriving in Switzerland, having died enroute, or before starting.

In 1885, the McDonald Lumber Co., having a wholesale lumber business at Kinzie street and the river in Chicago, established a yard in River Forest for the sale of lumber and other building materials. Acors W. Rathbun was placed in charge of the business here, which was located on the east side of the Soo line tracks between Lake street and Oak avenue.

Three years later, Oliver M. Barr, a young man from Aurora, joined with Mr. Rathbun, and bought the local business from the McDonald Co. Mr. Rathbun and Mr. Barr had been schoolmates in Aurora, and were distant relatives. The firm name was Rathbun & Barr. In 1890, another young man from Aurora, Cyrus C. Collins, who had also been a schoolmate of the Messrs. Rathbun and Barr, purchased the former's interest in the business and the firm of Barr & Collins was formed. A coal yard was added, north of Oak street.

The Soo line tracks were then on trestles, but they were later filled in with dirt and gravel, narrowing the railroad ground available for the lumber and coal yards. Even then there was a sentiment against commerce in River Forest, and Barr & Collins decided to move. They purchased the business of the Oak Park Lumber Co., of which August Einfeldt, father of the present August Einfeldt, was the head. This business was located on the south side of the Northwestern tracks



about where the freight depot now stands in Forest Park.

Later Barr & Collins bought out several other competitors and their business expanded rapidly. In 1905, Barr & Collins were incorporated, with Mr. Barr as president, and Mr. Collins as secretary and treasurer.

There was no change in the corporation until the death of Mr. Collins, in 1919, when Frank S. Collins, the older of two sons, was elected to fill the place left vacant by his father. In 1928, Mr. Barr retired from the business, and Frank Collins was elected president and treasurer. His brother, Cyrus S., was elected secretary, and Raymond L. Cooley was made vice president. These are the present officers.

August Selbach had a grocery and meat market on the east side of Lathrop avenue, south of Lake street. The frame building he occupied is still there. It was erected in 1894, from lumber obtained from the World Columbian exposition held the previous year in Chicago. Otto Luhman clerked for him.

## The Name of the River

The beautiful river which flows south through the western suburbs of Cook county, bordering River Forest on the west, has enjoyed a wide variation in the spelling and pronunciation of its name.

Early French explorers called the stream "Riviers Aux Plaines," which name was adopted by the early settlers who called it "Aux Plaines river," which was twisted by some of them into "O'Plain," which sounded quite the same to those less literate. Then came the change to DesPlaines, which modern usage has transformed into Desplaines, which is the form which the writer has used for the past twenty years.

Some writers stick to the DesPlaines form, encouraged undoubtedly, by the use of that spelling which is the official name of the municipality to the north.

Desplaines river, as we call it today, with its bordering timberland, was the attraction which lured many to its valley; and which resulted in an almost continuous line of suburban communities throughout its length through Cook county.

Several thousand acres of land along the river have been purchased by the county and made a part of Cook

## River Forest Park System

River Forest park system was established in 1913, when, on July 31, an election was held to create, under the state law, River Forest Park District. At that election, 645 ballots were cast, of which 395 were in favor of the plan, and 249 were opposed to it. It is governed by a board of five commissioners, elected by popular vote at village elections, and is supported by a tax levy made by the park board. These levies have always been below the legal maximum amount.

Since its formation, the Park District has acquired seven tracts of land, aggregating a trifle more than fourteen acres. Some of this land has been purchased and some given to it by the village.

The first tract of land acquired is at the southwest

Mr. Selbach was succeeded by a man named Rossman, and he was succeeded by Mr. Luhman, who moved the business to Lake street, and in 1915, put up a brick building on Lake street, near Ashland avenue, adding to it in 1927.

Louis Humphreville had a grocery in a frame building at the southwest corner of Lake street and Thatcher avenue in the early eighties. He continued in business about ten years.

Ernest Oechslin, florist at Gale avenue and Madison street, has been in business in River Forest at that location continuously since 1900. He bought the land on which his business is located from his father-in-law, Wm. Schoen, who was in the monument business on that corner previous to 1900. Mr. Oechslin has a frontage of 120 feet on Madison street in that block, and also has a lot at Madison street and Forest avenue, where he maintains a branch store for his product at certain times of the year. He does a wholesale and retail business.

County forest preserve, the playground of millions each year.

The river has never been large. Early settlers forded it with ease except during Spring freshets, before the bridges spanned the stream. It afforded fishing, skating, boating and swimming to the early residents of the valley.

Then came the contamination of civilization, and the river became less attractive on account of the sewage which it carried from the neighboring communities, which really became a stench in warm weather. This is being remedied by the building of the Upper Desplaines intercepting sewer as the last and most costly of many efforts to purify the stream.

Mosquitoes were also a pest to the settlers who were not used to such rigors as the pioneers endured without complaint, and the Desplaines Valley Mosquito Abatement District was formed in 1927, to fight the insects.

Desplaines river joins with the Kankakee river, to the south and west, in Will county, and they form the majestic Illinois river which flows west to the Mississippi.

corner of Washington boulevard and Forest avenue. It is approximately one acre and was purchased from a Mr. Lawler in June, 1914. It is called Washington square. Keystone Field, which is the largest park in River Forest was purchased in August, 1915, from members of the Thatcher family. It contains six and one-fourth acres, west of the Soo line tracks, north of the North Western tracks and south of Lake street.

Washington Triangle, bounded by Washington boulevard and Park avenue, was given by the village. It is about an acre of land.

Park number four was purchased in July, 1917, from the Skillen heirs. It is located at the northeast

corner of Forest avenue and Iowa street, and bordered on the Soo line tracks. Its area is about one-fifth of an acre. Triangle park at the northeast corner of Keystone avenue and Augusta street, is a small piece of ground which was once platted in the street, but was vacated by the village and turned over to the park system. In this park, stands a large oak tree, said to be 700 years old. This land was transferred to the park board in January, 1920.

Community Commons was purchased from E. A. Cummings in June, 1920. It is a beautiful three-acre tract on the south side of Chicago avenue, between Lathrop and Jackson avenues. It extended south to the grounds of the public library and Roosevelt school.

North park was acquired for the park system in January, 1926. It contains two and three-fourths acres lying just north of Willard school, between Ashland

and Franklin avenues, and extending north to Greenfield street.

Since the board of park commissioners was created, it has had the following presidents: Robert L. Benson, 1913-1918; Jacob A. Cost, 1918-1924; Baldwin H. Kenenbergh, May, 1924-October, 1924; J. Clayton Youker, 1924-1931; Roy F. Nix, 1931-1932; Thomas E. Hosty, 1932-1934; Otto Kretzer, 1934-1936; Robert E. Hogan, 1936.

A vacancy on the board was created in 1936 by the death of William J. Foster. Present commissioners are Robert E. Hogan, president; Wm. T. Payne, vice president; Andrew J. Kennedy, Jr., Swan S. Lindberg, and Dr. R. Winfield Scott. Other present-day officers are William C. Ladwig, secretary; John A. Klesert, treasurer; Frank W. Swett, attorney, and J. Clayton Youker, superintendent.

## River Forest Township

Until 1917, River Forest was part of Proviso township, and in March of that year, the board of education petitioned the village board to take action to have River Forest made a separate township. This the village board did by passing a resolution on March 12, 1917, which had been prepared by the village attorney.

The village board resolution requested action by the county board and fixed April 17, 1917, as the date for the citizens to vote upon the question. The vote approved the plan, and on June 11, 1917, the village board passed another resolution, again asking action by the county board, which action the county board took on October 22, 1917, and River Forest township was created.

First officers were elected on April 2, 1918, as follows: Supervisor, E. Arthur Davenport; assessor, Frank H. Chase; collector, Arthur S. Hatch; clerk, Clyde R. Harrison; justices of the peace, Jacob A. Cost, Elmer W. Arch, and Gilman Low; constables, George H. Hall, Paul Geyer, Frank W. Laatz, and Oscar Schlack. Mr. Cost and Mr. Schlack did not qualify. Mr. Hall served as constable one year, and then resigned and became a justice of the peace.

William A. Lally succeeded Mr. Davenport as supervisor in May, 1920, and still holds the office. Arthur S. Hatch continued as collector until his death, January

9, 1930. Hope E. MacNiven was appointed to fill the vacancy. He was succeeded by Purdy W. Hazelton in 1933. Mr. Hazelton still holds the office. Mr. Chase served as assessor until his death on April 25, 1934, when John A. Klesert was appointed to fill the office. Mr. Klesert is still assessor. Mr. Harrison was succeeded by John E. Adams as town clerk and he served until 1931, when Harry H. Dickinson, incumbent, was elected.

Mr. Laatz is the only township officer on the first slate, who is filling the same office today. There have been many justices of the peace, and many constables elected. Quite a few of them have failed to qualify.

Present officers include the following: Justices of the peace—Roy F. Nix, elected in 1933; Will Rogers, elected in 1932; Hugh Gardner, elected in 1933; and D. Edward McCracken and Louis Mahoney, elected in 1937; constables—C. W. Soderlin and Harold Brasie.

Others who have been elected to the office of justice of the peace and constable include the following: Justices—George A. Laing, R. F. Conboy, H. R. Wakefield, Jr., F. A. Deacon, Charles M. Atkinson, Hal G. Stewart, Orville C. Green, and Charles Renfer; constables—W. J. Payette, Charles Bennecke, John Dodd, R. D. Lavengood, John P. Mahon, Ray J. Rheingruber, H. G. Johnson, Earl Marquardt, and Norman Bamber.

## Playground and Recreation

River Forest Playgrounds and Recreation Board was created by the village board in 1924 following a vote of the people at the election in April of that year. Its members are appointed by the village president and approved by the village trustees. The village board provides funds for the recreation work by making a tax levy under the state law for "playgrounds and recreation."

The first members of the board were Max Berns, president; E. Arthur Davenport, vice president; Celestia Youker, secretary; John Higgins, treasurer, and F. J. Winters. Mr. Winters has since served on the board continuously.

The board at present is composed of Thomas E.

Hosty, president; C. D. Stafford, vice president; Andrew A. Mazureck, secretary; John C. Phelps, treasurer, and Mr. Winters. Others who have served on the board are Mrs. E. W. Badenoch, F. K. Hill, and Daniel Hinckley.

Charles P. Smidl was the first employe of the board, serving as Summer director in 1925, when the board really began its activities. Leland Lawrence was appointed playground director in 1926, and served in that capacity for two years. In 1928, Mr. Lawrence was succeeded by Alvin L. Lyons, who served four years, or until 1932, when the office was discontinued on account of the shortage of funds, due to non-collection of taxes.

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William C. Ladwig, secretary of the park board, and of the recreation board, has since directed the work in connection with his other duties.

The board has its offices with the park board in the old school building at Lake street and Park avenue, which is also the scene of considerable of its recreational activity. School buildings have been used, and there has been a close affiliation between the public schools and the Playground and Recreation board, di-

rectors and supervisors being supported in part by the board of education at times.

The park board also has permitted the recreation board to use Keystone Field and Community Commons for outdoor activities.

Organized play has met with popular favor in River Forest, those participating have increased from 10,000 the first year to 55,000 in 1935.



### River Forest Public Library

The first movement to establish River Forest Public Library was in 1899 when River Forest Women's club urged action on the part of the village board. This resulted in calling a special election, and taking the proper steps for the support of the library by an annual tax levy.

The library is governed by a board of six directors elected two each year for a three-year term. The first board was composed of Harlan Page, Frank B. Klock, Edward F. Dunne, Robert F. Goldsmith, Robert S. Odell, and J. Kilben Ingalls.

The legal tax levy with the assessed valuation at that time did not bring a great deal of revenue, but this was allowed to accumulate for years, and then a small library was opened in a store building.

From 1905 to 1929, the library, with an increasing number of volumes, was housed in an attractive, small frame building on the west side of Park avenue, built for the purpose, and leased to the library. This building at 508 Park avenue, a few doors from Lake street, is now occupied as a beauty parlor.

The dream of many intervening library board members was realized in 1929, when a beautiful and commodious brick building was erected in the public park, at 735 Lathrop avenue, near Roosevelt school. This

building was made possible by a bond issue which was voted in the 1928 election.

Present directors are Arthur H. Brown, president; John H. Heindel, vice president; Mrs. Glen H. Tyrrell, secretary; Herrick R. Goodwille, treasurer; Mrs. Max Berns and C. L. Walker. Miss Gladys Allison is librarian; Miss Isabel Jack, assistant librarian, and Miss Harriet McKay, children's librarian.

Others who have served as directors include A. Austen Pope, Sigrid Sittig, Gordon C. Abbott, Mrs. Madelon Van Vliet, Homer J. Buckley, and E. Prellie Harris.



FORMER LIBRARY HOME  
508 Park Avenue

## River Forest and the Sanitary District

River Forest, together with all other DesPlaines River Valley municipalities, will benefit greatly with the recent completion of the Upper DesPlaines Valley intercepting sewer. This is a project for which River Forest officials and citizens have been working and waiting for the past decade.

The attractive stream that flows past the village on its western border has been for years contaminated with sewage which has increased as the population in the valley became more dense. Previous efforts to stop this flow of sewage into the river have not been sufficiently effective, but the big sewer seems certain to solve the problem.

The intercepting sewer has been constructed by the Sanitary District of Chicago to which River Forest and thirteen other DesPlaines river towns between Riverside and Schiller Park were annexed June 27, 1913.

Prior to 1918, all sewage had been dumped into the river from the various towns along the stream. Between 1918 and 1920, another intercepting sewer was built to carry sewage to a treatment plant south of Roosevelt road, where it was treated and the clarified effluent discharged into the river. This sewer diverted practically all of the sewage originating south of Fullerton avenue away from the river. When the Sanitary District built what is called the Salt Creek intercepting sewer system leading to the West Side sewage treatment works in Stickney, the DesPlaines Valley system was connected into it, and since 1930, all of the sanitary sewage from River Forest and eighteen other suburbs has been treated at Forest View.

Park Ridge, DesPlaines and other territory north of Irving Park boulevard were annexed to the Sanitary District June 29, 1921, after which plans were started for a more comprehensive intercepting sewer system, and for enlargement of the disposal plant in Forest View.

This plan included the building of an intercepting sewer 21.4 miles long from the village of DesPlaines to the plant in Forest View, into which all sewage along the river is to be dumped directly. This was made pos-

### Forest Preserve Offices Here

Headquarters of Cook County Forest Preserve, the largest of its kind in the United States, center in River Forest, which is also the geographical center of the acreage. The executive offices are in Cummings Square, a tract of land in River Forest bounded by Lake street, Harlem avenue, Bonnie Brae and Quick avenue, which ground was given to the county by the late E. A. Cummings.

The handsome stone structure which houses the offices faces on Harlem avenue, and was erected in 1931. Previous to that the offices were located in another building in River Forest, now Trailside Museum on Thatcher avenue, a historic structure the story of which is given in the chapter on schools.

Forest preserve district of Cook county is managed by the board of Cook county commissioners. The first land purchase for the preserve—2,200 acres, was made

sible by the loan from the federal government of a large sum of money.

Contracts were awarded and work started January 3, 1936. It was put into use late in 1937, after which complete service is being established. The tube is twelve feet, four and one-half inches wide by thirteen feet and nine inches high at the outlet, tapering down to four feet wide by five feet high at the upper end.

Into this great tube of reinforced concrete will be poured all the sewage and most of the storm water in the valley. As new sewers are built in River Forest and other municipalities, there will be separate sewers for storm water, which will flow directly into the river.

The cost of this big intercepting sewer is approximately eight million dollars. The contract through River Forest was let to S. A. Healy Co., who also had two contracts for construction between North avenue and the north part of the village of DesPlaines.

Work was started here early in 1936, with headquarters established on Thatcher avenue, just south of the Northwestern tracks, where an elevator shaft about forty feet square was sunk to a depth of nearly thirty feet. From this opening tunnelling was started in both directions—north and south—the dirt all being brought to the surface through this opening. Electrically operated trains on a narrow gauge track carried the excavations to the elevator.

The sewer, starting in the northern part of the village of DesPlaines, comes south on River road and crosses the river south of North avenue, from which point it follows Thatcher avenue south through River Forest. It turns east on Madison street, and then follows along the Soo line right of way through Forest Park to DesPlaines avenue, where it turns south again, and goes to Roosevelt road. East on Roosevelt road, the sewer extends into Oak Park, connecting with the new sewer system of that village at East avenue, and then south to the treatment works near the drainage canal in Forest View.

The Healy contract for the section which passes through River Forest and Forest Park was for \$1,259,710.

in 1916, since which time this has been increased more than fifteen fold.

Much of the wooded land along the DesPlaines river in Cook county is part of the forest preserve, including most of the land in River Forest between Thatcher avenue and the river. The acreage extends from the Lake county line on the north to the Indiana line on the south, and includes holdings at Deer Lake to the north; Elk Grove to the northwest; Palos Hills in the southwest; Skokie lagoons, northeast; a large portion within the limits of the City of Chicago in the vicinity of Milwaukee and Devon avenues, following the north branch of the Chicago river; forests along Salt Creek embracing the Zoological gardens and touching DuPage county; another area within the limits of the City of Chicago known as Dan Ryan Woods with division headquarters at 87th street and Western avenue,



Administration Building, Cook County Forest Preserve, Cummings Square, River Forest.

southeasterly in the vicinity of Thornton, Glenwood, and South Chicago Heights, touching Will county on the south.

River Forest acreage in Cook county forest preserve amounts to 347 acres, secured over a period of six years beginning in 1916 when the first tract, twelve acres was secured from S. Cooper. The largest tract, Thatcher Woods, was purchased in 1917.

Purchases made in 1917 comprised seventeen acres from August Lehman; five acres from H. A. Senf; 135 acres from Thatcher Estate; thirty-five acres from E. C. Waller; eighty acres from Steele, Ligare and Daniels;

twenty acres from J. F. Meagher, and five acres from J. S. Murray. The twelve acres in Cummings Square was also acquired in 1917.

Later purchases include two and one-half acres from L. Einfeldt in 1918; three acres from L. Davis in 1919; four acres from J. Esch in 1920; fifteen acres from Daniel Rehm in 1922, and Edgewater Park subdivision of fifteen acres.

Chas. G. Sauer was appointed general superintendent on May 15, 1929. His predecessor was M. S. Szymczak.

### Mosquito Abatement

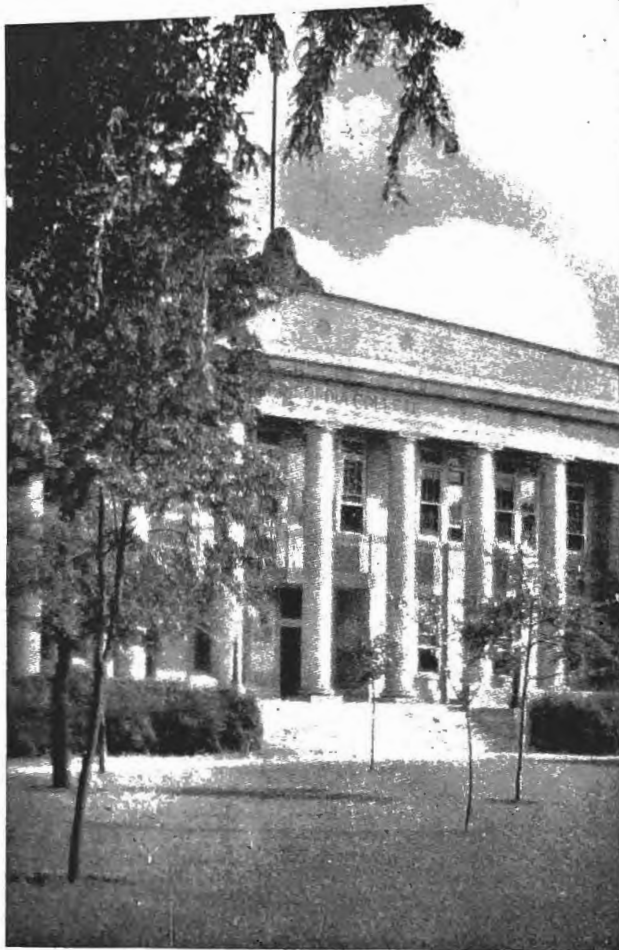
Another tax-supported organization that includes River Forest is the DesPlaines Valley Mosquito Abatement District which was organized November 2, 1927, under a new state law, passed through the efforts of Cook County officials and DesPlaines valley citizens. This law gives such organizations the right to levy taxes for their maintenance. The district is composed of Oak Park, River Forest, Proviso, Lyons and Riverside townships.

This work is managed by a board of directors, who have employed J. Lyell Clarke as sanitary engineer. Offices are maintained at 8130 Ogden avenue, Lyons.

The officers and directors are Dr. S. S. Fuller Riverside, president; Otto McFeeley, Oak Park, treasurer; John J. Callahan, River Forest; Dr. Robert L. Reynolds, Maywood, and Charles F. Scheel, LaGrange. River Forest has had three different representatives on the board since it was organized. Ben H. Badenoch, one of the instigators of the organization, was appointed December 13, 1928, and resigned in December, 1931, on account of moving away. Ralph W. Westcott was appointed to succeed Mr. Badenoch, and he served until December, 1936, when he resigned, on account of other duties. Mr. Callahan was appointed to succeed Mr. Westcott.

# Concordia Teachers College

## River Forest, Illinois



Administration Building, 7400 Augusta Street

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Alfred Schmieding

LIBRARIAN, Paul Bretscher

BUSINESS OFFICER, F. H. Schmitt

DEAN OF HIGH SCHOOL

Walter O. Kraeft

BAND DIRECTOR, Richard Rohlfing

CHORUS DIRECTOR, Albert Beck

## Population of River Forest

River Forest's population has increased steadily since the first settlers arrived. Prior to incorporation, there is no definite date, and the federal census figures go back only to 1900.

A map of the community in 1861 showed ten landholders, but this is no definite indication. One piece of land might have furnished homes for several families, while another piece might have been vacant. Even the school attendance or registration is misleading, as part of the time the local school served surrounding territory, and part of the time not all of River Forest was included in the local district.

The state law required the village to have at least 100 inhabitants when it incorporated, but it undoubtedly had at least several hundred. It is known that the 1,000 mark had been reached by 1894, as then the community was permitted to supplant its school directors with a board of education, and a population of 1,000 is required for the purpose.

The federal census supplies the following figures beginning with 1,539 in 1900; 2,456 in 1910; 4,358 in 1920, and 8,829 in 1930. The large number of houses erected during the past two years indicates a growth that should reach above 10,000.

## Political Honors

A number of citizens of River Forest have had high political honors conferred upon them by the state, district, and county. This began more than 100 years ago, when Ashbel Steele, who had already been coroner of Cook county, was elected from River Forest to the office of sheriff of Cook county. And even before that, Theophilus Washington Smith, one of the early landowners and residents, was elected a judge of the Illinois supreme court, in the year, 1825, from the southern part of the state.

Edward F. Dunne was the next to be honored from River Forest. He was elected a judge of the circuit court of Cook County while a resident here. Later,

after having moved to Chicago, he was made mayor of Chicago, and later governor of Illinois.

Joseph Carolan served as a commissioner of Cook county for twenty years, and after his passing his son, Penn, served on the county board for four years.

Miss Mary Bartelme, after serving as assistant judge, served two terms as judge of the juvenile court of Cook county.

Otto Kerner is now attorney general of Illinois, serving his second term, after having been elected and and serving as a circuit judge of Cook county.

Charles F. Baumrucker is now serving as state senator from this district.

All of these people appear in biographical sketches elsewhere in this book.

## Telephones

Telephone service was established in River Forest October 20, 1893, when the first phone was placed in the store of J. M. Chambers & Sons. Twelve years later, there were 256 phones in River Forest, and in 1937, there are 3,129 phones here, an average of about one and one-half phones to each family. Of course many of them are business phones, but the percentage of homes in River Forest without phones is small. The company was called the Chicago Telephone Company when the service began here, and in December, 1920, the name was changed to Illinois Telephone Company. The local service is through the Oak Park exchange, which serves River Forest, Forest Park and Oak Park, with a total of 25,973 phones. Allen T. Eddy is general manager of the local exchange.

## COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC WORKS

The office of commissioner of public works was created by the village board in 1927, and George W. Foster was appointed to the office by President Molthrop. Mr. Foster held the office until 1931, when he was succeeded by William H. French, under President Baumrucker. He served two years, and was then succeeded by Arthur Pochert in 1933. Mr. Pochert has continued in office and was reappointed in 1937 by President Brink.

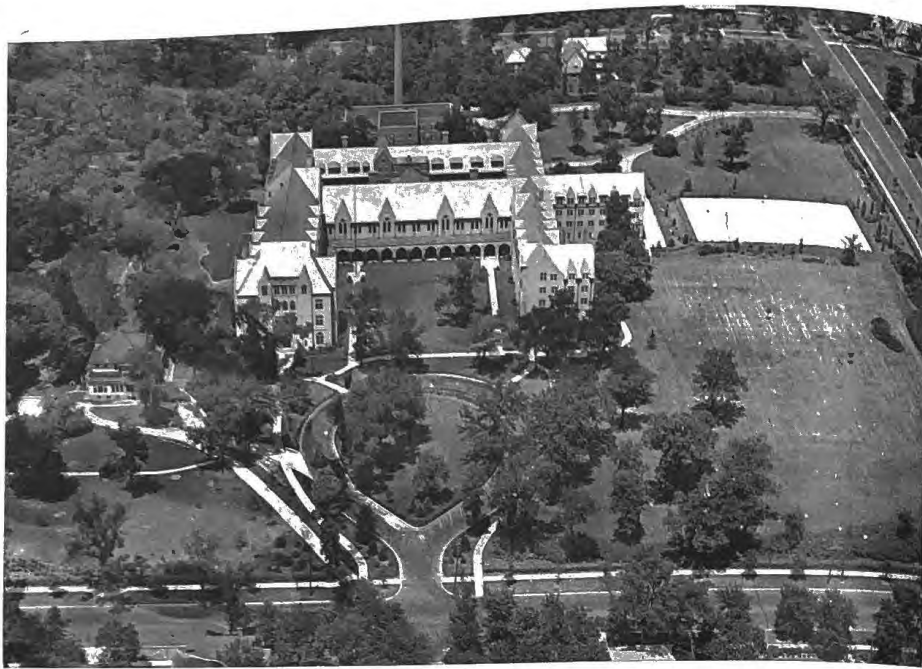
## Other Pioneers

AUGUSTIN PORTER served this community at an early date as justice of the peace. He lived in a brick house erected in 1860 on Railroad avenue, now Central avenue, near Bonnie Brae, and held court in a small building in the rear which was called "Porter's Court House."

Mr. Porter was born August 20, 1797, in Pompey, Onondago county, New York. He came to Illinois in 1835, walking nearly all the way, and returned to fetch his family. He spent some time in Chicago and then located in DuPage county. He later bought a farm in Proviso township, and from there moved to Harlem in 1860.

His wife was Phoebe Maria Keeney, a woman of marked ability, and the late Mrs. Elizabeth Porter Furbeck, a well-known Oak Park woman of later years, was their daughter.

AMOS SQUIRE PACK, a native of Morristown, N. J., came to this locality in 1860, and served as postmaster of Noyesville from 1865 to 1871. He died in 1882, in his seventy-third year. He was senior warden in Christ Episcopal church, and the first senior warden of Grace Episcopal church of Oak Park. He was the last postmaster to serve while the office was named Noyesville.



## ROSARY COLLEGE, a Standard Liberal Arts College for Women, Resident and Non-Resident.

The College confers degrees of Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Music, Bachelor of Science in Music Education, Bachelor of Science in Home Economics, Bachelor of Science in Education.

The Department of Library Science, the only undergraduate Library School in Chicago, prepares students for librarianships in public libraries, university, college, and high school libraries.

The Department of Art offers a major course of studies in still life, design, perspective drawing, pencil technique, water colors, and oils.

The Foreign Study Plan permits students in the Department of Romance Languages to spend the junior year in Fribourg, Switzerland, at the Rosary College European Branch.

The College holds membership in the North Central Association, the Association of American Universities, the American Association of University of Women, and is recognized by the University of Illinois as a Class A Institution, and by the Chicago Board of Education.

## Social Activities Chapter Six

**B**ELLES LETTRES society of River Forest was organized in September, 1891, and for forty-five years has met regularly on alternate Monday evenings for periods of thirty weeks beginning in October of each year. Its active membership is confined to forty people, all of whom shall be residents of River Forest at the time of their election.

As its name implies, it is a literary society and the programs presented are intellectual, entertaining and educational. The society also has its social features which are greatly enjoyed, and enhanced by the years of association.

Those who attended the meeting at which the organization was conceived were Jacob Cost, William Barbour, Morris Herriman, Charles Marble, Henry Struble, Sanford Chappell, and James Goodman. At the organization meeting there were forty men and women in attendance, and the membership has been restricted to that number. Jacob Cost was the first president.

Officers in 1937 were as follows: Warren W. Schreiner, president; Mrs. Harvey L. Cavender, vice president; Mrs. Wm. G. North, secretary, and George Wallace Hubbard, treasurer.

Its long existence, and its excellent attendance record is a tribute to the membership. The society has had all members present on many occasions, and some remarkable records of attendance are recorded. Mr. Herriman, a charter member, who resigned when he and Mrs. Herriman moved to California in 1920, did not miss a meeting in seventeen years. One year, eleven members did not miss a single meeting. The average attendance for some years has run as high as thirty-six. Absence from two meetings in succession without an acceptable excuse, which must be made in writing, constitutes a loss of membership.

Meetings are held at the home of members, although exceptions to this rule have been made occasionally.

## River Forest Women's Club

River Forest Women's Club, organized in 1894, has been a leading factor in the social, educational, charitable and civic history of the community. The conception of a small group of women who had been meeting for the study of English literature and art, it has always maintained its high ideals, and exerted a wide influence not only among its membership, but in the community at large.

The club was chartered August 1, 1894; joined the state federation in May, 1895, and the general federation in March, 1896. It is also a member of the Sixth District federation. The first board of directors were Esther H. Goodman, Mary M. Odell, Cora B. J. Walbank, Katherine Butler, Annie G. Miller, Elnora Bostedo, Ella D. Sturges, Frances M. Odell Thatcher, and Annie Coleman.

Charter life members have been Mesdames Annie H. Barker, Emma L. Barr, Hattie S. Broughton, Annie Coleman, Anna W. Collins, Josephine Freymuth, Esther H. Goodman, Jennie G. Grant, May M. Graves, Ellen M. Griffen, Florence A. Ingalls, Helen N. Jackson, and

Mary F. Pack. Those who have attained life membership after a membership of thirty-five years are Mrs. Carrie E. Townsend, 1895; Mrs. A. F. Millikan, 1895; Mrs. Ralph Scarritt, 1896; Mrs. Robert F. Goldsmith, 1898, and Mrs. Charles Lane, 1900.

Past presidents and the year in which they were elected are as follows: Katherine D. Buell, 1894; Esther H. Goodman, 1895; Florence A. Ingalls, 1895; Lillian W. Herriman, 1897; Louise A. Struble, 1897; Helen N. Jackson, 1898; Hattie S. Broughton, 1900; Carrie R. Townsend, 1902; Grace R. Goldsmith, 1904; Rudolpha R. Bailey, 1904; Esther H. Goodman, 1906; Mabel Jackson Lane, 1907; Susan B. Davenport, 1909; Helen N. Jackson, 1911; Mary G. Scarritt, 1913; Pauline P. Jones, 1915; Clara G. Tallman, 1917; Helen N. Jackson, 1918; Carrie Cordes Schreiner, 1919; Lucy Eva Lowrey, 1921; Pauline P. Jones, 1923; Dorothea Bumsted, 1924; Bertha B. Wells, 1925; Genevieve F. Berns, 1926; Harriett R. Ulbrich, 1928; Mary R. Watson, 1930; Eleanor P. Harris, 1932; Mabel Jackson Lane, 1935.



Women's Club Building, 526 Ashland Avenue

Mrs. Harold E. Stafford, 835 Forest avenue, is now president. Other club officers elected in 1936 are Mrs. B. W. Armstrong, first vice president; Mrs. M. B. Pine, second vice president; Mrs. C. E. Schiffner, third vice president; Mrs. S. M. Stone, Jr., recording secretary; Mrs. G. L. Haaks, corresponding secretary; and Mrs. E. S. Pashley, treasurer.

The directors are as follows:  
 Art and Literature: Mrs. Charles J. Weigel, chairman, Mrs. M. B. Murray, and Mrs. E. L. Shawhan.  
 Home and Education: Mrs. Glenn Ingram, chairman, Mrs. P. T. Zimmerman, and Mrs. G. J. Warubold.  
 Social Economics: Mrs. W. P. Herron, chairman, Mrs. John L. Brink, and Mrs. T. A. Matthews.  
 Music and Drama: Mrs. H. D. Valentine, chairman, Mrs. K. C. Richmond, and Mrs. E. B. Wells, Jr.

## Boy Scout Organizations

Organized Boy Scout work began in River Forest in 1910, seven years after it originated in England. Among the citizens who became interested at that time were O. C. Doering, Robert Quayle, C. S. Pellet, C. C. Collins, J. C. Freeman, M. M. Herriman, George Harvey Jones, H. F. Kallenberg, L. E. Moore, O. M. Nichols, W. L. Nida, E. C. Waller, W. F. Grosser, and J. J. Arnold. These men helped organize the first Boy Scout Council including Oak Park, River Forest and Forest Park, and a part of north Berwyn. This was effected in July, 1913.

In April, 1911, River Forest Boys Brigade was re-organized as Boy Scout Troop No. 1 of River Forest. In May of that year, this troop hiked forty miles to Round Lake for a two weeks' camp under the leadership of L. Baker and M. M. Harriman. The first camp under the Council was in July, 1913, held at Crystal Lake, Whitehall, Mich., in charge of Earl Mast.

In 1915, the council was made a first class council, with a full-time executive to supervise the work. Ray E. Hostetter was the first man to fill this position. Dr. Thomas E. Roberts was the first president. Successors to Mr. Hostetter have been Arthur F. Baker, Ernest J. Morriss, Will C. Groom, and C. M. Arnold.

## Family Welfare Association

River Forest Family Welfare Association was organized in 1912. A temporary organization was formed at that time with George B. Masslich, president; Mrs. A. M. Titus, secretary, and W. L. Nida, treasurer. It was then called Associated Charities. A constitution was adopted in January, 1913, when the following officers were elected: Henry Struble, president; Mrs. B. F. Langworthy, vice president; Mrs. A. M. Titus, secretary, and E. Arthur Davenport, treasurer.

In 1931, Associated Charities was succeeded by River Forest Family Welfare, governed by a board of twenty-seven directors and representatives of the following organizations: Board of Health, Chamber of Commerce, Eastern Star, Masonic Lodge, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Public Schools, Mothers Circle, Needlework Guild, Women's Club, Christ Episcopal Church, Methodist

The club has had two homes since it was organized. Early in its existence, it purchased the little old Presbyterian church, a picture of which is shown on another page, and occupied it for twenty years. It thus enjoyed the distinction of being the first women's club in Illinois to own its building.

In 1913, the club decided to have a new club house. The old building and its lot was sold, and a lot purchased at 526 Ashland avenue. The present building was erected, and in a few years it was paid for. William Drummond was the architect.

The club has been active in several civic enterprises. It took the initiative in urging a kindergarten department for River Forest school; and it urged the establishment of a River Forest public library. It has also contributed to a large number of charities.

River Forest now has four troops—No. 61, sponsored by First Methodist church; No. 63, sponsored by First Presbyterian church; No. 64, sponsored by First Presbyterian church, and No. 66, sponsored by Grace Lutheran church. River Forest Cub Pack scouts are affiliated with Pack No. 1, First Congregational church of Oak Park, and local Sea Scouts belong to Sea Scout Ranger, which meets at Pilgrim Congregational church of Oak Park.

River Forest men who are members of the Area Council are E. A. LeGros, vice president; L. S. Snow, treasurer; S. H. Gregory, chairman senior scouting, W. F. Sims and C. H. Strawbridge. R. H. Quayle is chairman of River Forest district. Members of his committee are P. L. Emerson, C. W. Porter, J. C. Phelps, C. A. Kneuffer, Wm. Spooner, Dr. C. J. Weigel, John L. Brink, Rev. J. M. Young, Jr., Dr. A. H. Vollertsen, M. B. Knox, R. A. Judd, J. F. Lee, E. A. LeGros, Roy F. Nix, Sam Gorsline, J. B. Shay, Dr. D. E. Wobbe, Otto Kerner, W. F. Sims, and C. H. Strawbridge. John Crawford is commissioner for the district.

B. W. Armstrong is Scout Master of Troop No. 1; C. A. Kneuffer, No. 63; Carl O. Wood, No. 64, and Walter Juengling, No. 66.

Episcopal Church, Grace Lutheran Church, Presbyterian Church.

Others who have served as head of this organization besides Mr. Masslich and Mr. Struble are Leo Montamat, Fred J. Watson, F. Newell, Wm. E. Lally, Wm. F. Matthews, E. Arthur Davenport, Otto H. Lulman, and John H. Brenner, incumbent. Other present officers are Wm. F. Matthews, vice president; William C. Ladwig, secretary, and J. Clayton Youker, treasurer.

Relief directors have been Mrs. John L. Davison and Mrs. Robert H. Quayle, incumbent.

The organization has been supported by popular subscription up to 1935, since when it has been receiving its fund through the Oak Park and River Forest Community Chest, to which River Forest people contribute liberally.

## River Forest Tennis Club

River Forest Tennis Club was organized in 1905. Land on the north side of what is now Cummings Square, and is part of Cook county forest preserve, was leased from E. A. Cummings. Negotiations to purchase a golf club building which had been erected on the land failed, and a new building was erected by the newly formed club. The building was formally opened on July 4, 1905, the club having been opened for playing on Decoration Day of that year. That club house was destroyed by fire in August, 1906, and a more pretentious building was erected under the supervision of Frank Lloyd Wright, famous architect.

The club occupied that site for fifteen years through the generosity of Mr. Cummings. When the land was given to the county, they had to vacate. Although somewhat discouraged by losing their home, the club desired to seek another site, and continue its activities. On January 1, 1920, the land bounded by Quick, Lathrop, Oak and Jackson avenues was purchased from Edward Waller.

The club house was moved from the first site and enlarged fifty per cent under the direction of Vernon S. Watson, a member of the club. Ten fine clay courts were constructed, the grounds beautified with trees

and shrubs, and the block inclosed with a high wire fence.

During 1937 the tennis club built a standard size swimming pool, completely equipped with the most scientific water-purifying apparatus obtainable. The pool is restricted to the use of club members, their families and invited guests.

When the club was organized it was decided to limit the membership to eighty couples, and this number was included as charter members. Two years later the limit was raised to 100, and later to 125. When the present site was acquired, the number was increased to 175, at which it still stands. The annual dues were at first \$15 a couple, and this has been raised at various times until it reached \$60. There has been a waiting list for membership continuously since the club was organized. While many of the charter members are still active in the club, much new material has been acquired.

The club's grounds have been the scene of many national championship contests, and River Forest Tennis club is one of the best-known tennis clubs in the country.

## River Forest Baseball Club

River Forest Baseball Club, organized in 1902, and continuing in existence for ten years, was one of the leading clubs on the west side, attracting many people to the games which at first were played on land at Monroe avenue and Oak street, and later in what is now Keystone Field, but which was then the property of David A. Thatcher. In 1903, it was incorporated under the name of River Forest Athletic Association, with Tom Jackson, Henry Struble and Charles Jurgens among the incorporators. E. Arthur Davenport was secretary. Mr. Jackson was the first president and he was succeeded by Hugh Armstrong. The capital stock was \$2,500.

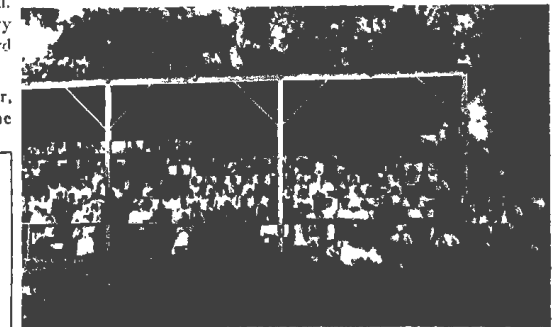
The team as first organized was composed of the following: "Whitey" Ludwig, catcher; Leslie Stafford, pitcher; Lyell Stafford, first base; Frank Heilemann, second base; Will Heilemann, third base; Ed Clark, short stop; Harry Thompson, right field; Ralph Scarritt, center field; "Teets" Stafford, left field. Tom Clark was a substitute catcher, and Harry Olds, just out of high school, succeeded Stafford as pitcher.

Harry Thompson was the first manager, and Clark was captain. Ralph Scarritt became

manager in 1903, and continued until the club disbanded, with the exception of one year. Irving Lange, who afterward went to a big league team played with the team for awhile; and Percy Skillen of Oak Park pitched for several years, winning many games for the team.

The team played semi-pro games, and became a member of the Western Suburban League. Other teams in the league were Commercial National Bank of Chicago, Austin, Ridgeland (Oak Park), Maywood and LaGrange. In 1903, River Forest team won the championship and was given a fine silken banner which now hangs in the office of Mr. Scarritt at 7767 Lake street.

Its games were largely attended, and a grandstand of considerable size was erected in Keystone Field. Tallyhoes transported the team from its home to visiting grounds, and each game was a gala occasion.



At Right: Grand Stand in What is Now Keystone Field, Erected and Used When River Forest Athletic Association Had Its Famous Baseball Team Organized in 1902.

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## School Organizations

Recent years have witnessed an increased number of organizations interested in the management of public schools. Among such are Mothers Clubs, and Parent-Teacher Associations. In these organizations, River Forest was a pioneer. In 1908, the Civics committee of River Forest Women's club recommended the formation of a Parent-Teacher association. That committee consisted of Mrs. R. L. Benson, chairman Mrs. B. F. Langworthy, and Mrs. C. C. Collins. Although Mrs. Langworthy is no longer a resident of River Forest, she remains active in P. T. A. work, having been state president of the organization, and is now national president.

Lincoln school was River Forest's one school at that time, and it was there that the organization meeting was held. Mrs. Benson was first president. As other schools were built, the membership included them, and in 1931 the executive committee of the organization recommended that the general P. T. A. be divided into four groups, one for each school, so that there might be a closer contact between the parents and the school to which their children were sent. This plan was adopted in 1929. Two years later, a P. T. A. council was formed with four representatives from each school. The duties of this council was to plan general meetings of all the local P. T. A.'s and to nominate candidates for members of the board of education.

In 1935, the P. T. A. constitution was revised, after two years of effort, and every teacher, and every parent of a child in the River Forest schools was made automatically a member, without making application or paying dues as heretofore. The new constitution also provided by-laws for the local units so that there should be no conflict. It created a board of managers to replace the advisory council, increasing its membership from four to five representatives of each school, comprised of two men and two women and the principal. To these were added the officers of the general organization and the superintendent of schools.

While the board of managers was entrusted with the work of selecting candidates for the board of education, nominations must first be suggested or approved by the separate P. T. A.'s, and submitted to the board of managers. If the candidates suggested are not acceptable to a majority of the board of managers, the local P. T. A. may suggest other names until approval is given by the board.

In 1928, a Mothers Circle was formed in Lincoln school with Mrs. George S. Hamilton as president. The same year, Washington School Mothers Council was formed with Mrs. Theron Wasson as president. Frances Willard Mothers Circle was organized in 1931 with Mrs. F. H. Falls as president.

## Order of Eastern Star

River Forest Chapter, Order of Eastern Star, was organized early in 1922. The first meeting was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Probst, and was presided over by Charles P. Molthrop. The original members were River Forest residents who were members of various chapters in Chicago and Oak Park—Mr. and Mrs. Albert H. Bromann, Mr. and Mrs. Charles P. Molthrop, Mr. and Mrs. Frederic Locke, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Baumrucker, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Colt, Mr. and Mrs. Ewald A. Balgemann, Mr. and Mrs. George L. Meyers, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. John Wheldon Williams, Mrs. Clara Probst, Mrs. Fred Dabbert, Mrs. Otto Kretzer, Mrs. Alex Holt, Miss Louise E. Meyer, Mrs. Mary A. Emery, and Mrs. Elizabeth Matthews.


Meetings were held in River Forest Women's Club building until the Masonic Temple was erected, and were the second and fourth Thursdays of each month. The chapter was instituted by John M. Tipton, worthy grand patron of Illinois, on January 21. He was assisted by Mrs. Nettie C. Kenner, grand secretary; Mrs. Selma N. Weege, past grand matron, Mrs. Bertha Eagle, John Wheldon Williams, Mrs. Emma Adams, George A. Stover, and Mrs. Isabella Cooper, who also installed the officers as follows: Worthy Matron, Blanche D. Colt; Worthy Patron, Albert H. Bromann; Associate Matron, Ella M. Holt; secretary, Ewald A. Balgemann; treasurer, Theresa Baumrucker; conductress, Harriet E. Dabbert; associate conductress, Minnie Balgemann; chaplain, Elizabeth Matthews; marshal, Ernestine Fisher; organist, John Wheldon Williams; Adah, Louise E. Meyer; Rut'n, Harriet Williams; Martha, Myrtle

Molthrop; Electa, Beatrice Kretzer; warder, Lulu A. Meyer; sentinel, George L. Meyer.

On October 12, 1922, the chapter became a part of the state organization, with the same officers. In December, 1929, the chapter moved to the new Masonic Temple, where it continues to meet. Subsequent worthy matrons and patrons have been as follows: Ella M. Holt, Charles Kunzer; Harriet E. Dabbert, William Baumrucker; Minnie Balgemann, George W. Meyer; Helena J. Bromann, Alfred Mitchell; Elizabeth Matthews, Ewald Balgemann; Harriet Williams, Edward Kubitz; Ethel Salmon Hodgins, Charles Baumrucker; Pearl Emery, Frank Carqueville; Martha Mitchell, Otto Kretzer; Julia Matthews, Ralph Clarke; Emily McCullough, Louis Kunzer; Lisbeth Pochert, Alfred Mitchell; Fredricka Arch, Albert Bromann; Christine Williams, Robert Scherman; Mabel Chapin, Hjalmar Johnsen.

Officers to serve during 1937 are Mabel Chapin, worthy matron; Hjalmar Johnsen, worthy patron; Harriet B. Crawford, associate matron; Arthur Pochert, associate patron; Harriet B. Ulbrich, secretary; Emma Johnsen, treasurer; Anna L. Ludemann, conductress; Jeanette L. Whitchurch, chaplain; Rose Fletcher, marshal; Mildred B. Kneip, organist; Helen E. Dohnal, Adah; Grace E. Sanford, Ruth; Ethel O'Haire, Esther; Marguerite R. Flood, Martha; May Rose, Electa; Ida Smith, warder; Alfred Mitchell, sentinel.

Auxiliaries of the Eastern Star chapter are the Star Club, a social and business group of members of the chapter, and Areme Girls, younger members of the chapter, organized to engage in social and charitable work.



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## Masonic Lodge and Temple

River Forest lodge, A.F. & A.M., No. 1049 was chartered October 11, 1921, and the following officers were elected; Charles P. Molthrop, worshipful master; Nels B. Benson, senior warden; H. G. Stewart, junior warden; George L. Meyer, treasurer; John F. Grosvenor, secretary; Thomas S. Oadams, chaplain; G. O. Barber, senior deacon; A. N. Holt, junior deacon; E. H. Steffelin, senior steward; A. P. Doran, junior steward; Roy F. Nix, marshal; L. A. Heil, organist, and Alexander Emery, tyler.

Mr. Molthrop served two years, and was succeeded by the following masters: Nels Bernard Benson, 1923; Harry Garfield Stewart, 1924; Grant Oliver Barber, 1925; Alexander Norman Holt, 1926; Edwin Silas Wells, 1927; Arthur Phillips Doran, 1928; James Albert Whitchurch, 1929; Albert Herman Bromann, 1930; Roy Percy Read, 1931; Don Charles Wray, 1932; Ralph Scarritt, 1933; Ralph Emerson Clarke, 1934; Alfred Henry Mitchell, 1935; LeRoy Allen Knapp, 1936, and Hope E. MacNiven, 1937.

Other 1937 officers are as follows: Ray Rushton, senior warden; Peter Thomson, junior warden; Alexander Holt, treasurer; J. A. Whitchurch, secretary; Peter Schuchman, chaplain; William T. Payne, senior deacon; A. H. Bromann, Jr., junior deacon; James Brooks, senior steward; W. J. Tarrant, junior steward; F. W. Bostelmann, marshal; Richard Stolzenberg, organist, and Alexander Emery, tyler. Mr. Emery has served as tyler continuously since the lodge was organized.

The meetings were held in the Woman's Club building until the Masonic Temple was erected in 1929. The Temple was built by the River Forest Lodge Building Corporation, formed in 1922. The lot at the northeast corner of Lake street and Franklin avenue was purchased by the corporation in 1922. The corner stone was laid in 1929, and the Temple was dedicated in 1930. It is a fine looking, substantial building, a credit to the Masonic fraternity and to the community.

## Legion Post

River Forest Post, No. 730, American Legion, was organized in June, 1936, with fifteen members, which has since been increased to eighty-one. The first set of officers were Lee R. McCullough, commander; Fred Cooper, senior vice commander; Warren W. Schreiner, junior vice commander; William St. Bernard, adjutant; H. Carlson, finance officer; Neil S. Shannon, historian, and E. G. Eifrig, sergeant at arms.

Mr. Cooper became commander and served during 1936. In 1937 the officers were as follows: Warren W. Schreiner, commander; William St. Bernard, senior vice commander; Irving Rieger, junior vice commander; Dr. S. A. Danhauer, adjutant; Ray Hardy, finance officer; Guy Klupping, sergeant at arms; Neil Shannon, historian, and Rev. Thomas A. Canty, chaplain.

The post has been active since its organization, and has held its meetings at various places—village hall, Recreation building; Memorial hall, and are now meeting in the Luhman building.

## MEMORIES - - -

*in a faded blue ribbon*

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Orchids to its loyal citizens and zealous officials whose efforts and untiring vigor were being honored in the timely village celebration.

As pageantry portrays the happy days, the struggles, growing pains, and epic events of River Forest history, many a mind will harken back the dim corridors of time, and reverently stir faded memories.

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## Girl Scouts

Girl Scouting started in River Forest in October, 1925, when Troop No. 19 was organized and began meeting at Christ Episcopal church. The organization was started at a birthday given for Mary Jo Emerson, by her mother, and the guests were members of the troop. Mrs. Ben Badenoch became their captain, and Mrs. Knox Burno their lieutenant.

This troop grew rapidly, and the next year they moved to the Community House of First Presbyterian church, where they could have larger quarters. Mrs. William Schelzel and Mrs. Percy Stephens became lieutenants with Mrs. Burno.

In that second year, another troop, No. 36, was organized with Mrs. Earl Bush as captain and Mrs. Stanley Whitford as lieutenant.

In 1927, a third troop, No. 35, was organized to meet at Washington school with Mrs. Lynn O'Brien as captain and Mrs. Hoppenjans as lieutenant. In 1928, two more troops were formed. Mrs. Russell Winter was captain of troop No. 20, which met at Christ Episcopal church, and Mrs. Stanley Whitford as captain of troop No. 44. There are now six Girl Scout troops and two Brownie Packs in River Forest, with more troops in prospect.

## Chamber of Commerce

River Forest Chamber of Commerce was organized in 1921, and has since been active in the interests of the business houses and factories of River Forest. Eleven men have served as president of the organization; W. Gorin Smith, the eleventh president, elected in 1937. His predecessors were H. W. Porter, 1922; Otto H. Luhman, 1923; Dr. John B. Lyon, 1924, and 1930; Arthur S. Hatch, 1925; W. W. Meyer, 1926; George Gibson, 1927; George A. Rossman, 1928 and 1929; Otto F. Handke, 1931, 1932, and 1933; Roy F. Nix, 1934, 1935, and 1936.

Albert E. Webster, John H. Brennan, William C. Ladwig, and Otto F. Profant have served as secretary. Directors at present are John A. Klesert, Gus Frederickson, Otto F. Handke, Don Eckdahl, Frank Leonardi, and Wm. E. Flood. Henry Leverentz is treasurer.

## River Forest Golf Club

River Forest Golf Club was originally organized under the name of the River Forest Country Club in 1928, and in 1934 was reorganized under the present name.

The club is situated on Grand avenue, just east of York road, and occupies about 140 acres, twenty acres of which is heavy timber. In the midst of this grove is a beautifully appointed club house of modern design with every facility for a country club or golf club.

The playing course of eighteen holes is a sporty course due to heavy trapping and its abundance of trees. The membership consists of 300, principally River Forest and Oak Park families.

Officers and directors for 1938 are president, E. G. Staley; vice president, Glenn Ingram; secretary, David

F. Davis; treasurer, Clayton McHugh; directors, R. C. d'Autremont, L. M. Stoddard, A. D. Byler, E. Gorman Ham, and D. C. Cole.

Officers and directors of the Women's Auxiliary are president, Mrs. Thomas A. Pettigrew; vice president, Mrs. George M. Blum; secretary, Mrs. L. M. Stoddard; treasurer, Mrs. E. L. Eichstaedt; social chairman, Mrs. D. M. Buckingham; golf chairman, Mrs. G. M. Mellor; publicity chairman, Mrs. J. L. Shroyer; membership chairman, Mrs. P. H. Fox; directors, Mrs. H. W. Krogman, and Mrs. E. G. Staley.

## Needlework Guild

River Forest Branch of the Needle Work Guild was organized in 1919. It contributes garments to various philanthropic institutions in the Chicago area. During the past year, the organization distributed more than two thousand garments to thirty institutions. Mrs. Jay C. Freeman was its first president. Mrs. Ralph Scarritt had been president since 1933.

## Lively Building Boom

The years 1935 and 1936 saw an unusual revival of building in River Forest. In 1935 the aggregate was \$728,945, and in 1936 it was \$1,421,147. St. Luke's church costing \$225,000 contributed to the total in 1935, and Wieboldt's department store building costing \$601,000, was the main item in 1936. Thirty-one new houses costing \$444,000 were built in 1935, and 45 houses costing \$761,200 were erected in 1936. The year 1937 saw many new houses erected.

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## River Forest Service Club

River Forest Service club was organized November 21, 1935, with twenty charter members. Its object as stated in its by-laws is "To further and promote the village of River Forest." Its membership, which is by invitation only, is now thirty.

V. H. Gies was the first president; John B. Maypole, and Thomas E. Hosty, vice presidents; William C. Ladwig, secretary-treasurer; Ed. Simpson, sergeant at arms, and J. J. Callahan, Thomas J. Rigney, and George A. Schindler, board of governors.

In February, 1937, these officers were succeeded by John J. Callahan, president; Thomas E. Hosty and Ed. Simpson, vice presidents; William C. Ladwig, secretary-treasurer; Robert H. Quayle, sergeant at arms, and Thomas J. Rigney, William E. Prendergast, Arthur J. Bidwill, John B. Maypole, John B. Maher, and V. H. Gies, governors.

Meetings are held the second Thursday in each month at the homes of members. Several dinner meetings have been held at Memorial hall to which men and boys in the communities were invited. Speakers of note have addressed these dinner meetings.

## Historical Society

River Forest Historical Society was organized in 1937 as a result of the apparent need for such an organization, which developed during the Centennial celebration in 1936. The call for the organization was sent out by Roy F. Nix, executive secretary of Centennial, Inc., early in the year, and about twenty-five organizations responded by sending representatives.

Temporary officers were elected at the first meeting, and at a later meeting by-laws were adopted and the following officers were elected:

Honorary life president, Eli J. Brooks.  
President, Ralph Scarritt.  
Vice president, Mrs. B. W. Armstrong.  
Secretary, Thomas A. Matthews.  
Treasurer, Mrs. Blanche Scharenberg Willing.  
Historian, Mrs. Harriet Thurlow McBride.

Executive committee, Dr. Henry F. Kallenberg, Prof. O. F. Rusch, Sister Mary Eva, Dr. Charles J. Weigel, and Mrs. Ethel S. Hodgins.

Arrangements have been made for using the second floor of the old school building at Lake street and Park avenue for headquarters, and a museum will be established there as soon as the building has undergone needed repairs.

## Nu Sigma Phi

Nu Sigma Phi Fraternity, a River Forest fraternity, was organized in January, 1933. It has a membership of forty-two, all of whom live in River Forest or other suburban communities. Since 1934, its meetings have been held in a club house at 7908 Washington boule-

vard. Prior to that it met first at 7701 Lake street, 30 Franklin avenue, River Forest, and Rockford avenue and Randolph street, Forest Park.

Its officers consist of a grand master, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. The masters have been as follows: Jack Lyons, 1933; Harold May, 1934; Earl Ninnow, 1935; Maurice Hetzel, 1936, and Earl Ninnow, 1937. Other men who have served the organization as officers include Harry Sanford and Fred Kramer as vice presidents; Harold Roloff, Raymond Wendt, and Leonard Elliott as secretary, and Earl Mahon and Charles Shultz as treasurer.

Meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month. The organization is non-sectarian, and is for good fellowship.

## Church Organizations

River Forest churches, like those of other communities, have formed many organizations from their membership during recent years, and these have contributed largely to the social life of the community. Among such organizations are the following:

Christ Episcopal—Women's United Guild, The Organizers; Canterbury League; St. Vincent Guild of Accolytes.

Grace Lutheran — Men's Club, Women's Society, Junior and Senior Young Peoples Societies, Senior choir of mixed voices, Junior Girls choir, Girl Scout and Boy Scout troops, Sunday School from Nursery to Senior Bible Class, Elementary Day School, and several athletic groups.

Presbyterian — Tuxis Club, Lyceum Club, Pioneer Club, Westminster Guild, Women's society, Utility, Service, Efficiency, Apron, Pauline, Tenth Group, Quilting, Worthwhile and Book & Thimble Circles; Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops.

Methodist — Epworth League, Oxford League, King's Guards, S. O. S. Girls, Mary and Martha Guild, Wesleyan Service Guild, Women's Home and Foreign Missionary Societies; Boy Scouts; Keystone, Service, Amity, Friendly, Welcome and Loyal Circles, and Junior Auxiliary.

St. Luke's Catholic—Holy Name Society, St. Luke's Guild, St. Vincent DePaul Society; St. Luke's Choristers; School Band; C. Y. O. Groups; Girl Scouts; St. Luke's Fellowship Club, St. Luke's Choir.

## Merry Makers

Earl's Novelty Merry Makers is a musical organization formed in 1929 under the name of Bluebird Novelty orchestra, was changed to Art's Joy Boys in 1932, and later assumed the present name. Its members are Earl Nianow, leader and banjo and saxophone, Arthur Ninnow, concertina and accordion; Edward Hintz, saxophone and clarinet; Ralph Parks, drums; Robert Ross, piano and arranger; Joe Koinski, saxophone and clarinet, and Russell Zeller, trumpet.

# CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

## Chapter Seven

Throughout the latter part of the year 1935, the idea of properly observing the centennial of the beginning of this community in 1836, when Ashbel Steele, the first settler, located his home here, was discussed by various groups of citizens. To Mrs. Inez Narum, principal of Lincoln school, is given credit of first suggesting some kind of a formal celebration.

Mrs. Narum took the idea to Roy F. Nix, president of River Forest Chamber of Commerce, and Mr. Nix talked it over with the board of directors of that organization. They decided that it was too big a job for their organization, or any other one organization, to tackle, and decided to invite all local organizations to meet and discuss the project.

The annual installation dinner meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was held at First Presbyterian church Tuesday evening, January 21, 1936. To this meeting all local organizations were asked to send representatives, and approximately two hundred people were present, representing thirty-nine organizations.

The subject of a general community celebration was discussed, each organization represented being given an opportunity to express their views. The consensus was that some celebration should be held, but that a smaller group must work out more definite plans than could be made in so large a gathering. Mr. Nix was elected temporary chairman of the Centennial organization and was instructed to call another meeting of one representative of each organization to form a permanent organization to promote the centennial celebration.

The second meeting was held at the village hall Thursday evening, February 13, 1936, when officers were chosen, and the dates of May 31 to June 6, inclusive, were fixed as the time for the celebration. This was thought to be as late as possible, and yet have it before the schools closed for the Summer, and the vacation season started. Officers chosen were as follows:

President, Hon. John L. Brink, president of the village.

Honorary chairman, Hon. Edward F. Dunne, former resident of the village and former governor of Illinois.

Vice presidents, Homer J. Buckley, civic leader, and Dr. Ray E. Cheney, superintendent of River Forest schools.

Treasurer, Francis C. Pilgrim, president River Forest State bank.

Executive secretary, Roy F. Nix, president River Forest Chamber of Commerce.

The officers named met Sunday afternoon, March 1, at the village hall, with Frank W. Swett, whom they had chosen as their attorney, and decided to incorporate under the name of River Forest Centennial, Inc. A number of committees were then decided upon and their chairmen chosen as follows:

Co-ordinating and pageant—L. Knox Burno with Jack Crawford assisting.

Finance—Waldo B. Ames.  
 Music—Dr. George Lee Tenney.  
 Grounds—Thomas E. Hosty.  
 Historical—Dr. Ray Cheney.  
 Art Exhibits—Paul Strayer and Emory P. Seidel.  
 Educational—Robert H. Quayle.  
 Publicity—Homer J. Buckley.  
 Properties—William Spencer.  
 Costumes—Mrs. Lois W. Schultz.  
 Parade—Otto H. Luhman.  
 Athletics and Recreation—Frank J. Winter and L. M. Foster.

Women's club—Mrs. B. W. Armstrong.  
 Chamber of Commerce—Roy F. Nix.  
 Garden clubs—Mrs. Fred A. Clarke.  
 Continuity writer—Miss Margaret Pack.  
 Dancing directors—Ginger Rogers and Helen Virginia Gilman.

Personnel director—William C. Ladwig.  
 Lighting director—Harold Brasie.  
 Illinois Reserve militia—John A. O'Keefe.  
 Grace Lutheran church—Prof. O. F. Rusch.  
 River Forest Masonic Lodge—Ralph Scarritt.  
 River Forest Italian society—Dr. Joseph C. Sodaro.  
 Civic organizations—W. E. St. Bernard.  
 Park commissioners—William J. Foster.  
 Methodist church—Purdy W. Hazelton.  
 Presbyterian church—E. A. Davenport.  
 Christ Episcopal church—Clarence Porter.  
 Recreation board—Thomas E. Hosty.  
 Catholic churches and societies—Thomas J. Rigney.  
 Rosary college—Sister Peter.

Belles Lettres society—L. D. Wood.  
 Public schools—Dr. Cheney.  
 Eastern Star chapter—Mrs. T. R. Williams.  
 Home Owners Zoning association—Frederick J. Doyle.

Board of Education—George S. Hamilton.  
 River Forest Tennis club—Ralph W. Westcott.  
 Needlework Guild—Mrs. Ralph Scarritt.  
 Parent-Teacher association—Mrs. Charles B. Kilmer.

Rosary College Auxiliary—Mrs. Homer J. Buckley.  
 Public library—Miss Gladys Allison.  
 Oak Park and River Forest high school—Ed. L. O'Brien.

The officers and committee chairmen comprised the executive committee.

Throughout the succeeding weeks the program was evolved as follows:

Sunday, May 31—Home coming and special programs in all the local churches.

Monday, June 1—Open house at River Forest Women's Club building, and grand parade in the evening.

Tuesday, June 2—Art exhibits at Masonic Temple

and River Forest bank building; athletic events in Keystone Field.

Wednesday, June 3—Art exhibits continued and special programs in grade schools closing with a musical program in Memorial Hall.

Thursday, June 4—Music festival on Concordia campus.

Friday and Saturday, June 5 and 6—Historical pageant on Rosary campus in the evening, and on Saturday an all-day athletic program in Keystone Field.

The parade, the music festival and the pageant were the outstanding features of the celebration. On account of a heavy downpour of rain on Monday evening, the parade was postponed until Wednesday evening. This climinated a few features, but it was a great spectacle with Otto H. Luhman, parade chairman, acting as marshal.

Following the marshal and police escort came the following features: American Legion Posts—Cicero Drum and Bugle Corps; River Forest Post, Colors and Legion; Forest Park Post, No. 414, Drill Team; La Grange Post, No. 41; Charles Roth Post, Oak Park; Austin Post, No. 42; Maywood Post, No. 133; H. G. Maxtel Post, No. 154; Melrose Park Post and Bugle Corps; Norman J. Cornwall Post, No. 275; Columbus Park Post, No. 688; Drill Team, Sarlo-Sharp Post, No. 368; Emil Sheive Post, No. 699; Lyons, and Westchester Post, No. 773.

Illinois Militia Reserve.  
 Nu Sigma Phi Fraternity.  
 Oak Park and River Forest High School Band.  
 Village presidents and mayors in automobiles.  
 Luhman's Indians.

Girls from village hall—Mary Lodge, Dorothy Mertsy, Ruth Grosser, and Blanche Willing, and Louise Lubman in old-fashioned two-seated one-horse carriage; cowboys on horseback.

St. Luke's school band; children from St. Luke's school.

Concordia college band; students from Concordia college and from Grace Lutheran school.

Fenwick high school band.  
 Fire department.  
 Police department.  
 Centennial officials.

The following business vehicles: Pure Oil company, Standard Oil Company, Atlantic and Pacific, Rowlett Dairy, Fox Printing Co., Hostess Cake, K. & E. Food Shop, Profant pharmacy, Ray's barber shop, Jurgens, Leonardi's, O'Connor's, Frederickson's Express, Forest Lions club, Eastern Star, Forest Preserve, Ginger Rogers dancing class, Luhman's Foods, Flood's Hardware, River Forest Tailors, Suburban Oil Co., Cusack Realty Co., Senyard's garages, Butler Rug Co., W. Gorin Smith, Suburban market, Florence shop, Otto's service station, Marguerite Beauty parlor, Hydrox company, T. J. Peters, and Shell gasoline.

The music festival was presented Thursday evening by a great chorus organized and conducted by Dr. George Lee Tenney, 550 Clinton place, director of music at Lewis Institute, Chicago. Dr. Tenney called together and organized the chorus composed of all the

local choirs and other singing groups, which he augmented at the close by Chicago groups which he had been leading. They met weekly for two months before their appearance, and gave a splendid entertainment, when the time came.

The music festival was held on the campus of Concordia college on Augusta street, where seats had been arranged for five thousand people, and excellent lighting facilities installed.

There were nearly a thousand singers in the chorus, with an orchestra of 185 pieces, including Concordia College orchestra, Illinois Symphony orchestra, and Oak Park and River Forest High School orchestra. The orchestra was under the direction of Prof. R. T. Rohlfing of Concordia college, and Anton H. Embs, director of Oak Park and River Forest high school orchestra.

Dr. Tenney was highly complimented in person and through the press for the splendid entertainment presented. The program was as follows:

Centennial March ..... Rohlfling  
 Concordia College Band, R. T. Rohlfling, Director  
 Zampa ..... Herold  
 Oak Park and River Forest High School Band,  
 Harold Little, Director  
 Star Spangled Banner  
 Combined Chorus, Audience and Both Bands  
 Unfold Ye Portals (from "The Redemption") Gounod  
 Combined Chorus and Orchestra  
 Greeting to Spring (Blue Danube) ..... Johann Strauss  
 Combined Chorus and Orchestra  
 Care Nome (from "Rigoletto")  
 Beulah Edwards  
 The Home Road ..... J. A. Carpenter  
 Chorus and Orchestra  
 The Heavens Are Telling (from "The Creation")  
 ..... Haydn  
 Chorus and Orchestra

Intermission  
 Pomp and Circumstance  
 Oak Park and River Forest High School Or-  
 chestra, Anton H. Embs, Director  
 Soldiers Chorus (from "Faust") ..... Charles Gounod  
 Combined Chorus and Orchestra  
 Come to the Fair ..... Easthope Martin  
 The Lost Chord ..... Sullivan  
 Men's Chorus and Orchestra  
 Toreador Song (from "Carmen") ..... Bizet  
 Raymond Koch  
 Italian Street Song ..... Victor Herbert  
 Combined Chorus and Orchestra, 20 Soprano  
 Obligato Voices  
 Hallelujah Chorus (from "The Messiah") ..... Handel  
 Combined Chorus and Combined Orchestras  
 Encore—"The Road to Mandalay"

Prof. Rohlfling's "Centennial March" composed especially for the occasion, elicited much praise.

The Centennial committee secured the services of Helen Tieken of Chicago to direct the historical pageant which was presented on the campus of Rosary College, Friday and Saturday evenings, June 4 and 5, 1937. Miss Tieken had had wide experience, including the directing of one of the chief attractions at "A Century of Progress," world fair held in Burnham Park, Chicago, in 1933 and 1934. The professional tone which the pageant evidenced showed the wisdom of the committee's se-

lection. It attracted large crowds each evening and its praises were many and effusive.

In the presentation of the pageant, and in all of its activities, the Centennial committee had the benefit of the advice and active participation of Captain Jack Riley of the public relations committee of Public Service Company, who devoted a full month of his time to making the celebration the smoothly operating entertainment that it proved to be.

Three hundred and fifty men and women took part in the pageant, and, while all were amateurs, they acted like professionals.

Jack Crawford, teacher of dramatics at Rosary college, and co-chairman of the program committee, was narrator, and his voice carried the story to every one in the large audiences, pleasingly and clearly.

From the time the first Indian pranced across the stage in "1673" as scout for the tribe which later conferred with Father Marquette and Joliet, missionary priests, who came up the Aux Plaines river on their way to Chicago and Lake Michigan, until the grand finale, there was not a dull moment.

The arrival of Ashbel Steele and his family in 1836; the coming of the Mr. Kettlestrings and "hands" from Bickerdike and Nobles's saw mill on the banks of the river half a mile to the south; the Steele tavern erected in 1846, with the coming of the mail coach, the bar, and the dance; a Sunday evening service in the school house in 1861, and the departure of the civil war soldiers were all intensely interesting.

The village election scene in 1880 was vividly portrayed, and the parade was an exciting event. School days was well done, and the Thatcher ball showed how the young people of today looked in clothes of 1900, and how they performed the dances of thirty-seven years ago.

The marching of the soldiers leaving for the world war in 1917 was a spectacular episode, and the grand finale with all who had parts in the various episodes on the stage at one time was indeed beautiful.

Elevated Railway Post, American Legion, contributed largely to the success of the pageant by participating in the two war scenes with their drum and bugle corps which is famous throughout the Chicago area.

The following persons had parts in the pageant:

Indian Scene—Father Young, Marquette; W. A. Holt, Joliet; P. L. Emerson, Old Chief; J. A. Doyle, Medicine Man; Mrs. W. A. Schram, Mrs. Holt, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Arndt, Gretchen Schram, Dorothy Meline, Marjorie Hood, Nancy E. Gilroy, Nellie Williams, Beverly Johnson, Theresa Holt, Betty Markward, Peggy Collins, Cynthia Hall, Nancy Nicoll.

Edward Holt, Jim Shannon, Ralph Porter, Jerry Salek, Otto Luhman, Martin N. Harke, Sr., Bill Graham, Walter Daniels, Ray Harke, M. Harke, Jr., Bill Seegar, Wm. Mertsey, R. Luhman, H. Coleman, Charles Sutor, William Chatterton.

Coming of Steele Family—Mrs. Earl Balfour, Mrs. Steele; Earl Balfour, Mr. Steele; Marion Bromann, Caroline Kniep; Patricia Francis and Barbara Schultz, daughters; Ed. Morse O'Brien, Frank W. Heintzen, Clemens B. Brose, Albert C. Menges, Walter Muehl, F. E. Crabtree, E. K. Eckert, Elroy Venzke, Jack Williams, Hilmar Sieving.

Tavern Scene — Mrs. W. M. Moran, Mrs. Frank Cheske, Mrs. W. M. Moran, Joseph Rossman, and Dick Lang, travelers; Mrs. Stella Kohl, Mrs. Steele; Steele daughters, Mary O'Neill, Joan Morand, Patsy Morand,

Mary Elizabeth Grady, Marion Swiney, Virginia Kohl, Patricia Kohl, W. M. Meran.

Martin Grady, Jack Kinnaire, Antony Barrette, Robert Mohler, Ray Hopkins, Marion McMullin, Mrs. E. E. Swiney, Frank W. Laatz, James Hawley, Richard Picchietti, A. J. Walz, Louise Toren, Isabel Balfour, Robert McCall, George Bauschbach, Walter Grady.

Katherine Watts, Shirley Watts, Mary Rita McMahon, Adele Hosty, Virginia Lee, Elizabeth Daley, Helen King, Laura King, Pat Callahan, F. Plummer, Patricia Nendick, M. J. Kelly, Miss Malton, Gwendolyn Patricia Pearsall, Mary Walz, Harry H. Keefer, Graves, Orpha Pearsall, John Scott, Mr. Vetter, Jack Madeleine A. Keefer, Joseph Elwood, Walter Morman, George O'Keefe, Elmer Swanson, Ray Hopkins, Grady, Martin Grady, Colin Williams, Frank McMullen, Jack Anderson, Don Carroll.

Incorporation Scene — M. Schmitt, N. Kath, H. Krueckeberg, C. Halter, H. Mroch, E. Finke, N. Muel-ler, W. Weber, H. Bloch, F. Lietz, Schillinger, A. Meyermann, R. Young, L. Kolander, H. Gersmehl, A. Lovekamp, K. Rode, Mr. Bleke, A. Plass, Les Rusch, P. Glawe, V. Bickel, L. Barnoske, V. Krause, E. Hohman, G. Neubauer, H. Bacon, G. Grunze, H. Rupp, W. Frey, O. Dargatz, R. Demske, A. Maves, C. Zeddies, E. Rohlwing, E. Wunderlich, N. Venz, R. Gielow, A. Woehlke, E. Selke, J. Albrecht, L. Zeddies, Adeline Kuhlman, Ethel Kuhlman, Harriet Diehl, Thea Bretschner, Ruth Lussow, Adeline Schreiner, Bernice Schreiner, Esther O'Neill.

Thatcher Ball — Louise McCoy, Al Burke, Jean Boyer, Rita Cahill, Betty Cline, Eleanor Collins, Helen Conway, Yvonne Dauphine, Katherine Dwyer, Adeline Hahn, Georgia Hammel, Jane Morrison, Nancy Niemeyer, Mary Irene O'Connor, Allene Quigles, Dorothy Nelle Quigles, Florence Sennott, Katherine Seleine, Clare Whitman, Raymond Costello, James Creighton, John De Moss, Robert De Moss, Henry Doering, Frank Doody, William Fogarty, Thomas Hosty, Edward Kreml, George Mathers, Robert McCabe, Vincent McLaughlin, Roger Miller, Richard Morrissey, Thomas Mullen, James O'Keefe, William O'Neill, Lawrence Ryan, June Boyer.

Church Service in 1861—Mr. Drummond, Mrs. H. B. Prout, Jane Prout, Hazel Graham, Irene Hohman, Mrs. Wanderer, Mrs. A. Bromann, Mrs. Shubert, Mrs. Probst, Mrs. Kniep, Mrs. Coleman, Mrs. Erwin, Mrs. Leland, Mrs. Schmidt, Mrs. Welch, Miss Manning, Miss Howser, Mrs. Tash, Mrs. Seegar, May Quinlan, A. Bromann, Mr. Probst, Mr. Shubert, Mr. Schmidt, Dick Swanfield, Bernie Lynch, Guy Klupping, Edward Brasfield, Chas. Jenkins, Orville Jenkins, Ralph Scarritt, Joseph Cahill, Frank Carqueville, Ed Wittman, Dick Conaha, Wm. St. Bernard, Mr. McCullough, Bill Lynch.

School Convocation — Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Swett, Mr. and Mrs. Wagonseiler, Mr. and Mrs. McElroy, Mr. and Mrs. P. W. Hazelton, Elizabeth O'Haire, Aletha Tegerdine, Rose Tegerdine, John Duff.

Carolyn Swett, Lois O'Brien, Annette Rossen, Lois Bremer, Lillianbain Stuckey, Mary Jeanne McIntosh, Betty Lou Schultz, Judy Pope, Ann Hamilton, Barbara Mertz, Rosalie Shannon, Ann Richmond, Dorothy Engler, Jeane Carqueville, Audrey Schroeder, Jean Baumrucker, Jeannette Geyer, Joan Treeman, Olive Rogers, Louise Burno, Gladys Cahill, Lorraine Harris.

Nona Gale, Lorelei Towle, Priscilla King, Annette Towle, Marilyn Niebecker, Nyla Carolyn, Sally Arch, Joan Hohman, Gretchen Hammond, Helen Harris, Carolyn Close.

Paul Shay, Dana Richardson, Warren Tisher, Louis W. Schultz, Jr., John Danly, Paul Massey, Betty Thompson, Mary Pilgrim.

## THESE CARRIED ON

### Chapter Eight

**D**URING the years that have elapsed since the village of River Forest was incorporated in 1880, many men and women have come upon the local scene, played a part in the social, civic or religious life of the community, and are no longer here. Some have moved to other cities or states; some have passed to the great beyond, and a few have remained and become inactive in their advanced years. It is with these people, who carried on bravely and, in most instances, successfully, that this chapter deals. Most of them are entitled to more space than is devoted to them; some of them are omitted on account of inability to secure needed information, and some have undoubtedly been overlooked. The writer has endeavored to treat all fairly, and regrets any inaccuracies or omissions that may occur in this or other chapters of this book.

**John E. Adams**, 563 Park avenue, former superintendent of River Forest schools, has been a resident since 1894, when he came here to take charge of the schools. He was a native of Ohio, and had served as teacher in Jennings seminary at Aurora before coming to River Forest. When he severed his connection with River Forest schools, in 1899, he went to the Chicago system, and became principal of the Goudy school for two years, the Arnold school thirteen years, and the Waller high school for nineteen years, retiring in 1933. Aside from his school work, he had held numerous local offices—village trustee, village president, village treasurer, member board of education, member library board and town clerk. Two daughters, Mrs. J. R. Booth and Miss Lora Adams, also a Chicago teacher, reside at the same address.

**Chester R. Arch**, son of Henry C. Arch, and associated with his father in Henry C. Arch & Sons until his death July 12, 1933. Veteran of world war, Thirty-Third division, field artillery. He was born in Chicago, moved to Forest Park when a small boy, and later to River Forest. Married Naomi McKee, who resides at 722 Bonnie Brae with her three children.

**E. A. Armbruster**, 214 Gale avenue, was a former principal of an elementary school in Chicago, and during the world war served the government at Nitro, West Virginia, as a general field foreman where smokeless powder was made for the 75 mm. guns used during the war.

**Hugh J. Armstrong**, with Armstrong Bros. Tool Co. for thirty-five years. Born in Chicago in 1869, he came to River Forest in 1902, residing here on Franklin avenue, until his death January 26, 1925. He was the husband of Mrs. Kezia Armstrong, and the father of Hugh W., John H., and of Mrs. Kezia Hardy.

**Paul Armstrong**, president of the village of River Forest in 1909 and 1910, died at his home, 601 Franklin avenue, September 20, 1928, after a residence here of twenty-five years. He was president of Armstrong Bros. Tool Co. in Chicago. Born in Scotland in 1865, he came to this country at the age of two. The family located in Chicago, where Mr. Armstrong grew up and was educated. He was a member of St. Luke's church, Knights of Columbus, St. Andrews Society, Oak Park Country club, and Chicago Yacht club. He and his three sons served their country in the world war.

**William G. Arnold**, who served as village trustee from 1893 to 1897, was the husband of Mrs. Amelia Arnold, 716 Monroe street. He came to River Forest in 1893, and remained here until his death in 1917. He was a native of Cincinnati, Ohio, and was a salesman for the Illinois Casing Company of Chicago.

**Charles M. Atkinson**, retired captain of the Chicago police force, came to River Forest to reside after retiring from the Chicago force, and in 1925 was appointed chief of police in River Forest. He later returned to Chicago, and died in 1931.

**Ben H. Badenoch**, a resident of River Forest until he moved to Newton, Mass., a few years ago, was active in civic affairs here. He resided at 555 Edgewood place, where he erected a residence. Mr. Badenoch was one of the founders of the Desplaines Valley Mosquito Abatement district, and was one of its first directors serving until 1931, when he moved away. He was a Presbyterian. Mrs. Badenoch was a member of River Forest board of education from 1922 until 1928. She was also active in River Forest Woman's club, First Presbyterian church, and was a leader of Girl Scouts. Mr. Badenoch has been associated with the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance company.

**Samuel E. Baker** and his wife, Frances Dyer Baker, came to River Forest to reside in 1890, and were active in social and civic affairs. They built a pretentious home at 628 Ashland avenue, and became members of Belles Lettres society and First Presbyterian church. Mr. Baker, who was on the Chicago board of trade, served as village trustee in 1892 and 1893, and as village treasurer in 1895 and 1896. He died in 1910, and Mrs. Baker in 1933.

**Joseph P. Baldwin**, now a resident of Chicago, came to River Forest in 1919, and resided at 621 Park avenue. He served as member of the board of education here for five years, two years of which he was president of the board. He was a member of First Methodist church, and River Forest Masonic lodge. He has carried on a business as heating contractor since 1906, and for the past 15 years his office and shop have been located at 1304 Washington boulevard, Chicago.

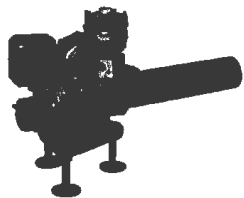
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1100 GARFIELD STREET, OAK PARK

Village 4780

Forest 1600

Austin 4780

—70—

**Mrs. Lydia Emily Balcomb**, born in Oswego, N. Y., July 11, 1838, came to River Forest to reside in 1908, and remained here until her passing on December 12, 1930. She was a widow for forty-two years. Educated in her native state, she married Francis Balcomb in 1861, and spent a number of years in Kansas, then a frontier state, where, in addition to rearing a family of seven children, and attending to her household duties, she was a nurse and physician for her neighbors, served on the school board, and was superintendent of a Sunday school. In River Forest, she was an active worker in First Methodist church. At the age of eighty, she took up a government claim in Oregon, living in a little cottage on a mountain side; and at ninety-one she took a 3,000 mile automobile trip from Oregon to Florida.

**Peter M. Balken** came to River Forest in 1888, and remained until his death in 1920. He was born in Norway in April, 1837, and came to this country and Chicago when a boy. He became a printer and worked for John Kinzie. He worked on the Chicago Journal for forty years. His home here was at 118 Keystone avenue. Mrs. Harriet Ulbrich is a daughter.

**Edwards Bankes**, dealer in teas and coffees, came to River Forest to reside in 1928, after sixteen years residence in Oak Park, where he was a member of Euclid Avenue Methodist church for twenty-four years. Mr. Bankes was a native of Ireland, coming to America at the age of twenty-four. The family home was at 908 Clinton place, where his widow still resides. He died in 1936.

**W. T. Barbour**, former village trustee, lived at what is now 626 Keystone avenue, and was in the employ of the Chicago & North Western railway. His son, Hoyt, married a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hermon Yalding, and lives in New York.

**Oliver M. Barr** was born in Aurora, Ill., in 1862. He grew up there, attending the public schools. He came to River Forest in 1888, and engaged in the lumber business, first as a member of the firm of Rathbun & Barr, and later as member of the firm and president of Barr & Collins corporation. One year after coming to River Forest, Mr. Barr was married to Miss Emma Lackner of Aurora. Their home was on Ashland avenue, near Oak avenue, where he erected a home, and later at 7226 Quick avenue, in a home purchased from the Quick estate, which he still occupies. They have two sons and a daughter—Oliver M., Jr., and James, both of River Forest, and Professor Helen Barr of Denison university, Granville, Ohio. In 1928 Mr. Barr retired from active association with Barr & Collins, and later he purchased the Park Avenue Lumber Co., at 4600 W. Maypole avenue, which the sons operate. Officers and stockholders of Barr & Collins organized the Arrow Petroleum Co., in 1926, and Mr. Barr became president of this company, which office he held until early in 1937, when he again retired.

### K and E Food Shop

Forest 2710

HOME BAKED GOODS AND DELICACIES

7617 Lake Street

River Forest, Ill.

**Joan F. Barrett**, Chicago board of trade member, who attained fame as a weather prophet and who backed his predictions with money, resided in River Forest for many years. He died in 1932, and his widow resides at the family home, 706 Lathrop avenue. Mr. Barrett was a village trustee in 1894 and 1895. He was born in Chicago, May 25, 1859, and became a messenger on the board of trade at fifteen. He was one of the original A. D. T. boys. He was on the board for more than fifty years.

**Joseph Barton**, a druggist in Chicago, wholesale and retail, resided in River Forest from 1883 until his death here in March, 1919. He was a native of Syracuse, N. Y., born in 1844. Two daughters reside here—Mrs. Harry Thompson, 543 Forest avenue, and Miss Grace Barton, 7753 Lake street. Another daughter lives in Lombard.

**Antoine Bedard**, president of Bedard and Morency Co. of Oak Park, manufacturers of doors and sash, moved to River Forest from Oak Park in 1917, and resided here until his death in May, 1931. He was born in Quebec, Canada, in 1837. His home here was at 555 Monroe street. He was a member of St. Lukes church. Mr. Bedard was also a building contractor, and erected the Hoffman house, now Trailside museum, the E. C. Waller home here, and several fine buildings in Oak Park.

**John Benson** and family resided at what is now Division street and Park avenue from 1871 to 1884. One son, Edward, now lives in Melrose Park; another, John E., lives in Forest Park; as does a daughter Mrs. Emma Rojahn. A second daughter, Mrs. Anna Milton, lives in Denver, Colorado.

**Wilton Bentley**, who now lives at Hastings-on-the-Hudson, N. Y., was a village trustee in 1920. His home was on Ashland avenue, near Oak street. He took an active interest in community activities.

**Joseph Binks**, village trustee from 1894 to 1898, resided on Keystone avenue in the south part of town. He had a foundry and machinery business, and was chief engineer for Jones Printing Co., and Marshall Field & Co. Mr. Binks was in business in Chicago for thirty-five years, most of the time with the company that bears his name, Binks Spray Equipment Co. He perfected some valuable patents. He was born in Blackearth, Wis., in 1850, came to River Forest in 1888, and died November 27, 1933.

**Byron W. Bonnie**, a federal employe, moved from River Forest to Washington, D. C., more than forty years ago. His home here is what is now 225 Keystone avenue.

**Mrs. Sophie A. Butendorff**, mother of Mrs. Louise Leinweber, 334 Monroe avenue, was a resident of River Forest for forty years. She died in September, 1924. She was a native of Germany, and lived to be 93 years of age. She came to America in 1858, and to River Forest in 1884.

—71—

**Eli Brooks**, who now resides at 412 Thatcher avenue, has been a resident of River Forest since 1883, when he came here to act as station agent for the Chicago & North Western Railroad Co. During his first year here, he lived with his family in an apartment in the depot, a frame structure which stood near where the present Thatcher avenue station stands. From there he moved to his present address. Mr. Brooks continued in the employ of the North Western Company in various capacities until 1927, when he retired at the end of forty-seven years of service. Mr. Brooks was born in Canton, N. Y., October 17, 1856. He was born on a farm, and continued farming until he came west in 1880. He located in Austin, and secured a position with the Chicago & North Western R. R. Mr. Brooks' hobby is making canes from various kinds of wood, and he has a remarkably fine collection in his shop at his home. He also has many other interesting articles which he has accumulated over a long period. He has written considerable poetry, and is honorary president of River Forest Historical Society, formed in 1937. He is one of the oldest residents in River Forest in age and time of residence here. He is highly respected in the community. Mr. Brooks has been twice married. His first marriage was at Canton, N. Y., in 1878, and his second at Maywood in 1908.

**Charles A. Butler**, who was village clerk and village attorney in the first few years of the century, was a Chicago attorney. His home was on Forest avenue, north of Oak street.

**Thomas Butler**, a native of England, operated a rug cleaning business in River Forest for many years starting on William street, and continuing at 7433 Lake street, where he had his residence. He died in August, 1937.

**Mrs. Georgia Leigh Caldwell**, wife of the late Hudson F. Caldwell, and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George L. Johnson, was an artist of ability. One of her murals adorns the home of River Forest Women's club, and one of her pictures hangs at the Nineteenth Century club house in Oak Park. She was a member of Allied Arts society, and Austin, Oak Park and River Forest Art League. She died in January, 1936.

**Joseph Carolan**, whose home was at 554 Park avenue for many years prior to his death on July 15, 1927, was a native of Oswego, N. Y. A printer by trade, he came to Chicago in 1872, worked on the Chicago Inter Ocean, and from there went into politics, becoming a Republican leader. He was long associated with the sheriff's office as a deputy, and in 1898 was elected a county commissioner, which office he held for 23 years. He helped organize the Cook county forest preserve, and was instrumental in its development in River Forest. In 1922 he was appointed U. S. Appraiser for the Chicago district by President Harding, and served four years. He is survived by his wife, two sons—Penn and George, and three daughters, Mrs. Ethel Pfaff of River Forest, and Mrs. Florence Bray of Winnetka, Illinois, and Mrs. Josephine Baumann, of Portland, Oregon.

**Ernest Carl**, a cabinet maker employed by Brunswick-Balke company in Chicago, lived here fifty years, dying in 1934, at his home 206 Lathrop avenue.

**Mrs. Agnes McAuley Carr**, widow of Patrick J. Carr, Chicago Democratic leader, county treasurer, and sheriff elect, resided at 7612 Division street and at her summer home in Michigan from 1926 until her death November 8, 1929. She was born in Chicago.

**Joseph T. Chambers**, who was village treasurer from 1885 till 1887, was a veteran of the Civil war and a member of the G. A. R. His home was on Thatcher avenue, north of Lake street.

**Frederick G. Chaplin**, who lived for twenty years at Gale avenue and Washington boulevard, was a native of Kent, England. He was for forty-two years associated with the North Western Railroad company, and, at the time of his death, August 29, 1937, was chief clerk of the general superintendent, W. E. Dunham.

**Sanford D. Chappell**, village clerk in 1892, and police magistrate from 1905 till 1908, was a Civil war veteran and a member of the G. A. R. He was born in Franklinville, New York, and came to Illinois in 1850 and to River Forest in 1889. His home here was at Lake street and Thatcher avenue.

**Frank H. Chase**, educator in Chicago schools where he became principal, came to River Forest to reside in 1899. He was a charter member of Belles Lettres, member First Presbyterian church, and served as assessor from the time River Forest township was organized in 1908 until his death in 1934. His home was at 730 Monroe avenue. His wife, Mrs. Ida B. Chase, served on the local board of education from 1904 until 1910.

**I. N. Cheabrough**, deceased, served as village treasurer in 1907. His home was on Park avenue in the block north of Lake street. He was an active member of the Presbyterian church.

**Beryl H. Childs**, district manager Chicago Motor club, was a resident of River Forest until 1936, when he moved to Oak Park, where he now resides. He was born in Douglas, Neb., in 1890, grew up in Chicago where he attended John Marshall high school, and later graduated from Austin high school, Governor Dubs-more academy, and Kent College of Law, having also attended University of Chicago. He was admitted to the practice of law in February, 1911. He married Miss Ethel Kimball of Newburyport, Mass., in 1909. They have two children—Clayton K. and Gwendolen.

**Mark A. Clafin**, president Clafin-Hill Printing Co., Chicago, from which he retired in 1930, resided at 609 Ashland avenue for twenty-five years, and then moved from here to Boulder, Col., where he retired from business and died there April 30, 1931.

**Henry A. Clarke**, superintendent of River Forest schools from 1890 to 1894, came here from New York state. He went from here to Chicago where he was associated with Chicago public schools for many years. He died in 1933.

**Cyrus C. Collins**, who came here from Aurora in 1890 to engage in the lumber business, as a member of the firm of Barr & Collins, made River Forest his home until his death April 29, 1919. Mr. Collins was born in Morris, Grundy county, January 22, 1862. He moved to Aurora when a boy, and graduated from Jennings seminary there, later attending and graduating from Chicago College of Pharmacy. He engaged in the drug business in Aurora, selling out shortly before he came to River Forest, to become a partner of another former Aurora man, Oliver M. Barr. Mr. Collins served on River Forest board of education in 1933 and 1934. He is survived by his wife, the former Anna Williamson, and by two sons and two daughters—Frank S., Cyrus C., Jr., both of River Forest; Mrs. Elizabeth Miller, Oak Park, and Mrs. Dorothy Ballinger of North Carolina. The family home was at 606 Keystone avenue, where Mrs. Collins still resides.

**Isaac N. Conard**, who came here from Oak Park twenty years ago, and resided at 620 Keystone avenue until his death in February, 1936, was in the wholesale grocery business in Chicago, the firm being the L. A. Talcott company. Mr. Conard was president of the company for the last twenty years of his life. Born in Knox county, Ohio, June 6, 1854, he grew up and acquired his education in Iowa. He made his home in Oak Park before moving to River Forest. He was an official member of First Methodist church here, Oak Park club, and Oak Park Country club.

**William A. Conover**, who was village attorney in 1907 and 1908, came to River Forest in 1901, residing in the house now owned and occupied by H. M. Bicknell, 611 Keystone avenue. He maintained an office in Chicago. In 1919, Mr. and Mrs. Conover moved to Los Angeles, Cal. Mrs. Conover died in 1930. She was a sister of Mrs. Charles Lane and J. L. Jackson. Mr. Conover and his daughter, Virginia, now reside at 1205 Crenshaw boulevard in Los Angeles.

**John D. A. Cross**, 621 Ashland avenue, was injured by a train at Urbana, Ind., October 20, 1937, and died two days later at Wabash County hospital, after a residence here of ten years. Born in Albany, N. Y., he started with the General Electric Co., as an office boy, and at twenty-one years of age came to Chicago for that company. He was later with the Seng company of Chicago up to the time of his death. He was an active member of St. Luke's Catholic church in River Forest. He was 54 years old and the father of ten children.

**Elias "Daisy" Day**, a professional entertainer of note, and later director of Players Guild, Long Beach, Cal., lived at Bonnie Brae and Quick avenue, for a number of years, and was active in community affairs, particularly along the line of entertainment. He died in Long Beach early in 1938.

#### FOREST BAKE SHOP

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**E. Arthur Davenport**, who was with the Pullman Company in Chicago for 52 years, retiring from the position of assistant passenger agent and moving to Los Angeles, Cal., in 1936, was a resident of River Forest for thirty-five years. During that time he served as a village trustee for four years; served on the library board eleven years, four of them as president; was first supervisor of River Forest township; was treasurer of the Family Welfare association; president of First Presbyterian church. He was a member of the first Playground and Recreation board; was president of the Neighborhood club, and of the Belles Lettres society. He erected a home at 559 Ashland avenue when he came here in 1901, and occupied it until 1936, when he sold it. He served on the executive committee of River Forest Centennial, Inc., in 1936.

**Frederic A. Deacon**, now of Bailey's Harbor, Wis., was a resident of River Forest from 1901 to 1928, and served as justice of the peace from 1925 to 1927. He operated a general store at Lake street and Park avenue, now the site of Ray Hardy's service station, and later moved to the Waller building. On January 30, 1901, he married Martha L. Hakes, who had been a resident of River Forest since 1884. River Forest postal station was in his store from 1918 until 1925. Before engaging in business in River Forest, Mr. Deacon was with the John A. Rocbling Sons from 1892 until 1910, and with Otis Elevator company from 1910 to 1918. He was a vestryman at Christ Episcopal church. Mrs. Deacon was active in community affairs.

**Mrs. Nellie Dickerson**, who moved from River Forest to Denver about sixteen years ago, after a residence here of about fifteen years, established quite a reputation for herself as a maker of corn beef hash and cottage cheese, which she supplied to Marshall Field's restaurant in Chicago. She made her product in a model kitchen at her home, which is now 1019 Forest avenue. Mrs. Dickerson carried on a business which was established by a Mr. and Mrs. Palmer, who also lived at what is now 925 Keystone avenue. The Palmers came to River Forest about 1891. They were caterers for Marshall Field Co.

**Ignaz Dohnal**, for twenty years president of Kraut & Dohnal, Inc., 325 S. Clark street, Chicago, a business established in 1861, moved to River Forest in 1914, and resided here until his death in 1933. His widow and a daughter, Miss Helen Dohnal, still reside at 753 Forest avenue. Mr. Dohnal was born in Czechoslovakia in 1863. He was apprenticed in the cutlery trade in Vienna with a company manufacturing surgical instruments. He came to America in 1886, working for a short time in New York, and then came to Chicago, where he obtained employment with Sharp & Smith. In 1894 he identified himself with the firm of Rosenstock & Company, where he became a partner in 1894. The following year the firm name was changed to Kraut & Dohnal, and later incorporated. They are importers and manufacturers of cutlery and barber supplies. Mr. Dohnal's first wife, Louise Stepanek, whom he married in 1886, died in 1891, and he later married Anactasia Malek, also of Chicago.

**Edward Fitzsimmons Dunne**, who afterward became circuit judge, mayor of Chicago, and governor of Illinois, came to River Forest to reside in 1887, when he purchased a home on Gale avenue, and continued to live here until 1903. While here, he took an active interest in local civic matters, serving on the library board for a term of years. Born in Waterville, Conn., in 1853, he grew up in Peoria, Ill., where his family came to reside, and, after attending school in Peoria, continued at Trinity college, Dublin university, graduating in 1873. Three years later, the family came to Chicago, where Edward graduated from Union College of Law, and took up legal practice. He married Miss Elizabeth Kelly in 1881. They had 13 children, some of whom were born in River Forest, and others attending school here. He was elected circuit judge from River Forest in 1892, and served until 1905, resigning when he was nominated for mayor of Chicago, having moved to Austin in the meantime. He served two years as mayor, and in 1912 was elected governor, serving four years. He was a Democrat and his political honors came through that party. Ex-Governor Dunne was appointed federal commissioner to A Century of Progress in 1934, and was named honorary president of River Forest Centennial, Inc., in 1936. Mrs. Dunne died in 1927, and her distinguished husband died May 24, 1937, his funeral being attended by a great concourse of friends. The family home, after returning from the state capital, was at 737 Gordon Terrace, Chicago. He was survived by nine children, and twenty-nine grandchildren. One son, Judge Robert Jerome Dunne, is now judge of the Cook county criminal court. Other sons are Edward, Richard, Maurice, and Eugene. The daughters are Mrs. William J. Corboy, Mrs. Walter R. Barry, Mrs. Arthur T. Leonard, and Miss Jeanette Dunne, who is a twin of Mrs. Barry. The twins were born in River Forest as were Richard, Mrs. Corboy, Mrs. Leonard, Maurice and Robert Jerome.

**Patrick W. Dunne**, like his distinguished son, Edward F., made River Forest his home for fifteen years, coming here in 1888, at the same time the son came. The elder Mr. Dunne came from Connecticut to Illinois at an early date, and located in Peoria, where he operated the Globe Flour mills for a number of years. He came from Peoria to Chicago in 1876, and to River Forest twelve years later. His residence here was at what is now 319 Forest avenue.

**Charles F. Durland**, village treasurer in 1911 and village president in 1917, came to River Forest in 1898; later moved to the north shore for a few years and returned to River Forest in 1905, retaining his residence here until his death in February, 1928. He was born in Flora, Ill., December 22, 1872. Mr. Durland was in the real estate business in Chicago, and was at one time president of Chicago Real Estate board. He built the house at 555 Park avenue and sold it to Charles P. Molthrop. His home was later at 743 Monroe avenue.

GET GAS AT FOREST 2469  
**OTTO'S SERVICE**  
 O. F. HANDKE  
 Lake at Lathrop River Forest

**Harry J. Eldredge**, who died suddenly January 12, 1937, at his home, 814 Forest avenue, was born in McHenry, Ill., 61 years before. The Eldredge family were pioneers in McHenry county, and prominent there. Harry early went to work for the Borden Condensed Milk Co., at Dundee, and the company transferred him to Seattle, where they had a new plant. Returning to the west, he became a salesman for the J. V. Farwell company, wholesale dry goods, of Chicago, and continued with Carson, Pirie Scott & Co., after they took over the Farwell business. He married Pearl Morgan, who with a daughter, Mrs. Marion Horrigan, they came to River Forest to live in 1915. He was a Republican and a Mason.

**Julius Ellithorpe**, who came to River Forest to reside in 1882, was long associated with the Chicago & North Western Railroad. He was born in Bridgeport, Vermont, in 1846, came west at the age of twenty, and five years later went to work for the young railroad company whose line runs through River Forest. He was at first a brakeman. At the time he came to River Forest, he had full charge of the baggage department at the Chicago station.

**James A. Fitzsimmons**, operator on Chicago board of trade, came to River Forest to reside at 723 Thatcher avenue in 1917. He died October 5, 1936. He was born in Louisville, Ky., July 7, 1869, and came to Chicago in 1880. Mrs. Fitzsimmons died in 1930.

**George Shipman Forbes**, who died November 3, 1937 on the floor of the Chicago board of trade, where he was an operator for twenty-two years, was a resident of River Forest for thirty years, and became widely known here on account of litigation with the village to force rezoning of property he owned at Harlem and Chicago avenues. Mr. Forbes was born in Chicago, September 21, 1879, a member of a pioneer family there. After his marriage he resided in Oak Park until coming to River Forest. He was successful in his fight to have his land rezoned for business purposes. Decisions of the village and zoning boards were against him. He obtained a favorable decision in the circuit court, and this was upheld by the supreme court to which the village appealed. His office was at 332 La Salle street, Chicago.

**George W. Foster**, 347 Thatcher avenue, was an employee of the village of River Forest for fourteen years, retiring in 1931. For four years he was assistant superintendent of water works; for six years as superintendent of water works, and four years as commissioner of public works. Mr. Foster was born in Chicago in 1862. He came to Maywood in 1875, and moved to River Forest in 1905. For twenty-six years he was in the employ of various paving contractors; eighteen years with Chas. M. Porter Co.; two years with J. W. Barker, and six years with Smith Brown Co. He was married in 1888 to Miss Calar Linberger of Oak Park. They have four children—Elmer with the Illinois Telephone company; Mrs. Gertrude Modra and Mrs. Jessie Diebold, and Ralph with the Bowman Dairy Co.

**Henry L. Fromme**, 718 Park avenue, died January 31, 1929, after a residence here of twenty-two years. He was born in Pittsburg, and was vice president of H. Y. Yeldman Co. He was a member of St. Luke's church.

**Mrs. Elizabeth Moore Furbeck** was a daughter of Augustin Porter, pioneer settler in River Forest. She was born in 1861 in the Porter home which still stands at Central avenue and Bonnie Brae. She lived in that house about half a century, and then moved to Maywood, where she died about 1922. She was a charter member of River Forest Women's club, and was a member of Unity church of Oak Park. She died October 10, 1920.

**Charles H. Gabriel**, a musician and composer associated with the Homer Rodeavor Song Co., resided here for seventeen years at 236 Keystone avenue. He died in Berkeley, Cal., August 14, 1932. Mrs. Gabriel died in 1931, also in Berkeley, where their son, Charles H. Jr., resided and where he died in 1937.

**Allen B. Gates**, who was a trustee of the village from 1920 to 1923, and resided at 516 Thatcher avenue, is director of training with the Eastman Kodak company at Rochester, N. Y.

**Allan P. Grant**, father of Harvey R. Grant, 931 Forest avenue, lived at 633 Forest avenue, and was engaged in the bakery business in Chicago prior to his death in 1922. He came to River Forest in 1899, and served as village trustee in 1890 and 1891. Mrs. Grant, who died April 27, 1937, was a native of Hamilton, Ont. She came to Chicago in 1874, and married Mr. Grant there. Mr. and Mrs. Grant were members of River Forest Presbyterian church, and Mrs. Grant was a life member of River Forest Women's club. They are survived by four sons—Allan and Melville of Redwood City, Cal., Roger of Asheville, N. C., and Harvey.

**Henry E. Graves**, in the employ Chicago and Grand Trunk railroad for many years, first in the east and later in Chicago, came to River Forest in 1892, and bought land between Forest and Park avenues and Augusta and Division streets, making what is known as Graves' subdivision. He erected two houses on Forest avenue. He was born in Vermont, and died here in 1918. His widow lives in Oak Park. Mrs. Lester R. Walker, 609 Clinton place, is a daughter.

**C. Horace Grier**, who was a village trustee from 1917 to 1920, is now living at 1425 Mentor avenue, Pasadena, Cal. He is an accountant, and while here resided on Franklin avenue, near Chicago avenue.

**William F. Grosser**, former Forest Park banker, resided at Franklin avenue and Washington boulevard, for twenty-three years. He was born in Kankakee, Ill., in 1870, and came to Forest Park with his parents four years later. He was in the auditing department of Chicago & Alton R. R. for fifteen years; later with the Oak Park Trust and Savings bank, and later became cashier and president of Harlem State Savings bank. Mr. Grosser attended the school at Lake street and Park avenue here in 1876 and 1877. He died July 4, 1938.

**John F. Grosvenor**, who was a village trustee in 1923 and 1924, and village treasurer in 1926, now resides at Bloomingdale, Ill. He was with the Western Electric Co., until his retirement. He was at the eastern plant of the company before his retirement. His home here was on Thatcher avenue.

**Asa Hall**, an accountant with the E. C. Cook Tent and Awning Co., in Chicago resided, in River Forest from 1880 until 1890, going from here to California, where he lived in Los Angeles and later in Glendale, holding positions with both municipalities. In Los Angeles, he was in the city auditor's office, and in Glendale was a member of the council during almost his entire residence there. He and his wife were charter members of River Forest Presbyterian church. Mrs. Hall died in Los Angeles about 1909 and Mr. Hall in Glendale in 1924. His second wife now resides in Glendale.

**William D. Hall**, hardware merchant in Oak Park and later in River Forest, 7757 Lake street, died January 23, 1933. He was born in Chicago in 1862.

**Clyde Harrison**, now living with a daughter in Maywood, was village treasurer in 1910. He was associated with the Crane company until retirement. His home here was at 516 Park avenue.

**F. C. Hasselton**, deceased, was a village trustee at the time the village hall was erected. He lived in the 500 block on Park avenue, and later moved to Connecticut.

**Arthur S. Hatch** served as village clerk from 1908 until his death in 1930. He was president of the Chamber of Commerce; a charter member of River Forest Lodge, A.F. & A.M., and generally active in the community. Arthur was the son of William H. Hatch, and both were natives of Chicago. The family came here when Arthur was five years of age.

**William H. Hatch**, who was born on the site of the Fair store on Adams street, Chicago, in 1849, came to River Forest in 1882 and went from here in 1929 to Santa Monica, Cal., where he resides. While here, he was engaged in the grain trade in Chicago. He was the father of the late Arthur S., and of Albert Vanduyke and Sidney Herbert, now residents of River Forest. Laurence, another son, resides at Kimberly, Minn., and a daughter, Mrs. Alma Abell, lives with her parents in California. W. H. Hatch was a member of the school board of River Forest from 1884 to 1886.

**Rev. A. E. Heilemann**, who came to this section from London, Eng., in 1890 with his wife and thirteen children, resided on Central avenue for a number of years, and established Onward Mission in Forest Park. He was a Methodist, born in Germany, and had been pastor of a German Methodist church in London. Onward Mission eventually became Community Methodist church of Forest Park. Rev. and Mrs. Heilemann resided in Chicago after his retirement. She died there in 1917, and he in 1918.

**Mrs. Della Hinshaw**, founder of the Hinshaw School of Music, resided for many years at 517 Franklin avenue. She was a member of River Forest Women's club, Austin Methodist church, Nakama club, White Shrine and Eastern Star. She died in June, 1933.

**William C. Hodgins**, who died November 19, 1932, at his home, 827 Keystone avenue, after a residence in River Forest of twenty-one years, was born in Marshalltown, Iowa, in 1879. He was a state and federal C. P. A., and during the world war was with the United States department of justice in Chicago, and in 1919 went to the treasury department, where he became an internal revenue agent, working with the intelligence department. He assisted largely in collecting evidence against Chicago gangsters, which resulted in the conviction of many widely known characters.

**Charles P. Holmer**, carpenter contractor, 206 Franklin avenue, lived in River Forest twenty-six years, dying here March 5, 1926. He was a native of Sweden.

**J. Sidney Hotton**, business manager of the Y.M.C.A. College for thirty-seven years and now a member of the firm Hotton and Sons, Real Estate and Insurance, living at Williams Bay, Wis., on Lake Geneva, came to River Forest in 1897 and remained here twenty-three years, residing at 399 Keystone avenue. He was born in Canada in 1865 and graduated from the University of Wisconsin, Class of '91. While in River Forest, he served three years on the library board, and was one of the organizers and president of the Neighborhood club.

**Thomas Humphreyville**, River Forest's first police magistrate, serving from 1886 to 1902, resided in a big frame house which stood where the calla beds are now located in Keystone Commons.

**William Iken**, first engineer for the village of River Forest served from 1895 to 1898. His home was across the street from the village hall where the Shirley apartment building now stands. He had several small village contracts before he was engaged as engineer, and was in controversy with the village board much of the time. His connection with the village was severed by the board while the Lake street brick sewer was being constructed.

**J. Kibben Ingalls**, who died January 10, 1938, came to River Forest in 1893. He was a member of the first library board, serving one year as secretary and seven years as president. He served on the local board of education, as president from 1907 until 1911, and on the high school board from 1913 till 1922, the last seven years as president. Mr. Ingalls was born in Corning, Iowa, in 1871. He came to Chicago in 1892, and four years later formed the Western Heater Dispatch, of which he was president until 1924. He founded and was president of the North Western Refrigerator Co., and Western Refrigerator Line Co. He served as vice president of Union League Club of Chicago, and was active in many civic and patriotic organizations. He was a member of River Forest Methodist church and was active in the construction of the present edifice.

**Thomas M. Jackson**, village trustee from 1890 to 1892, and village president from 1895 until 1899, came to River Forest in 1885 and remained here until his death in August, 1915. He was born in Boston, Mass., in 1861, and was educated there. He came to Chicago and for twenty-five years was with the Chicago National bank. He was a director and vice president of River Forest State bank at the time of his death. He served as treasurer of Northwestern Gas Light & Coke company for ten years. His home was at 623 Thatcher avenue.

**Andrew Jaicks**, paving contractor, lived in River Forest forty-five years. His home was at 550 Thatcher avenue. He died August 1, 1934. Mr. Jaicks was born in Coteau Landing, Ontario, Canada, in 1851. He was with the Standard Paving Co., for many years and became president of the company. He was a member of the Presbyterian church here.

**Hjalmer Johnson**, who was born in Chicago in 1884, and died there in 1937, resided in River Forest for twenty years, and was a contractor, building cement sidewalks. He was a Mason, and at the time of his death was worthy patron of River Forest chapter, O. E. S.

**William S. Johnston**, deceased, established the Johnston Carriage and Manufacturing company in Oak Park, with a factory in the building which now stands at the corner of Harlem avenue and Westgate. He came to this vicinity in 1870, and lived in River Forest part of the time. He was survived by his widow, who died at the home of her son, John S., 532 Forest avenue, on August 15, 1930, at the age of 91 years. She was a native of Scotland.

**Frederick A. B. Jones**, now a resident of Los Angeles, Cal., resided in the 900 block on Keystone avenue. He was born in Oswego, N. Y., in 1899, and was educated in Cleveland, Ohio. He was sales manager of Packard automobile in Chicago, and later for the Peerless company. He moved from here to Peoria; from there to Galesburg, and from Galesburg to California.

**Charles W. Juergens**, photo engraver of Juergens Bros., 166 W. Adams street, Chicago, came to River Forest to live in 1890, and died here in 1915. He was a native of Germany, and came to America at the age of four. Mr. Juergens served as village trustee from 1895 to 1905. His widow lives at 720 Forest avenue. Fred Juergens, also deceased, was a brother. His home was at 726 Forest avenue.

**Charles William Kallal**, who resided at 525 Park avenue prior to his death, March, 1936, was an architect in the employ of the city of Chicago for many years. He was placed in charge of all municipal buildings in Chicago, except school buildings, during the term of Mayor Fred Busse. He continued to hold the position under civil service during various administrations. Mr. Kallal was born in Chicago in 1873.

**Miss Daphne Knapp** was one of the early teachers in River Forest public schools, beginning here in 1881 and continuing fourteen years. After her retirement, she resided in Elmhurst, where she died August 15, 1937, at the age of 88 years.

**John J. Kennedy**, who served as a village trustee in 1890 until 1893, was the early village blacksmith, and had a shop for years on the south side of Lake street, east of Jackson avenue. He resided in that block. He has been dead a good many years.

**F. B. Klock**, president of the village in 1907 and 1908, died August 22, 1934, in Pasadena, Cal. He was born in Freeport, Ill., in 1859, came to Chicago in 1881, and a few years later to River Forest, living at 554 Thatcher avenue. Mr. Klock was a manufacturer, president of Murray & Nickell Mfg. Co., Chicago, and of a chemical manufacturing company near Elgin. He served on the local school board and was an active member of the Methodist church. Mr. Klock moved from River Forest to Pasadena, where he erected a fine home, and moved into it a pipe organ he had installed in his home here. He is survived by a son, Harold F., who resides in Honolulu, T.H., and who is connected with the business his father formerly headed in Chicago; also by his second wife, Glenna Wootton Klock, whom he married in 1930.

**James Kunst** was one of the early policemen in River Forest, when it was a one-man force. He was the first to carry the title of chief of police, which was bestowed upon him in 1910. He died in 1921, at his home, 906 Jackson avenue. His widow, a native of Germany died in 1930, at the age of 90 years.

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**Charles Lane**, Chicago attorney, resided in River Forest from 1899 until his death May 1, 1930. He served on the board of education 11 years, five of which he was president. Mr. Lane was born in Ontario, Canada, in September, 1854. He practiced law in Chicago for more than forty years. His widow resides at 722 Ashland avenue. He was a graduate of Toronto university.

**W. F. Lannguth** of Maywood resided here at William and Lake streets in the seventies, and worked in the Voras store. He also attended school in the then new brick building at Lake street and Park avenue.

**Emile A. LeGros**, in the photo-engraving business, came to River Forest to reside in 1923. He died November 26, 1937, after being hit by a truck, near his place of business, 160 E. Illinois street, Chicago. He was vice president of McGrath Engraving Co. and was president of Chicago Photo-Engraving association, and secretary-treasurer of National Photo association. Mr. LeGros was born in Chicago, April 10, 1874. His widow was Jessie Zeman, grand opera singer, whom he married in 1918. The family home was at 826 William street.

**William Leinweber**, mason contractor, was a resident of River Forest forty-two years. The home was on Monroe avenue, near Oak street, although he lived for a time on the site of the Oak Park Country club, and prior to that in Forest Park. He was born on the Isle of Rugan, Germany, July 26, 1859, coming to America about 1880. He married Louise Butendorff in 1887, who was born in Leyden township July 9, 1859. Mr. Leinweber died November 4, 1892, and his widow June 3, 1937. Mrs. Percy Grenfell and Miss Emma Leinweber, 418 Franklin avenue, are daughters.

**Edward Francis Ligare**, who was a grandson of Ashbel Steele, first permanent settler in River Forest, resided here forty years, making his home at 315 Keystone avenue. He was born in Ford River, Mich., September 4, 1866, came to Chicago where he attended school, and later graduated from the College of Engineering, University of Illinois in 1889. He married Edith Frances Hovey September 19, 1895, and they came at once to River Forest to reside. From 1890 until 1892 Mr. Ligare did engineering work in Colorado and Idaho; in 1892 and 1893 he did drafting for World's Columbian exposition in Chicago; from 1893 to 1898 he looked after his father's real estate, and from 1898, until 1902, he was associated with C. M. Porter, contractor, and with C. L. Clauson on elevated extensions. From 1902 until 1906, he was engineer for the South Parks board in Chicago, and from 1906 until 1933, he was assistant engineer for the West Parks board. He died April 28, 1935, and is survived by Mrs. Ligare and four children—Elizabeth, Alice, Robert, and Harriet.

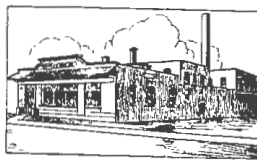
**Frank Little**, village attorney from 1894 until 1900, married Mabel Thatcher, daughter of Solomon Thatcher, Jr. They occupied the Thatcher home at 518 Keystone avenue. Mrs. Little was also admitted to the bar. She was stricken while on a world tour, brought home, and died soon after. Mr. Little went west, and died in 1935 in Colorado Springs, Colo.

**William Lohrer**, who served as a village trustee from 1926 to 1928, was born in Ulm, Germany, June 15, 1868. He came to this country when a boy; was educated in Cincinnati, Ohio. He was a commercial traveler, and after coming to River Forest in 1914, he operated an ornamental metal plant in Forest Park for a number of years. He was a member of River Forest Masonic lodge. He was married to Christina M. Taylor May 17, 1894, and they had two daughters, Alice and Jane. Mr. Lohrer died February 14, 1935, at his home 223 Keystone avenue.

**John Longfield**, who bought land in what is now River Forest in 1878, but made his home farther north in what afterward became Mt. Clare, tilled his land, which he increased by the purchase of a second forty-acre tract. In 1890, he built a home, which still stands at 7777 North avenue, and is occupied by his son, August. Another son, John, lives at 514 Ashland avenue, and a daughter, Mrs. Edward Kubitz, lives at 1449 Thatcher avenue. Mr. Longfield was born in Germany. He died in December, 1919.

**Lewis H. Lozier** resided for thirty years at 7218 Quick avenue, and ten years before that in this vicinity. He was a commercial artist, making illustrations for trade magazines. He was one of the organizers and a charter member of the River Forest Tennis club, and died October 31, 1937, after attending the closing party of the season at the club house of that organization. Mrs. Lozier (Edna Holman) died three years before her husband.

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**Charles Lowrey**, building contractor, resided in this vicinity forty years. He was a native of Vermont, and died February 10, 1925, at the home of his son, Frederick C. Lowrey, 530 Franklin avenue.

**Dr. John Bates Lyon** was a physician and prominent citizen in River Forest for many years. He was born in Harvard, Ill., August 1, 1880, graduated from University of Chicago and Rush Medical college, and came to River Forest to engage in the practice of medicine early this century and took an active interest in civic affairs. He was president of River Forest Chamber of Commerce several terms, and held the office of health commissioner of the village from the time the office was created in 1905 until 1915; and again from 1917 to 1931. He was a member of the American, Illinois and Chicago Medical societies, and was a staff surgeon at Garfield Park hospital, and a member of Oak Park hospital staff. He died April 24, 1936 and is survived by his wife, Emma Eugenie, and one son, John Bates, III, and a daughter, Sister Mary Dona of the Dominican Order.

**H. H. Mahler**, village trustee in 1916, was a native of Chicago, where he was born in 1876, and where he became an architect and engineer. He came to River Forest to reside in 1905, and lived on Thatcher avenue, moving from here to Tulsa, Okla.

**John Matthews**, veteran fire chief of River Forest, retired May 1, 1938, and returned to Palos Park, Cook county, where he was born in 1872. He grew up there, and came to Oak Park in 1893, where he helped lay the street car tracks on Chicago and Harlem avenues. He ran the first bus from the street car tracks on Harlem avenue to the entrance of the Harlem race track, where the Harlem Golf course is now located on Roosevelt road. In 1897, he and his brother, Will, bought a grocery store and market at the southwest corner of Thatcher avenue and Lake street. Two years later they moved the store to the southeast corner into a new building erected by D. A. Thatcher. They later operated what is now the Leonardi store at 7761 Lake street. Mr. Matthews was married in 1898 to Miss Elizabeth Fairhead. They have two children—Rety, who lives in Iowa, and Jeanette, who lives at home when she is not away teaching school. The story of Mr. Matthews' connection with the fire department, and his picture appears on pages 48 and 49 of this book.

**Charles Marble** was one of the early residents of River Forest, coming here in the early eighties. The home was at Washington boulevard and Keystone avenue. He was a printer, owning a shop, and also working on one of the Chicago papers. He was one of the organizers of River Forest Presbyterian church. The family went east from here, and he and his wife died there; Mrs. Marble in 1937, at Roxbury, Mass. There were a number of children. Three daughters and two sons located in the east, and one son, Herbert, in Seattle, Washington.

**George Beverly Maslich**, Chicago educator, became a resident of River Forest in 1910. He is still a member of Belles Lettres Society here. His home is now at 1612 Juneway Terrace, Chicago. Mr. Maslich was born in Union City, Ind., February 7, 1874. He married Helen Treen of Chicago in 1902, and they have two sons and two daughters — Beverly, Phillip,

Elizabeth and Eleanor. He has served as principal of several Chicago schools, including the Waters, of which he is now principal, and for several years was superintendent of the Chicago and Cook County School for Delinquent Boys on Cermak road in North Riverside. When that school was closed he was transferred back to the Chicago schools. He served as village treasurer in River Forest in 1917.

**Lewis Baker Mayo**, who was a village trustee from 1902 until 1908, was born in Truro, Mass., October 30, 1852. He came to River Forest in 1898, and erected a home at 307 Keystone avenue, and occupied it until his death in 1922. His wife was Louise Ligare before her marriage. Their son, also Lewis B., now occupies the Keystone avenue home.

**Mrs. Louise Ligare Mayo**, sister of the late Edward F. Ligare, was born in Ford River, Mich., where her father had a lumber mill and camp. The family came to Chicago when Louise was twelve years of age, and later moved to Genoa, where she married Lewis Baker Mayo. They came to River Forest to reside in 1898, and she died here April 22, 1929.

**Hugh F. MacFarlane** owned and occupied the house now used as Trailside museum at Thatcher and Chicago avenues. He sold it in 1917 to Cook county for forest preserve, and moved to Charlottsburg, Virginia.

**Miss Gertrude K. Merrick** of the Caruthers School of Music, resided at 520 Forest avenue for fifty years. She was born in Natick, Mass., and was one of the pioneers in the Christian Science movement in this vicinity. She died in November, 1930.

## For Thirty Years

We have had a part in the growth and development of River Forest.

As a resident of River Forest for twenty-three years, we have found it an ideal home community in which to live.

We have been actively interested in bringing to River Forest as home owners, the kind of people whom you know as good neighbors.

## If You Have

Property to sell or manage, or wish to buy or rent, or if you have property to insure, we would be happy to serve you.

**ROBERT E. NICHOLAS, Inc.**

1103 Westgate, Oak Park

Euclid 388



**George L. Meyer**, who served as village trustee in 1912 and 1913, lived in River Forest thirty-three years. He served on the school board from 1909 to 1912, and was a member of the first zoning board. His home was at 135 Franklin avenue. Mr. Meyer moved from here in 1928 to Oshkosh, Wis., where he died November 6, 1933. His widow now lives in Oshkosh. Mr. Meyer was a charter member of River Forest Masonic lodge, and was a past patron of River Forest chapter, O.E.S. He had other Masonic affiliations in Oak Park and Chicago. He was president of the Guernsey Dairy Co., and was also engaged in the dairy business here, selling out in 1927. He was born in Germany, and lived in Cincinnati, Ohio, before coming to River Forest.

**Victor M. Mickelson**, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. Mickelson, 311 Ashland avenue, was born in River Forest in 1894. He attended the local grade and high schools, and Chicago Technical school, obtained a managerial job for the Child restaurants, and went to Duluth, Minn., where he died in 1926.

**Ernest Micklish**, first superintendent of River Forest water works system, is a native of Burlington, Wis., where he was born in 1865. He came to River Forest in 1893, as superintendent of construction for the company which had the contract for installing the system. When the work was completed, the village board made Mr. Micklish the superintendent. He filled the position most of the time until he retired in 1922. His home is at 418 Park avenue.

**Albert Miller** who served the village as a trustee in 1882, was a Chicago commission merchant. He was born in Tarrytown, N. Y., about 1860; came west and lived in Chicago, Oak Park and River Forest for forty years, going from here to Florida, where he died at St. Petersburg on April 28, 1928. He was a Quaker, a Mason, and a member of several social, civic and fraternal organizations. He had two sons—Lindsay, who married Beth Collins, and Alvin D. of St. Petersburg.

## W. GORIN SMITH

7755 Lake Street

### PLUMBING CONTRACTOR

New Installation  
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Forest 3934

**Edward Moeller** who lived here for more than twenty years, coming here about 1890, was a South Water street commission merchant in Chicago. He died in Chicago in May, 1937. He was a life member of the Chicago Single Tax club, of the principles of which he was a strong advocate.

**Mrs. Alice Titus Nichols**, daughter of Mrs. Elizabeth Furbeck, and granddaughter of Augustin Porter, came to River Forest with her parents in 1861, when she was three years of age. She lived with the family in her grandfather's home at Bonnie Brae and Central avenue for fifty-three years, and as Mrs. Titus then moved with her mother to Maywood, where she later married Mr. Nichols and went to Chicago to reside. She was a charter member of River Forest Women's club. Mrs. Nichols died August 19, 1929.

**Leo Montamat**, who came to River Forest in 1911, and built a home in the 600 block on Franklin avenue, was born in New York in 1878. He graduated from Brooklyn high school, became an office boy for the Western Electric company, was sent abroad as auditor for the company and was in Europe three years. After which he was transferred to the Chicago branch. In River Forest, he was president of the Neighborhood club, and a member of the P.T.A. and Associated Charities. He was captain of the River Forest Company of the Illinois Reserve Militia from 1917 to 1921.

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—and all the things you need for building, repairing and improving are offered here now—as always—at the lowest prices. Free estimates on your material lists cheerfully supplied.

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Phone Lafayette 1900 for complete estimates by Harris practical building men covering alterations, repairs, and all home improvements.

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Carpentry	Fences	Insulation
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Invitation to Contractors  
Reputable contractors are invited to visit the construction division at our Main Plant and figure on property improvement jobs which we will provide.

BERWYN BRANCH STORE, OGDEN AND CLINTON  
PHONE BERWYN 2860

<p><b>MAIN PLANT</b> 1248-1252 West 35th St. One Block East of Ashland Ave. Sales Division Open 8:30 A. M. to 6 P. M. Phone LAfayette 1900</p>	<p><b>LOOP STORE</b> 178-172 W. Washington Between La Salle and Wells Sts. Hours: 8:30 A. M. to 6 P. M. Phone DEArborn 1578</p>
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## HARRIS BROTHERS COMPANY

**Frederic Kimball Mizen**, illustrator and director of the Frederic Mizen Academy of Art at 75 E. Wacker drive, Chicago, was a resident of River Forest from 1919 until 1937. He is a member of Oak Park and River Forest Art League.

**Charles P. Molthrop**, village attorney from 1923 to 1925, and village president from 1925 to 1927, was a resident of River Forest from 1917 until his death March 9, 1935. Mr. Molthrop was born in Knoxville, Ill., September 11, 1873. As a boy, the family lived in Arkansas for a short time, and returned to Illinois where Charles attended Woodhull high school. In 1891, he came to Chicago and worked as an electrician. He graduated from Chicago Law School, and was admitted to the bar in 1902. Three years later, he formed a partnership with the late Judge George E. Q. Johnson, who later became United States district attorney, and a federal judge. Mr. Molthrop became a superior judge of Cook county in 1933, by appointment of Governor Horner. He was married in 1899 to Miss Myrtle Goodman of Big Rapids, Mich. She died during the past year. They left one son and two daughters—Mrs. Charlotte Machk, Mrs. Jean McConnel, and David The family home was at 555 Park avenue. Mr. Molthrop was a thirty-third degree mason, and was the first master of River Forest lodge.

**Leonard E. Moore**, second fire chief in River Forest, now a resident of Oak Park, was a trustee of the village from 1904 till 1907. He came here to reside in 1894, and had a blacksmith shop on Lake street, just west of the Soo line tracks, in what is now Keystone Field, where he operated for eighteen years.

**John T. Muir**, who died in 1918, was president of the village in 1915 and 1916, being elected by the Peoples Party in a heated election which was followed by the creation of the park board, and the acquiring of the first land for park purposes. There had been talk of erecting an ice house on the land in question, and that was the campaign issue. The Muir home was at 335 Gale avenue. Mr. Muir was a florist. He was born in Chicago in 1869, and came to River Forest in 1909.

**Miss Mary Murphy**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Murphy, pioneers in River Forest, was born here in 1868, and resided here until 1936 when she sold the family home which she occupied all those years. For twenty-two years, from 1909 until 1931, Miss Murphy was ticket agent for the Chicago and North Western railroad at their Lathrop avenue station in River Forest. After selling her home here Miss Murphy went to Oak Park to reside with a sister, Mrs. Hannah Faulkner, on Austin boulevard. Other sisters are Mrs. Anna Hight, Miss Murphy's twin, and Mrs. Margaret Gordon. A brother, Walter, died while a young man.

**James C. Nichols**, son of Mr. and Mrs. George A. Nichols, 539 Park avenue, was a resident of River Forest from 1922 until 1935, when he moved to Lake Forest. A native of Iowa, he learned the blacksmith trade with his father, but gave it up and went into the manufacturing business, acquiring a fortune. He owns

several lumber mills in the south, and a large ranch at Cody, Wyoming. Mr. Nichols served as president of River Forest police pension board.

**Mrs. Alice Titus Nichols**, daughter of Mrs. Elizabeth Furbeck, and granddaughter of Augustin Porter, came to River Forest with her parents in 1861, when she was three years of age. She lived with the family in her grandfather's home at Bonnie Brae and Central avenue for fifty-three years, and as Mrs. Titus then moved with her mother to Maywood, where she later married Mr. Nichols and went to Chicago to reside. She was a charter member of River Forest Women's club. Mrs. Nichols died August 19, 1929.

**William A. Nida**, superintendent of River Forest schools from 1905 to 1920, was born in Gallipolis, Ohio, in 1874. He attended Ohio State university, University of Chicago, and University of Southern California, and wrote several text books. He went from here to San Diego, California, where he died August 14, 1936. He is survived by Mrs. Nida, a daughter, Mrs. Sydney, and a son, Richard.

**Rev. Charles Kristian Orsborn**, pastor of First Presbyterian church of River Forest from 1918 to 1925. He was born of English parents in Christiana, Norway, November 1, 1890. He came to Toronto, Ont., at the age of seventeen, and later to Chicago where he attended the McCormick Theological Seminary. He resigned his pastorate here in 1925, to conduct European tours, and died in March, 1926.

## T. J. Peters Company

Decorating

Exterior Painting

Wood Finishing

7559 Lake Street

ESTABLISHED

1900



**George Wilson Shearburn**, born in Yorkshire, England, March 25, 1848, came to River Forest to reside in 1884, and remained here until his death in 1918. He came, as a boy, with his parents to this country and resided on farms at Quincy and Mendota, in this state. He came to Chicago in 1880, to Oak Park in 1882, and in 1884 to River Forest living on Grove avenue (now Keystone) near Washington boulevard. He married Elizabeth Gibson in 1878. Mr. Shearburn was with the exception of two years, village clerk from 1888 until 1900. He was in the employ of the North Western railroad for forty years, retiring on a pension in 1918.

**Chris Schlund**, village treasurer in 1891 and 1892, conducted a meat market at the southwest corner of Lake street and Harlem avenue, at an early day.

**William J. Schreiner** was a resident of River Forest for thirty-eight years. His home was at 620 Franklin avenue, where his widow now resides. He was a director of River Forest State bank, and president of the board of River Forest Presbyterian church. One son, Harold, was killed in the world war. Warren W., is a son, and a third son, Herbert W., lives in Mt. Prospect. Harold died in France, of wounds received in the Argonne.

**Charles M. Schroeder**, born in Germany in 1854, came to this country at the age of twenty-one, and to River Forest from Chicago in 1897. He built a house at 823 Keystone avenue, and occupied it until his death. He had a meat market on Milwaukee avenue in Chicago, and later on Lake street near Austin boulevard. He was a director of First National bank of Oak Park. He was killed by a Lake street car at Keystone avenue in 1921.

**Joseph T. Scott**, 310 Franklin avenue, has been a resident of River Forest since 1902. He was born in Chicago, September 27, 1872, where he grew up and continued to reside until he came here. He married Miss Mary Hogan in 1897, and they have ten children. Mr. Scott served the village as a trustee in 1926 and 1927.

**Frank H. Shaw**, president of the village from 1927 to 1931, came to River Forest to reside in 1919, and remained here until his death in July, 1934. His home was at 711 Thatcher avenue, where his widow still resides. Mr. Shaw was born in Des Moines, Iowa, July 20, 1870. When a young man, he went west, and was at Spokane, Wash., for twenty-five years; later was located in St. Paul, and in 1919, came to Chicago to be associated with the Ft. Dearborn bank. He was later associated with a bond house in LaSalle street.

**Frank C. Smith**, who served as village trustee in 1893, and on the board of education in 1901 and 1902, was in the employ of E. C. Waller in the real estate office. His home was at 230 Gale avenue. His death occurred in 1917.

**George Steele**, younger son and youngest child of Ashbel Steele, first settler of River Forest, was born here in 1848. He remained a bachelor, and occupied the old homestead here for sixty years. Later he moved

to Maywood, where he died in September, 1927. He farmed such of the Steele acres as were tillable until he sold the land to the forest preserve commissioners.

**N. E. Steward** operated a general store at the northwest corner of Lake street and Park avenue for a number of years, starting in 1919. He sold the business to F. A. Deacon. He died about 1925. His wife afterward became a buyer for a Chicago loop store and married again. She died in December, 1929, at her Winter home in Mississippi.

**Henry Struble** was a leading citizen in River Forest from the time he came here in 1887 until his death in 1933. He was president of the Henry Struble Cut Stone Co., with quarries at Bedford, Ind., and offices in the the Rookery building, Chicago. He was president of the village from 1900 to 1906, and again in 1923 and 1924. Prior to that he was village treasurer from 1888 to 1900, and in 1897 and 1898. He had been a director of River Forest State bank, and after his retirement from his own business, he was made president of the bank which office he held until his death. It was thought that the moratorium in 1933 hastened his death, as he felt the strain of the situation, and it worried him. Mr. Struble was active in Masonry and a member of River Forest lodge, A.F. & A.M. His home at the time of his death was at 727 Jackson avenue. Prior to that he had lived on Forest avenue, near Lake street. Mrs. Struble, who survived him, has since resided in Oak Park. Her home is at 223 S. Oak Park avenue. She was active in the social life of the community, while she resided in River Forest.

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**Patrick Henry Sullivan**, a sugar broker, with an office in the Hearst building, who served as village trustee in 1918 and 1919, died December 6, 1924, after a residence of thirty-one years in River Forest. He was born in Chicago, August 22, 1884. His widow resides at 629 Thatcher avenue. She is a daughter of Mrs. T. M. Jackson.

**Jacob A. Thoma**, who was born in Chicago in 1886, and was western sales manager for Sapolin company of New York, resided in River Forest from 1911, until his death, following an auto accident, in 1931. His home was at 734 Lathrop avenue. He served six years on the local park board. His widow resides with her daughter, Mrs. Lewis Murray, at 7350 Lake street. A son, William Leslie, lives at San Mateo, California.

**F. D. Thompson**, a Civil War veteran, came to River Forest, from Steubenville, Ohio, in 1883, and continued to reside here until his death in 1915, except during a short residence in Athens, Tenn. He was a contractor and builder, and erected many homes here. He maintained an office in Chicago.

**Mrs. Mary A. Thompson**, widow of George, who died in 1906, was a resident of River Forest for thirty-five years. She was born in Scotland, and came to Canada before coming to this country. She died in 1931. Mrs. Thompson was a member of River Forest Women's club, Daughters of the British Empire, and of First Presbyterian church of River Forest.

**Edward Topping**, who died December 16, 1934, after a long residence, was a paper salesman for Pilcher-Hamilton company of Chicago for thirty years. His home was at 608 Bonnie Brae. Mr. Topping was a village trustee in 1914 and 1915, and a member of the board of education from 1917 to 1926, the last two years of which he was president of the board. He was born in Darien, Wis., in 1869. His wife, who was formerly Miss Inez McAllister of Elgin, now lives in that city. One daughter, Eloise Topping Grainger, lives in Glen Ellyn, and the other, Helen Topping Stowell, lives in San Antonio, Texas.

**George Townsend Turner**, who was a village trustee in 1911 and 1912, came to River Forest in 1902, and lived at the northwest corner of Washington boulevard and Thatcher avenue. When that land was sold to the county for forest preserve, he moved the house to the corner of Gale and Linden avenues. He later moved to 1015 Lathrop avenue, where his widow now resides. Mr. Turner was born in Bridgeport, Ohio, in 1873, and died here March 16, 1929. He was in business in Chicago. He was a member of Union League club, Oak Park Country club, River Forest Tennis club, Oak Park Y. M. C. A., and Oak Park Presbyterian church.

**William C. Valentine**, who was western sales manager for the United States Glue company, was a resident of River Forest from 1903 until his death in 1928. He served as a village trustee from 1920 until 1924. Mr. Valentine was born in Milwaukee, Wis. He was a member of River Forest Masonic lodge, Medinah club,

and German club. His home here was 522 Edgewood place. His widow lives in Oak Park.

**Arthur Lloyd Vaughan**, wholesale florist, for 30 years at 161 N. Wabash avenue, resided in River Forest from 1920 until his death in 1926. He was born in Bastrop, La., June 1, 1863, and resided in Oak Park fifteen years before coming to River Forest.

**William J. von der Lehr** lived in River Forest from 1901 until 1919. He was born in LaFayette, Ind., March 26, 1864. He came to Chicago as a young man, became associated with the American Express Co., and from that company went to the Standard Oil Co., retiring in 1920, after thirty-two years and six months. He served as a village trustee in 1912 and 1913. He lived at 423 Franklin avenue, and later on Lathrop avenue, which home he sold in 1919. From here he moved to Chicago, and the following year to California, returning to Oak Park in 1925, after his second marriage to a Mrs. Emma George of California. His residence was at 248 S. Marion street, where he died in 1932. His first wife was Ida Arch, by whom he had three children—Florence, now Mrs. Norman McClevey, 727 Ashland avenue; Norman of Petersburg, Ind., and Miss Grace of Chicago.

**Robert T. Walbank**, who was a village trustee from 1894 until 1895, lived in Tratcher avenue, near Lake street. He was salesman for the Bradley Paint company. He went east from here, but returned to Chicago, and resides on the north side.



"Dated for Freshness"

**GOOD LUCK** Margarine

**GOOD LUCK**

*Whipped Dressing and Mayonnaise*

WITH SEALED-IN FRESHNESS  
AND FLAVOR

**JOHN F. JELKE CO. - Chicago**

**John Watkins**, village trustee in 1907 and 1908, and village treasurer in 1909, resided at the southeast corner of Franklin and Chicago avenues. He was in the employ of the American Express company.

**Fred J. Watson**, who was a village trustee in 1914 and 1915, and a member of the board of education from 1905 till 1911, lived at 633 Thatcher avenue, which residence he built. He was a retired Chicago school principal, and was one of the organizers of Belles Lettres society. Mr. Watson died in February, 1926, while climbing the elevated stairs in the loop, after having attended a meeting of the Chicago Dickens club of which he was a charter member, and had just resigned as president, preparatory to moving to South Carolina, having sold his home on Thatcher avenue.

**Edwin Morgan Watts**, president of Watts Enamel Co. in Summit, lived in River Forest at 29 Thatcher avenue for twelve years prior to his death in August, 1936. He was born in Ithaca, N. Y., in 1872, and came to Chicago when a boy.

**Edwin S. Wells**, who died in Los Angeles, California, August 13, 1938, lived at 327 Gale avenue until 1936. For many years he was in the employ of the Chicago Daily News. He served as member and president of the board of education and also of River Forest library board. Mrs. Wells served on the school board from 1919 until 1921. They were members of First Presbyterian church and Belles Lettres society. Mr. Wells was a trustee of the church, and president of Belles Lettres society. Mrs. Wells was president of River Forest Women's club.

**William Whitehead**, who lived at Hawthorne and Thatcher avenues, built several houses during his residence here, and owned land at the southwest corner of Lake street and Thatcher avenue, known as Whitehead's Addition to River Forest. He moved from River Forest to Evanston, more than thirty years ago, and died there.

**Robert E. Williams**, engineer for the village of River Forest and numerous other villages, came to River Forest in 1905, and resided here until his death in 1925. His home was at 177 Gale avenue. He was born in Canada in 1858, and came to Chicago when a boy. He was a distant relative of Charles Dickens.

**John J. Willis** moved to River Forest in 1917 from Maywood, where he was in the hardware business locating at 755 William street, moving to 539 Thatcher avenue in 1925. He died in 1928. He was born in

7517 LAKE STREET

PHONE FOREST 1895

## JOHN C. TROEGER

PLUMBING & HEATING

RIVER FOREST, ILL.

JOBING PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO

Wapella, Ill., December 19, 1858. His widow was killed in an automobile accident, a few years after his death.

**William Wilson**, who lived for eleven years in River Forest at 335 Thatcher avenue, died January 23, 1931. He was with the People's Gas company for seventeen years and with the Municipal Court in Chicago for seven years. He was born in Chicago, December 19, 1873. His widow, Mrs. Carrie Cuyler Wilson, whose Cuyler ancestry, of Holland descent, dates back ten generations to Hendrick Cuyler, who emigrated to America about 1664. Cuyler avenue in Oak Park, was named for her uncle, Edward J. Cuyler, long connected with the Chicago North Western railroad and owner of considerable Oak Park realty. She still resides at the Thatcher avenue address.

**William Herman Winslow**, who with his brother, Francis, owned and operated the Winslow Bros. Ornamental Iron Co., at Harrison street and Cicero avenue, Chicago, came to River Forest about 1900. He bought land from E. C. Waller, adjoining the latter's estate, on Lake street in Auvergne addition. Mr. Winslow erected a fine home there, naming it Auvergne Lodge. This he occupied, until he moved to New York, soon after the World War. He died in Michigan in December, 1934. He served on River Forest board of education from 1907 until 1931, and on Oak Park and River Forest high school board in 1915. Two sons, Allan and Paul, made fine records as aviators in the World War. Allan, was in a German prison for six months, and lost an arm. He was made a colonel, and later was in the consular service for the United States. He died in Michigan. Paul is living in San Francisco.

**Verne A. Wright**, an attorney, who came to River Forest in 1907 and married Miss Bertha Thatcher, daughter of George L., was associated with the Standard Paving Co., and specialized in general taxation and special assessment law. He served as a village trustee from 1916 to 1920. His home here was at 747 Keystone avenue, corner Chicago avenue. Mr. Wright was born in Woodstock, Ill., in 1872, and died in Green Lake,

## Ray Hardy's

### SERVICE STATION

PARK AVENUE & LAKE STREET

Forest 2097

River Forest, Ill

Washing - Lubricating - Battery

Tire Service - General Tires

## Present Day Business - Chapter Nine

**RIVER FOREST** has never been a great industrial nor commercial center. For a municipality of its size, it has few stores and factories. As analyzed, however, it does serve the community with a wide variety of mercantile institutions, and its few industries are outstanding. In this chapter, the writer attempts to show what River Forest has in this respect. Included in the chapter are the professional men who maintain offices in River Forest. Reference to the commercial institutions is as free from propaganda, as the remainder of the chapters have tried to be kept. This is history, and nothing more.

Andes Candy Shop, 7225 Lake street; established 1938.  
A. & P. Food Mart, 7245-47 Lake street, established in 1938.

Atlantic & Pacific Tea Store, 7609 Lake street, G. L. Hanks, manager, established in 1923 at 7577 Lake street, with Will Rogers as manager. He was succeeded by Paul Robinson, and Mr. Hanks became manager in 1929. Moved to present address in 1933.

Austin Furniture Co., 7567-69 Lake street, Louis Freeman, proprietor. Moved here from Madison street, Austin, in 1933, after twenty-five years in business there.

Bowman Dairy Co., milk bottlers and distributors, district offices and distributing station at Harlem and Central avenues, established in 1909. Bottling plant on Central avenue, between Jackson and Monroe avenues, established in 1927.

Dr. Robert H. Brening, dentist, Franklin avenue at Lake street; office established in 1936.

Butler Rug Co., 416-418 Lake street. William J. Drews, and William J. and Herman F. Haveman, owners. Business established by Thomas Butler at 7433 Lake street. Bought by present owners in 1919; incorporated in 1921; moved to present address in 1923, when the Ulrich buildings were purchased from Bowman Dairy Co.

Thomas Butler, rug cleaner, 7433 Lake street.

Buurma Home and Realty Corporation, 7229 Division street. Moved there this year from 800 Harlem avenue; Lamburtus and Hilbrand Buurma.

Louis Corriero, shoe repair shop, 7575 Lake street. Established 1922 at 7971 Lake street; moved to 7577 Lake street; to present address in 1935.

Gunnar E. Carlson, druggist, 7751 Lake street; established in 1932.

Chicago-Harlem Sinclair Service station, Glenn Willard, proprietor, established in 1935 by Ralph L. Robinson, who was succeeded by Mr. Willard in 1936.

Colonial Gift Shop, 7229 Lake street, established 1938.

Concordia Monument Co., 7630 Madison street, established in 1937. Incorporated in 1938 by W. H. Scheel, L. Scheel, and H. J. Troost.

Cusack Realty Co., local office established in 1926 at 7709 Lake street; moved to present address, 7629 Lake street in 1928. Thomas Cusack, Jr., was president until his death in July 4, 1936, when Mrs. Cusack became president. Mrs. R. C. Leland is vice president, and Leo Reedy, secretary-treasurer and general manager.

Dr. Stanley A. Danhauer, dentist, 7627 Lake street. Opened office in River Forest in 1935.

Davis Children's Shop, 7212 Lake street; established 1938.

Dickens Shop, 7365 Lake street; established in 1935; Mrs. Charles Bannin Edwards, proprietor.

Dr. C. Davis Dursema, dentist; 7803 Lake street; office opened in River Forest in 1938.

Dresen & McCarthy, Inc., doing business under the name of Western Refrigeration Service, 7807-7811 Lake street, sales and service of all refrigeration equipment; business established as a partnership in 1933, and incorporated in 1935, with the following officers: Walter McCarthy, president; William Dresen, vice president; Raymond McCarthy, secretary; Robert Dresen, treasurer.

Flood Hardware Co., 7623 Lake street; Wilbur E. Flood, proprietor. Business established by Frank E. Hall at 7807 Lake street in 1926. Mr. Flood purchased business in 1933, and moved it to 7755-57 Lake street. One year later he moved to his present address.

Florenz Shop, 7621 Lake street; dry goods and notions; established in 1926. Mrs. Bertha Horn, proprietor.

Forest Bake Shop, formerly River Forest Novelty Store, 7707 Lake street, Mrs. Bertha Langholtz, proprietor. Established by Wm. Matthews in 1931, and sold to Mrs. Hockema in 1935, and to present owner in 1938.

Forest Milk Products Co., 416 Lathrop avenue, manufacturer of ice cream mix. Moved here from Wisconsin in 1937; an auxiliary of Bowman Dairy company.

Fox Printing Co., 7612 Madison street, Ernest F. Fox, proprietor. Established in 1935.

Frederickson's Express, expressing and storage; 412 Bonnie Brae; Gus Frederickson, proprietor. Established in Oak Park in 1904. Moved to present address in 1909.

Golden Glow Ice Cream Stand, Thatcher and North avenues; James Lindahl, proprietor. Established in 1937.

J. A. Grandland, 7575 Lake street, sheet metal contractor; furnaces, jobbing; established at same location in 1902. Mr. Grandland resides in Maywood.

Dr. Charles A. Griffith, physician, 7803 Lake street, opened office in River Forest in 1909.

Haertel Monument Co., 8000 Madison street. Theodore Haertel, proprietor. See article on "Early Business and Industry," page 47.

Ray Hardy's Service Station, 7800 Lake street; established in 1936.



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SONS OF

# D. LEONARDI

Fine Foods For More Than Thirty Years

Three Stores — Modernly Equipped — Well Stocked

7761-63 Lake Street, River Forest

113 N. Oak Park Avenue, Oak Park

844 Madison Street, Oak Park

Comprehensive Lines of Groceries — Markets with Only Choicest Meats

Excellent Baked Goods from Our Own Ovens — Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Daily

Careful Attention to Phone Orders

**Prompt Delivery**

Phones

Lake Street Store, Forest 1950  
Oak Park Avenue Store, Village 9063  
Madison Street Store, Euclid 5400



Harlem Central Garage, 7226 Central avenue, Stacy Motor Co., operator; established in 1930 by J. Sylvester Campbell. It was operated by Stephen C. Senyard from 1935 to 1937.

Edward Hines Lumber Co., 7820 Madison street; River Forest branch established in 1909, with A. C. Donnell as manager.

Hostess Cake Bakery, 7525 Lake street, Continental Baking Co., established as the Oak Park Baking company in 1908; operated later as Ward Baking company; present owners purchased plant in 1923.

Illinois Insulation Co., 431 Ashland avenue, building insulation; established in 1937; W. G. Knoblich, president; W. L. James, secretary and treasurer.

Johnson Bicycle Shop, 7808 Lake Street; George E. Johnson, proprietor; established in 1930.

K. & E. Food Shop, 7617 Lake street; Mrs. Frank Kramp and Don Eckdahl, proprietors; established in 1924 by Mrs. A. Cluever; purchased in 1928 by present owners.

Kanter's Flower Shop, 7201 North avenue; Jacob Kanter, proprietor; established in 1930.

Kinney's Shoe Store, 7237 Lake street; established 1938.

John A. Klesert, realtor, 7709 Lake street; established in 1931 at 7605 Lake street; moved to present address in 1934.

Lake Street Auto Laundry, Andy Fritz, proprietor; established in 1910 by C. M. Hose; operated from 1926 to 1932 by Al Veith; from 1932 until 1935 by Herb and Verne Wickstrum; and again by Mr. Hose from 1935 until 1938.

Lambrecht Creamery, 7233 Garden street, distributors of butter, eggs, and cottage cheese.

D. Leonardi's Sons, meats and groceries, 7761 Lake street; who bought the business at this address and one at 7977 Lake street, in 1935, and consolidated them in 1936. The store at 7977 Lake street was operated by the late Emil Anderson; and the store at 7761 was operated by W. W. Meyer from 1923 to 1935; business established by Nick Nissen in 1914, and operated by Matthews Bros., from 1918 until 1923.

Little Chick Shoe Shop, children's shoes; L. W. Parker, proprietor; 7223 Lake street; established 1938.

Jacob Loechel, merchant tailor, 7735 Lake street; established in 1936.

Luhman's Food Store, Otto Luhman, proprietor, 7735 Lake street; business originally located at 419 Lathrop avenue; established first by August Selbach by whom Mr. Luhman was employed, discontinued and re-established in 1902 by George Resen, from whom it was purchased by Mr. Luhman in 1905; moved to present address in 1915; building remodeled and enlarged in 1927.

Maderia Importing Co., 7223 Lake street; established 1938.

Magers and Mackh, interior decorators, 7773 Lake street; Fred Magers and Henry Mackh, proprietors. Established in 1933.

Maison Celia Beauty Salon, 508 Park avenue; Miss Effie Newton, proprietor. Established in 1930.

Marguerite's Beauty Shop, 7619 Lake street, Miss Ann Riordan, proprietor; established in 1922 at 419 Lathrop avenue; moved in 1924 to present address.

Mayfield's, ladies' wear, Leo Bernstein, proprietor; 7221 Lake street; established 1938.

McMillan's Delicatessen, 7965 Lake street; R. L. McMillan, proprietor. Established in 1937.

Metropolitan Drapery Co., 7231 Lake street, established 1938.

Mickey's Barber Shop, 7963 Lake street; J. George Amann, proprietor; established in 1934 by Ray Rappel; operated by "Mickey" since 1937.

Miller Decorators, 7223 Oak avenue; A. Earl and Arlene Miller, proprietors; established in 1933.

Mobilgas Service Station, 1140 Harlem avenue; established in 1923 by Burke Oil Co., as Standard Oil station. Present operators are Harold Banholzer and James Ryan.

Modiste, millinery, 7219 Lake street; established 1938. Nicholson Food Shop, 7816 Lake street; Mrs. Sophie Nicholson, proprietor; established 1938.

North and Thatcher Service Station; Otto A. Meyer, operator; established in 1928 by O. M. Mortenson. Operated later by Otto Baderson.

North Pole, Inc., ice cream parlor; 7315 North avenue; established 1938.

Oak Park Camera company, 7243 Lake street; established 1938.

Mrs. Nora Aubrey Obergfell, interior decorator, 818 Forest avenue.

O'Connor's Cleaners and Furriers, 7312-20 Central avenue; John J. O'Connor, president and general manager; moved to River Forest from Chicago in 1927; then operated as Shuettler's West Towns Cleaners. Business purchased by Mr. O'Connor in 1933.

Ernest Oechslein, florist, Madison street and Gale avenue. See article on "Early Business and Industry," on page 47.

Oral's Barber Shop, 7619 Lake street; Oral Halterman, proprietor. Established in 1928 by Joe Porter; sold to Miss Anne Riordan, proprietor Marguerite Beauty Parlor in 1930, and managed for her by "Mickey" Amann until 1935, when she sold it to Mr. Halterman.

Park Avenue Pharmacy, established in 1927 by G. D. Laviere; operated by D. G. Knoblock beginning in 1932.

T. J. Peters Company, painters and decorators, 7759 Lake street; Roland Keehn, owner; established in 1900 by T. J. Peters; sold to Mr. Keehn in 1935.

Pike's Sandwich Shop, 7249 Lake street, established 1938.

Prince Castle, ice cream parlor; 620 Harlem avenue; Walter S. Fredenhagen, proprietor; established at 7209 Lake street in 1935; moved to present address in 1937.

Profant's Proficient Pharmacy, 7605 Lake street; Otto Profant, proprietor; established in the nineties by L. M. Lovett at 7985 Lake street; purchased by Farmer Rossman in 1900; by J. G. Butler in 1930, and by Mr. Profant in 1934; moved to present address in 1935.

Pure Oil Station, southwest corner Lake street and Bonnie Brae; established in 1936 by Earl Hiller, at southeast corner Lake street and Bonnie Brae, and moved across Bonnie Brae to present location in 1937.

Ray Rappel, barber; 7769 Lake street; established at 7971 Lake street in 1933; moved to present address in 1935.

River Forest Auto Shop, 419 Lathrop avenue, Asa J. Taylor, proprietor; established in 1930.

River Forest Electric Shop, 420 Lathrop avenue; F. A. Helwig, proprietor; established in 1936.

River Forest Leaves, 7755 Lake street; Forest Publishing Co., proprietors; Albert L. Hall, editor; established in 1907 by Pioneer Publishing Co., purchased by Hall-Heilemann Co. in 1924, and by present owners in 1931.

River Forest State Bank, 7727 Lake street, corner Franklin avenue; organized in 1912, and opened for business January 2, 1913, at 7757 Lake street; moved to present address in own building in March, 1929. First officers: John W. Broughton, president; Thomas M. Jackson, vice president; John A. Klesert, cashier, and John W. Broughton, Felix J. Griffen, John J. Ryan, Henry Struble, Edward C. Waller, Edward A. Cummings, and Thomas M. Jackson, directors. Mr. Broughton was succeeded by Henry Struble as president in 1929, and Mr. Struble by Francis C. Pilgrim in 1931. Mr. Klesert served as cashier until 1931; was succeeded by John W. Youle, who served until 1933, and was succeeded by Henry W. Levertz in 1935. Present directors are Francis Pilgrim, Elmer W. Arch, Louis J. Cross, Charles A. Griffith, R. Frederick Locke, Walter W. Meyer, and John Higgins. Intervening directors have been John B. Piggott; W. J. Schreiner, Leo A. Ryan, and Henry C. Arch. The original capital stock was \$50,000, which was increased to \$75,000 in 1926. There were originally seven directors. The number was increased to nine in 1929, and reduced to seven in 1932.

River Forest Tailors and Cleaners, 7615 Lake street, David Steinholz, proprietor; established in 1927.

Ryan Bros. & Sather, realtors and builders, 7716 Madison street; Leo A. Ryan, Edward A. Ryan, and John Sather, owners; established in 1919 at 7767 Lake street, and moved to present address in 1934.

Dr. Robert F. Sharer, physician, 7753 Lake street; established office here in 1936.

Shell Service Station, Lake street and Park avenue, Bob Pottel, proprietor; established in 1928.

Skelgas Appliance Sales Co., 7971 Lake street; W. P. Hughes, manager; established in 1937.

Sol's Hat Shop, 7239 Lake street; established 1938.

**TO LOOK YOUR BEST VISIT  
RAY'S BARBER SHOP**

RAY RAPPEL, Proprietor

7769 LAKE STREET

Dr. C. J. Sauer, dentist, 7753 Lake street, opened office in River Forest in 1914.

Skelly Service Station, 7973 Lake street; Frank Sanders, proprietor; formerly operated by Robert Ligare as a Pure Oil Station.

W. Gorin Smith, plumbing, 7755 Lake street; business established by L. W. Hudon in 1934 at 7767 Lake street, purchased by present owner in 1935, and moved to present address in 1937.

Standard Oil Station, 7810 Lake street; established 1928 by Ray Hardy; sold to Jack Rievard in 1936, and to Robert Carr, in 1937, and to Walter Redell in 1938.

Standard Oil Station, Madison street and Franklin avenue; Richard Bonin and Fred Kramer, proprietors; established in 1924.

Standard Oil Station, 8001 Lake street; George Sheets, proprietor; established in 1927 by Peter Lee.

Swanson's Greenhouses, 8227 Lake street; established in 1912 by Gus Swanson; now operated by his son, George Swanson.

Steigart's Bakery, 7610 Madison street, Leo Steigart, proprietor; established by Mr. Steigart in 1919; sold to Gottlieb Bulman in 1921, and taken over again by Mr. Steigart in 1930.

Suburban Market, 7607 Lake street, Oliver Kleinman and James Livingstone, proprietors; established in 1932.

River Forest Garage, 7701 Lake street, Wesley Trebass, proprietor; established 1917.

John C. Troeger, plumbing and heating, 7517 Lake street; established 1924.

Dr. Arthur Hastings Vollerton, dentist, Franklin avenue at Lake street; office established in 1933.

Westphal's Bottling Works, 7355 Lake street, Adolph Westphal, proprietor; soda water bottling, wholesale beer; established in 1894.

Wieboldt's Department Store, southwest corner Lake street and Harlem avenue; Wieboldt Company, owners; opened, March, 1937.

L. H. Warren & Son, landscape gardeners and florists, 7217 Division street; established in 1924 by L. H. and L. W. Warren.

Wishbone, 7825 North avenue, Gold and Lange, proprietors; business established in 1924 by O. M. Mortenson, at North and Thatcher avenues; moved to present location in 1930; taken over by Warren Buckley in 1934, and by J. L. Lloyd in 1936.

Dr. Chas. J. Weigel, physician, 7627 Lake street, opened office in River Forest in 1932.

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AND APPLIANCES

**River Forest Electric Shop**

WE REPAIR ALL KINDS OF APPLIANCES

420 LATHROP AVENUE

RIVER FOREST, ILLINOIS

# Who's Who in 1938 - Chapter Ten

Henry C. Arch, 216 Franklin avenue, Henry C. Arch & Sons, Inc., stone contractors, 7665 Van Buren street, Forest Park.

Grace Allison, librarian, River Forest public library.

Bernard M. Armstrong, 111 Gale avenue, interior decorator, 660 N. Rush street, Chicago.

E. W. Badenoch, 558 William street; J. J. Badenoch Co., commission merchants, 2000 W. 17th street, Chicago

Mary F. Balcomb, 7968 Iowa street, teacher of social studies, Harrison high school, Chicago.

Ewald A. Balgeman, 1130 Park avenue, former village trustee, treasurer Jelke Good Luck Products Co., Chicago.

Grant O. Barber, 535 Keystone avenue, former village trustee, insurance broker, Chicago.

Grace L. Barton, 7753 Lake street, pioneer resident and business woman; member Presbyterian church, and River Forest Woman's club.

Charles F. Baumrucker, 750 Forest avenue, state senator, former village board president, and secretary and treasurer Jones & Baumrucker, Chicago jewelers.

John E. Baumrucker, 123 Ashland avenue, president Jones & Baumrucker, jewelers, Chicago.

Dr. Otto Z. Baumrucker, and Dr. Ottilie Baumrucker, 947 William street, physicians, 6012 Cermak road, Cicero.

William Baumrucker, 835 Keystone avenue, chairman River Forest forestry commission, teacher Crane high school, Chicago.

Hiram T. Beard, 1420 Bonnie Brae, president Oak Park Area Boy Scout Council; president Allison-Bedford Co., food products, 2309 S. Keeler avenue, Chicago.

Mrs. Genevieve F. Berns, 7829 Greenfield street, former member River Forest library board, former member River Forest board of education, and former president River Forest Women's club.

Max A. Berns, 7829 Greenfield street, former trustee of village; organizer and president of River Forest Sunday Evening club during its activities, and first president of River Forest Playground and Recreation board.

Arthur J. Bidwill, 1403 Bonnie Brae, vice president Bentley, Murray & Co., printers and binders, 511 Plymouth court, Chicago.

Raymond D. Berry, 1019 Forest avenue; member River Forest zoning appeal board.

Samuel F. Block, 731 Park avenue, attorney, 111 Washington boulevard, Chicago.

Rev. Fred F. Bosworth, 538 William street, evangelist.

C. A. Bradley, 511 Edgewood place, paving contractor, Standard Paving company, 30 N. LaSalle street, Chicago.

Harold Brassie, 310 Ashland avenue, constable, and electrical contractor, 104 S. Marion street, Oak Park.

James H. Brennen, 830 Harlem avenue, general agent Fidelity Mutual Life Insurance company, 111 W. Washington street, Chicago.

John H. Brenner, 535 William street, retired auditor, president River Forest Family Welfare association.

John L. Brink, 7925 Washington boulevard, village president; president of Brink & Sons, Inc., produce merchants, 1118 Fulton Market, Chicago.

Michael Brisch, 941 Clinton place, president Rockwell Lime company, and Brisch Brick Co., main office at 228 N. LaSalle street, Chicago.

Albert H. Bromann, Sr., 1112 Franklin avenue, Bromann Brothers, butchers' supplies, 857 W. Fulton street, and 2900 N. Lincoln avenue, Chicago.

Homer J. Buckley, 915 Bonnie Brae, chairman River Forest Safety commission; president Buckley-Dement & Co., direct mail advertising, 1300 W. Jackson boulevard, Chicago.

J. Wiley Burden, 629 William street, Hartford Fire Insurance company, 410 N. Michigan avenue, Chicago.

L. Knox Burno, 617 Edgewood place; member River Forest board of education; former member River Forest safety commission; manager Harris Bros., 1349 W. 35th street, Chicago.

Earl J. Bush, 1143 Lathrop avenue, village trustee, vice president and sales manager Diamond T Truck company, 4517 W. 26th street, Chicago.

Charles E. Byrne, 1137 Franklin avenue; attorney, 135 S. LaSalle street; member Illinois Commerce Commission.

John J. Callahan, 1030 Forest avenue, director Desplains Valley Mosquito Abatement district, vice president North American Engineering & Construction company, 10 N. LaSalle street, Chicago.

Samuel A. Campbell, 827 Keystone avenue, lecturer and author, known as "The Philosopher of the Forest," spends Summer at his official home, Three Lakes, Wisconsin.

Samuel J. Campbell, 1131 Lathrop avenue; president S. J. Campbell Co., manufacturers living room furniture, 1335 Altgeld street, Chicago.

Robert E. Cantwell, Jr., 830 Franklin avenue, attorney, 160 N. LaSalle street, Chicago.

Rev. Thomas A. Canty, 523 Ashland avenue, pastor St. Luke's Catholic church.

George F. Carolan, 730 Bonnie Brae, former village attorney.

Joseph Penn Carolan, 1431 Park avenue, former county commissioner; bonding, insurance and real estate, 175 W. Jackson boulevard, Chicago.

Harvey L. Cavender, 711 William street, former village trustee, attorney, 160 N. LaSalle street, Chicago.

Dr. Ray E. Cheney, 926 Jackson avenue, superintendent River Forest public schools.

William T. Chenoweth, 541 Keystone avenue, member River Forest zoning appeal board; retired army officer.

George Alvah Chritton, 940 Bonnie Brae, attorney, member of firm of Chritton, Wiles, Davies, Hirschl & Dawson, 141 W. Jackson boulevard, Chicago.

Fred A. Clarke, 840 Bonnie Brae, attorney, 69 W. Washington street, Chicago.

Harry L. Clute, 715 Bonnie Brae, former village trustee and former village treasurer. Mr. Clute is a member of River Forest forestry commission.

Weldon S. Coats, 550 William street, salesman at the Chicago office of American Printing Ink Co., 2314 W. Kinzie street.

Cyrus C. Collins, Jr., 626 Keystone avenue, secretary Barr & Collins Co., 7459 Franklin street, Forest Park.

Dr. Guy Parke Conger, 558 Keystone avenue; former member and president River Forest board of education; physician, office 120 N. Oak Park avenue, Oak Park.

Mrs. Avery Courtney Conwell, 603 Thatcher avenue; artist, and chairman of program committee of Austin, Oak Park & River Forest Art league.

Louis J. Cross, 1001 Jackson avenue; former village trustee; director River Forest State bank; investment broker, Paul H. Davis & Co., 10 S. LaSalle street, Chicago.

Dr. Charles Davison, 835 Thatcher avenue; physician, 432 S. Wolcott street, Chicago.

Walter Dellers, 7215 Oak avenue; director of Walter Dellers Studios, 25 E. Jackson boulevard, Chicago.

Harry H. Dickinson, 944 Bonnie Brae; River Forest town clerk; engineer with Battye & Kipp, Inc., Chicago, from 1924 to 1937.

Charles C. Doering, 7770 Augusta street; former official of Sears Roebuck & Co., maintains an office at 333 N. Michigan avenue, Chicago.

Frederick Doyle, 542 Jackson avenue, secretary River Forest Home Zoning Association, real estate station and publicity writer for Chicago firms.

William Drummond, 547 Edgewood place; architect; built River Forest library, First Methodist church, River Forest bank building, and other local structures.

Charles F. Durland, 743 Monroe avenue, realtor, C. F. Durland & Co., 359 Wells street, Chicago.

Charles William Gustav Eifrig, 1029 Monroe avenue, instructor at Concordia Teachers college.

Miss Alice Eveleth, 11 Ashland avenue, office secretary River Forest board of education.

Clarence M. Eveleth, 11 Ashland avenue, manufacturer of weather strips.

Dr. Frederick Howard Falls, 816 Keystone avenue, physician, 30 N. Michigan avenue, Chicago, professor of obstetrics and gynecology at University of Illinois.

Richard Fischer, 135 Franklin avenue, accountant.

Harold Wilson Flitercraft, 513 Keystone avenue, editor of Life Insurance Courant, published by Flitercraft Life Insurance Works, 615 S. Maple avenue, Oak Park.

Wilbur Earl Flood, 339 Franklin avenue, proprietor Flood Hardware store, 7623 Lake street.

Dr. Charles E. Franklin, 1335 Jackson avenue, physician and surgeon, 715 Lake street, Oak Park.

Philip J. Foley, Sr., 1111 Bonnie Brae, Foley Greenhouse Manufacturing Co., 7725 Van Buren street, Forest Park.

Hugh Gordon Gardner, 411 Park avenue, justice of the peace, and salesman for the Suburban Oil company.

Dr. O. A. Geiseman, pastor Grace Lutheran church.

Victor Gies, 1415 Forest avenue, former president River Forest Service club, sales manager and treasurer of Mars Candy company.

Dr. Robert H. Good, 517 Thatcher avenue, eye, ear, nose and throat specialist, 715 Lake street, Oak Park.

Herrick R. Goodwillie, 532 Forest avenue, mortgage business, former member River Forest Library board.

Harvey R. Grant, 931 Forest avenue, H. R. Grant Bakery company, 1749 W. Grand avenue, Chicago.

Harwood S. Gregory, 743 Bonnie Brae, proprietor of Gregory's Sport shop, 121 Marion street; president Oak Park Chamber of Commerce.

Dr. Raymond F. Grisson, 1011 Forest avenue; physician, office 715 Lake street, Oak Park.

Edward E. Grosser, 314 Franklin avenue, superintendent of mails, Oak Park post office.

Miss Ruth Grosser, 210 Ashland avenue, clerk in the office of River Forest village clerk.

Albert L. Hall, editor River Forest Leaves, 7755 Lake street.

Edred B. Hall, Sr., manager of locomotion C. & N. W. railroad.

Otto F. Handke, 307 Franklin avenue, proprietor Otto's Service Station, Lake street and Lathrop avenue; former president River Forest Chamber of Commerce.

Dr. Otto K. Handke, 820 Monroe avenue, physician; examiner Metropolitan Life Insurance company.

Raymond William Hardy, 7416 Oak avenue; proprietor Hardy's Service Station, Lake street and Park avenue.

Purdy W. Hazelton, 727 William street, village clerk and tax collector.

John Harold Heindel, 934 Clinton place, vice president Leonard Construction company, 37 S. Wabash avenue, Chicago; member River Forest library board.

Mrs. Grace Hall Hemmingway, 551 Keystone avenue, artist and club woman.

Walter W. Henson, 547 Keystone avenue, news dealer, 7407 Madison street.

Walter D. Herrick, 807 Keystone avenue, attorney, 231 S. LaSalle street, Chicago.

John Higgins, 904 William street, retired, former treasurer Sears, Roebuck & Co.

Frank I. Hooper, 127 Ashland avenue, auditor, Continental Insurance Co., 910 S. Michigan avenue, Chicago; grand commander Illinois Knights Templar.

## Stone Manufacturing Co.

2548 So. Wabash Avenue

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Distributors of Genuine Automotive  
Service Parts

**Complete Wheel, Axle, Brake and  
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SAMUEL M. STONE  
PRESIDENT

James P. Hosty, 523 Lathrop avenue, secretary Chicago Sugar Co., 358 W. Harrison street, Chicago, and former village treasurer.

Thomas Edward Hosty, 633 Franklin avenue, president River Forest Playground and Recreation board, former president River Forest Park board, and member of the firm of Sincere & Company, stock brokers, 231 S. LaSalle street, Chicago.

A. M. Houser, Jr., 1116 Keystone avenue, engineer with Crane company, Chicago.

George W. Hubbard, 710 Bonnie Brae, former village trustee; chief mechanical engineer, Graham, Anderson, Probst & White, architects, Chicago.

Frank W. Hughes, 847 Bonnie Brae, village treasurer, and president River Forest Home Zoning association; Automatic Pencil Sharpener

Fred E. Hummel, 807 Lathrop avenue, receiver, 100 W. Monroe street, Chicago.

Watson H. Hurlburt, 306 Keystone avenue, manufacturer piston ring compressors, 5642-48 Race street, Chicago.

Neil C. Hurley, 914 Ashland avenue, president Pneumatic Tool Co., with offices 600 W. Jackson boulevard, Chicago, and plant at Aurora; president Binks Manufacturing Co., 3124 W. Carroll avenue, Chicago.

Lawrence H. Holsinger, 906 Jackson avenue, pilot for United Airlines Co.

Allin K. Ingalls, 555 Edgewood place, president Western Refrigerator Line company, 135 S. LaSalle street, Chicago.

Marshall H. Jackson, 551 Franklin avenue, president and treasurer of Dwight & M. H. Jackson, manufacturing stationers, 111 W. Monroe street, Chicago, former president River Forest Home Zoning association.

William S. Johnston, 617 Franklin avenue, attorney, 8 S. Dearborn street, Chicago; former village attorney, and former president River Forest Neighborhood club.

George Harvey Jones, 550 Keystone avenue, manager Power Sales department of Commonwealth Edison company; former president Oak Park and River Forest High School board of education; former president Oak Park Area Boy Scout Council.

Dr. Arthur E. Joslyn, 814 William street, physician, Joslyn Clinic, 1908 St. Charles road, Maywood.

John Louis Keeshin, 1003 Bonnie Brae, president Keeshin Transcontinental Freight Lines, Inc.

Otto E. Kerner, 1031 Ashland avenue, attorney general of Illinois, former Chicago alderman, former circuit court judge of Cook county, and former justice of the appellate court of Illinois.

William D. Kerr, 734 Keystone avenue, attorney, 105 S. LaSalle street, Chicago; former trustee of village of River Forest.

Charles B. Kilmer, 1338 Park avenue, sales engineer Container Corporation, 111 W. Washington street, Chicago.

John A. Klesert, 515 Lathrop avenue; realtor, and township assessor, office 7709 Lake street; treasurer of River Forest park board; former treasurer of the village of River Forest; former vice president and cashier, River Forest State bank.

Merrill B. Knox, 527 Monroe avenue, resident engineer for village of River Forest, representing Charles DeLeuw & Co., 20 N. Wacker drive, Chicago; also consultant engineer for Illinois Commerce Commission.

Dr. William Balmer Knox, 1122 Monroe avenue, physician, 7329 Madison street, Forest Park.

Henry A. Koehler, 937 Jackson avenue, publisher Chicago Herald and Examiner.

Dr. Wm. C. Kohn, 7422 Augusta street, president Concordia Teachers college.

Otto Kretzer, 747 Monroe avenue, Wieboldt Construction Co., 1412 Washington boulevard, Chicago.

Edward H. Kubitz, 1449 Thatcher avenue, attorney, 160 N. LaSalle street, Chicago; former village trustee.

Frank W. Laatz, 923 Thatcher avenue, constable; former chief of police of River Forest.

William C. Ladwig, 217 Ashland avenue; secretary River Forest park board; secretary River Forest Playground and Recreation board; secretary River Forest Family Welfare, and secretary River Forest Service club.

William A. Lally, 562 Ashland avenue, supervisor River Forest township.

Frank M. Lavin, 234 Gale avenue; insurance, 175 W. Jackson boulevard, Chicago.

Mrs. Irene Lawson, 723 Park avenue, Christian Science practitioner; wife of Bellett Lawson, retired.

Henry W. Leverenz, cashier River Forest State Bank; treasurer River Forest Chamber of Commerce.

Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Comstock Lodge, 747 Park avenue, deputy village clerk.

Frederick Charles Lowrey, 530 Franklin avenue, chairman of board of Central Commercial Co., 322 S. Michigan avenue, Chicago.

Otto H. Luhman, 336 Forest avenue; grocer, 7627 Lake street; former village treasurer.

William J. Lynch, 516 Park avenue, division sales manager, electric merchandise, Public Service Company of Northern Illinois; former village trustee.

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For Thirty-three Years We Have Been Selling  
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**Meats**  
**Fancy and Staple Groceries**  
**Bakery**  
**Fresh Fruits**  
**Fresh Vegetables**

**Otto. H. Luhman**

7627 Lake Street

Forest 2244

Hope E. MacNiven, 547 Park avenue, former township tax collector, and former village trustee.

Louis F. Mahoney, 540 Forest avenue; justice of the peace, and superintendent of signs, Illinois highway department.

Mrs. Ethel Mars, 930 Ashland avenue; president Mars Incorporated, candy manufacturers, 2019 N. Oak Park avenue, Chicago.

Earl T. Marquardt, 555 William street, supervisor of gas sales, Public Service company, 1001 S. Taylor avenue, Oak Park.

Thomas A. Matthews, 726 Clinton place; village attorney; member law firm of Matthews, Kaleth and Shapiro, 10 S. LaSalle street, Chicago; attorney for Illinois Municipal league, and secretary Suburban Area Association of Cook County.

William F. Matthews, 126 Keystone avenue; long time resident and former merchant; now employed in the office of the county treasurer.

John D. Mawer, assistant cashier River Forest State bank.

John B. Maypole, 931 Bonnie Brae; president Maypole Boat and Motor Sales Co., 5901 W. Madison street, Chicago.

D. Edward McCracken, Jr., 417 Thatcher avenue; attorney and justice of the peace.

Lee R. McCullough, 626 Park avenue; advertising agency, Chicago; past commander River Forest Post, American Legion.

Dr. John J. McDavid, 1447 Forest avenue; physician, 715 Lake street, Oak Park.

Rev. William P. McIntyre, pastor St. Vincent Ferrer church; residence, Dominican House of Studies, Division street and Harlem avenue.

Henry A. Melum, 823 Ashland avenue, vice president Benjamin Moore & Co., 435 N. Green street, Chicago.

Miss Dorothy Mertsky, 331 Forest avenue, clerk in the office of the River Forest village clerk.

Paul Allen Mertz, 606 Thatcher avenue, director of company training, Sears, Roebuck & Co., Chicago.

George L. Meyer, Jr., 1043 Lathrop avenue; purchasing agent for Stewart-Warner Corporation, Chicago; former village trustee.

Ralph Waldo Miller, 1018 Forest avenue; general insurance agent.

Allan Fairchild Millikan, 946 Park avenue, vice president American Stove company; former village trustee, and former member and president River Forest board of education.

Joseph Mills, 1501 Bonnie Brae, associated with Metropolitan Life Insurance company for forty-five years; retired; former president Citizen's club, and former president River Forest Tax Payers' association.

Rev. Lester R. Minion, 513 Thatcher avenue; pastor First Methodist Episcopal church of River Forest.

Frank L. Monroe, 726 Franklin avenue, retired, former member River Forest village board.

Mrs. Inez Cross Narum, principal Willard school, and former principal Lincoln school.

Richard J. Nash, 1131 Franklin avenue; Nash Bros., building contractors, 10 S. LaSalle street.

Mark C. Neil, 926 Park avenue, manufacturer's agent, Industrial Furnaces, 201 N. Wells street, Chicago.

Robert E. Nicholas, 723 Clinton place, real estate and investments, 1100 Westgate, Oak Park.

Roy F. Nix, 722 Ashland avenue, justice of the peace, 7767 Lake street; former member and president River Forest park board; former president River Forest Chamber of Commerce; executive secretary, Centennial, Inc.

Harold A. Nodell, 1322 Jackson avenue; Nodell Motors Co., 741 Madison street, Oak Park, and 6969 Fullerton avenue, Chicago.

Dr. John E. Nyman, 611 Jackson avenue; physician, 30 N. Michigan avenue, Chicago.

Mrs. Nora Audrey Obergfell, 818 Forest avenue; interior decorator.

Roy D. O'Brien, 731 Bonnie Brae, police magistrate of River Forest; former village trustee; bond business, 166 W. Jackson boulevard, Chicago.

Dr. Ralph C. Oldfield, 539 Jackson avenue, physician, 715 Lake street, Oak Park.

Robert Lee Osburn, 551 Park avenue, musical director Proviso Township high school, Maywood.

John W. Ostrander, 1101 Jackson avenue, founder Ostrander-Seymour Co., manufacturers plate making machinery, 1900 S. 54th avenue, Cicero.

Margaret Pack, 735 Franklin avenue; dramatic director and newspaper writer.

Clarence E. Pellett, 727 Keystone avenue; member firm of Critchell, Miller, Whitney & Barbour, insurance, 175 W. Jackson boulevard, Chicago.

John C. Phelps, 523 Park avenue; insurance, 175 W. Jackson boulevard, Chicago. Mrs. Phelps is a member and secretary River Forest board of education.

William C. Phelps, 625 Park avenue; sales manager Cerola, Inc., metal binding devices, 231 S. Green street, Chicago.

Charles D. Perrin, 1419 Park avenue; advertising, Poole Bros., printers, 85 W. Harrison street, Chicago.

Mrs. Hilda M. Pierce, 747 Forest avenue, widow of Ames Pierce; resident of River Forest since 1883; former teacher and assistant principal in Chicago schools.

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Sherwin-Williams Paints and Varnishes  
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PROMPT DELIVERY SERVICE

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7623 Lake St. (Op. St. Luke's Church) River Forest

John P. Piggott, 751 Franklin avenue; 69 W. Washington street, Chicago; former member and president of River Forest board of education; former vice president River Forest State bank.

Arthur J. Pochert, 242 Lathrop avenue; commissioner of public works, village of River Forest.

Irving D. Porter, 1122 Franklin avenue; president Charles M. Porter Co., machinists, 2000 Madison street, Maywood.

Merle H. Potter, 742 William street; proprietor Billy Boy Nut Kitchen, Oak Park and Evanston; president and organizer of "Let's Do Something About It, Inc.," a national organization with headquarters in Oak Park.

William E. Prendergast, 801 Clinton place; trustee of the village of River Forest; member Western Railroad Classification committee, Union Station, Chicago.

Edward W. Priebe, 1014 Ashland avenue; president Priebe & Sons, Inc., 110 N. Franklin street, Chicago; former member and president River Forest board of education.

Edward Probst, 1027 Forest avenue; senior member of Graham, Anderson, Probst & White, architects, 80 E. Jackson boulevard, Chicago; chairman River Forest zoning appeal board.

Robert H. Quayle, 603 Monroe avenue; president Novelty Corporation, 213 N. Racine avenue, Chicago.

Walter C. Rattray, 723 William street; vice president and secretary West Woodworking Co., 310 N. Ada street, Chicago; chairman River Forest Civil Service commission.

Dr. William B. Raycraft, 1439 Keystone avenue; physician, 1011 Lake street, Oak Park.

Ray Rheingruber, 7965 Lake street; lieutenant in River Forest police department.

Thomas J. Rigney, 632 Franklin avenue; village trustee and former member River Forest civil service commission; vice president James A. Sackley Co., paving contractors, 4608 W. Belmont avenue, Chicago.

Arthur Rose, 122 Ashland avenue, former village trustee and former village treasurer; manufacturer's representative Rubberset company.

Fred Farmer Rossman, 707 Forest avenue; former village treasurer; W. C. Beggs Plumbing Co., 159 N. Dearborn street, Chicago.

Prof. Oscar F. Rusch, 1033 Monroe avenue, member faculty Concordia Teachers college.

Michael J. Sasgen, 500 Thatcher avenue; Sasgen Derrick Co., 3103 W. Grand avenue, Chicago.

Dr. Robert G. Savage, 745 Jackson avenue; retired physician.

George A. Schindler, 232 Lathrop avenue; village trustee; member firm of Schindler & Condon, wholesale provisions, 944 W. Randolph street, Chicago.

Dr. Frederick H. Schmitt, 1020 Bonnie Brae, business officer, Concordia Teachers college.

William C. Schmitz, 838 William street; former village trustee; retired manufacturer.

Leonard G. Schneller, 504 Forest avenue; member of faculty Oak Park and River Forest high school; director of camp for boys at Grand Rapids, Michigan.

### FLORENZ SHOP

MRS. D. A. HORN, Prop.

Forest 2923

7621 Lake Street

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Wash Flocks Made to Measure

Dr. R. Winfield Scott, 723 Thatcher avenue; dentist, 715 Lake street, Oak Park; president River Forest Park board.

Warren W. Schreiner, 1523 Ashland avenue; insurance, 411 Wacker drive, Chicago; former commander River Forest post, American Legion.

Dr. Fred Sumner Selby, 847 Keystone avenue; physician and surgeon; member staff Garfield Community hospital, Chicago.

Emory P. Seidel, 533 Franklin avenue; sculptor and designer; studio at 111 W. Jackson boulevard, Chicago.

Gordon D. Shorney, 1030 Jackson avenue; Hope Publishing company, 5707 Lake street, Chicago.

G. Herbert Shorney, 1026 Park avenue; Hope Publishing company.

Dr. William F. Schaare, 808 Jackson avenue; physician and surgeon 957 W. 18th street, Chicago.

Dr. Walter Edward Simmonds, 1018 Park avenue; physician and surgeon; 1040 North boulevard, Oak Park.

Charles P. Smidl, 534 Bonnie Brae, physical director Wilson Junior College of Chicago.

William Gorin Smith, 422 Park avenue; plumbing contractor, 7755 Lake street; president River Forest Chamber of Commerce.

Lynn Sheffield Snow, 1313 Lathrop avenue, Snow Bros. Ford dealers, 1011 South boulevard, Oak Park.

Dr. Joseph C. Sodaro, 1427 Park avenue; physician, 7348 Madison street, Forest Park.

Carl William Soderlin, 132 Lathrop avenue; superintendent of River Forest police department.

Dr. Clarence Arthur Spaulding, 815 William street; pastor First Presbyterian church of River Forest.

W. E. St. Bernard, 137 Park drive; member River Forest Safety commission; Imperial Brass Mfg. Co., 1200 W. Harrison street, Chicago.

## River Forest Tailors and Cleaners

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7615 LAKE STREET

High Class Tailoring

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Clothes Brought in Forenoon Finished the  
Same Day

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No Shrinkage

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- Sidney J. Steele, 1139 Lathrop avenue; executive vice president and director Continental Can company.
- Samuel M. Stone, 909 William street; village trustee; president Stone Manufacturing company, 2540 S. Wabash avenue, Chicago; vice president Wagner Malleable Iron Co., Decatur, Illinois, and secretary-treasurer National Wheel and Rim association.
- Donald Stratton, 819 Clinton place; Suburban Coal and Supply Co., 1124 Garfield street, Oak Park.
- Charles Heber Strawbridge, 744 Keystone avenue; retired insurance agent associated with Royal Liverpool groups, and director Federal Union Insurance Co.
- Paul Strayer, artist; residence and studio at 530 Ashland avenue.
- Myron Frank Sutherland, 7315 Holley court; sales manager J. B. Carroll Co., advertising specialties, 319 N. Albany avenue, Chicago.
- Frank Wentworth Swett, 714 Franklin avenue, attorney, River Forest board of education and River Forest park board; law office, 10 S. LaSalle street, Chicago.
- Dr. George Lee Tenney, musical director, and head of language department at Lewis Institute, Chicago.
- Frederick J. Thielbar, 521 Keystone avenue; former member River Forest board of education; architect, 520 N. Michigan avenue, Chicago.
- Dr. William S. Timblin, 1106 Forest avenue; physician, 715 Lake street, Oak Park.
- William J. Tobin, 535 Ashland avenue; president and general manager Chicago Blackhawks hockey team.
- Glen H. Tyrrell, 343 Gale avenue; former member and president River Forest board of education; secretary and trust officer Austin State bank, 5645 W. Lake street, Chicago.
- Lewis A. Urban, 131 Gale avenue; former village trustee; president Hub Stamping and Manufacturing company, 1212 N. Central Park avenue, Chicago.
- Dr. Vladimer G. Urse, 1425 Park avenue; physician and psychiatrist, 8 S. Michigan avenue, Chicago.
- Howard D. Valentine, 723 Bonnie Brae; sales promotion manager, Peoples Gas Light and Coke company, Chicago.
- Paul Claibourne Van Zandt, 1326 William street; vice president Universal Atlas Cement company.
- Arthur H. Vincent, 621 William street, member firm of Conklin, Price & Webb, insurance, 175 W. Jackson boulevard, Chicago.
- Rev. Alvin Edward Wagner, 314 Lathrop avenue; junior pastor St. John's Evangelical Lutheran church, Forest Park.
- George M. Wakefield, 1108 Park avenue; president Wakefield Grain company, Waterman, Illinois.
- Dr. Ralph Herbert Warden, 1432 Park avenue; physician, 1044 N. Francisco street, Chicago; member staff American Norwegian hospital.
- Theron Wasson, 606 Thatcher avenue, chief geologist, Pure Oil Company, 35 E. Wacker drive, Chicago.
- Albert E. Webster, 7310 Holly court; advertising department Universal-Atlas Cement Co., 208 S. La Salle street, Chicago.
- Ralph Wells Westcott, 632 Clinton place, district manager floor covering department, Bird & Sons, manufacturers floor coverings, Merchandise Mart, Chicago; former member River Forest board of education, and former trustee Desplaines Valley Mosquito Abatement district.
- Earl Brown Wilkinson, 907 Lathrop avenue, attorney, 231 S. LaSalle street, Chicago.
- Mrs. Blanche Willing, 7510 Quick avenue, clerk in village hall, and police matron.
- Frank Winters, 735 William street; supervisor of health and physical education at Oak Park and River Forest high school; member of River Forest Playground and Recreation board since its organization in 1926.
- Oscar P. Wodack, 726 Park avenue, village trustee, president Wodack Electric Tool company, 4627 W. Huron street, Chicago.
- Albert M. Wolf, 600 Lathrop avenue; president Wolf, Anderson, Harper & Trueax, architects and engineers, 435 N. Michigan avenue, Chicago; manager Edward J. Baker properties, including Baker hotel, St. Charles; president Oak Park and River Forest high school board of education.
- William J. Womer, 202 Gale avenue, traffic manager and automotive engineer; member River Forest zoning appeal board.
- Leslie Deane Wood, 615 Thatcher avenue; inspection engineer with Western Factory Fire Insurance Association, 175 W. Jackson boulevard, Chicago.
- Don T. Wray, 313 Thatcher avenue, attorney.
- John H. Young, 7422 Iowa street, key manufacturer, 54 W. Madison street, Chicago.
- Rev. John Mansfield Young, 419 Thatcher avenue, rector Christ Episcopal church.
- J. Clayton Youker, 207 Franklin avenue, former member and president River Forest park board, now superintendent of parks.
- Albert F. Zay, 410 Park avenue, chief of River Forest fire department.
- Paul T. Zimmerman, 801 Forest avenue, president P. T. Zimmerman & Co., printers, 530 S. Dearborn street, Chicago.

## Naming River Forest

Just when and by whom River Forest was named has not been fully determined by the writer. The Chicago & North Western railroad first called their station here River Forest in 1872. Two different women are given credit by different writers for suggesting the name. Some insist that the name must have been in use as early as 1860 on account of the name and date

which appears on the old school house at Park avenue and Lake street. Others say this stone was placed there later, supplanting a stone that carried the name "Harlem." All seem to agree that the name was selected because of the proximity to the river, and the natural forest.

Correction: The small picture on page 31 is incorrectly captioned. It appears again on page 51, rightly captioned.