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Birmingham Eccentric

"For a Bigger and Better Birmingham"

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COMMISSION AVOWS CIVIC CENTER PLAN DESERVES SUPPORT

Purchase Of Two Blocks Of Land Now Will Save Taxpayers Money

WILL NOT INCREASE TAX

That they are continuing their method of conducting a sound business administration for Birmingham citizens in submitting to them the proposition of acquiring two blocks of land for municipal purposes at next Thursday's election is evidenced in a statement given out Wednesday to The Eccentric by the Birmingham Village commission. The entire statement is as follows:

Good Business Practice

"In submitting to the voters at this time the proposition of paying for the Civic Center on the blocks bounded by Martin, Merrill, Bates and Pierce streets by bond issue rather than by direct tax, the Commission feels that it is suggesting and recommending good business practice. This land, a considerable portion of which has already been acquired, will have earned, by its increased value before the bond issue is retired, much more than the interest to be paid. In the meantime no expensive buildings will have been erected thereon, thus making the cost of the land at today's lower price, rather than, through delaying the purchase, the almost prohibitive price of tomorrow's mounting value.

Delay Is Costly

"Many of the present residents of Birmingham will recall a time when one of these blocks was offered to the School District for the price that will now have to be paid for some of the larger lots. The purchase of these blocks is not an arbitrary move on the part of the Commission, but is the result of a year's study, and is in conformity with the recommendation of the City Planning Commission, composed of Charles A. Bingham, John A. Wendorph, R. I. Coryell, H. N. Davock, and Dr. A. W. Ives. These men, after much study and consideration, have endorsed a plan which comprises, first, the two blocks now submitted and, second, the library block already purchased and, third, a breathing space in the future congestion to obtain in this area when Birmingham has doubled her present population and, perhaps, doubled again. Nor did the Commission rest there, but men and women in all walks of life in Birmingham have expressed themselves as heartily in favor of acquiring this

(Continued on page 5)

PLANS COMPLETED FOR GETTING OUT BIG VOTE AT SPECIAL ELECTION

Sixteen Citizens Gathered At Meeting To Discuss Plans Tuesday

2660 ELECTORS ON ROLL

Gathered together at the Community House Tuesday night in furtherance of plans to encourage the passage of the $415,000.00 bond issue, the money from which is to be used for a public library, fire hall, and the purchase of two blocks of land, 16 local citizens, as representatives of Birmingham organizations, discussed ways and means of carrying to a successful vote the issues at stake.

Clarence Vliet, local superintendent of public schools, acted as chairman, while Mrs. Iva Marlotte, of Pierce street, served in the capacity of secretary. The meeting centered about two things;-first, methods to be used in acquainting every elector in the village of the three propositions to be voted upon, and, second, the best plan to get out the vote on election day.

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Two Injured In Auto Accident Saturday

Two people were seriously injured Saturday afternoon of last week when two machines, driven by Clyde Lake, and George Kaysner, came together north of the Lone Pine Tea House, the machine driven by Lake damaged badly.

Mrs. May Lake, the wife of Clyde Lake, received internal injuries and at the time when police arrived, was found unconscious. Mr. Lake escaped with minor internal injuries and was badly cut about the face and body. Kaysner escaped without any injury. Neither driver was held.

Mr. and Mrs. Lake were removed to Dr. Newitt's office where temporary treatment was administered and later the pair were taken to Harper hospital, Detroit.

Kaysner gave his address as O'Mira avenue, Detroit. The Lakes live at 3764 Gibson street, Detroit. Officer C. J. Green of Birmingham answered the call and brought the parties here.

READ ABOUT THE BOND ISSUE

On page three of this issue of The Eccentric you will find a statement relative to what effect the passage of the $415,000 bond issue, up next Thursday, will have upon the Birmingham property owners' tax roll. It is hoped that you read this advertisement thoroughly, finding therein suitable evidence that, with the rapid growth and new building in this community, the passage of the bond issue will not hurt your pocketbook.

HEADS SCHOOL BOARD

R. J. CORYELL

Although he is receiving treatment for throat trouble at the Henry Ford hospital, in Detroit, and was absent at the school board re-organization meeting here Monday night, Mr. Coryell was elected president of that body, an honor bestowed upon him because of his untiring and unselfish labors in behalf of educational advancement in this district.

PLANNING BOARD IS FOR A CIVIC CENTER

Wendorph Tells Of Reasons For Concentrated Municipal Area

RESULT OF MUCH STUDY

That the $200,000.00 proposition to acquire two blocks of land bounded by Pierce street on the east, Bates street on the west, Martin street on the north, and Merrill street on the south, for future municipal buildings has behind it not only the approval of the village commission but the Planning Commission as well, was vigorously stressed by John A. Wendorph, chairman of the Commission's committee on Civic and Community Centers and Public Buildings, at a meeting of workers interested in the issues coming up at next Thursday's election. The meeting was held at the Community House, Tuesday evening, at which 15 local organizations were represented.

Was First Task

"When the Planning Commission was created early last winter the first task which we set out to do was to decide upon a permanent Civic Center for Birmingham," continued Mr. Wendorph. "I wrote 90 letters to as many towns and cities in the United States, requesting that they furnish information relative to the solution of their own Civic Center problems. In the eastern communities I found that they had allowed their municipal buildings to be scattered somewhat about the town; however, every one of them lamented such a condition, stating that, could they do it over again, they would concentrate all the public's business in one section.

Concentrated Area

"There is much logic in this kind of a plan—the kind we decided upon for Birmingham. If Birmingham adopts the proposed Civic Center plan, and the future witnesses all of our public buildings concentrated in a single, connected area, any citizen

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VILLAGE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FAVORED

Speakers At Credit Bureau Meeting Arouse Enthusiasm

"Doubting Thomases" among the business men of Birmingham who have opposed the organization of a Chamber of Commerce on the grounds that such a group would breed the growth of industrialism in Birmingham, were converted and taken into the fold of Chamber of Commerce supporters when L. B. Kayser, secretary of the Pontiac Chamber of Commerce, explained that Birmingham needed such a group "to further the progress of this community as a purely residential center by cooperating with the city commission, the school board, and other civic promoting bodies in the development of schools, municipal and civic centers, water supply, sewer construction, and road building, and not to invite industrial activity."

The speech of L. B. Kayser, along with talks by John Endicott, president of the Merchant's National Bank of Detroit, and O. J. Hatt, credit manager of the First National Bank of Detroit, marked the celebration of the first birthday of the Birmingham Credit Bureau at a dinner held in the Lone Pine Tea House last night.

Going Through Crisis.

"Birmingham is going through, or about to go through, the crisis of its development. It must plan definitely, now, its future will be, and be governed according. How the roads shall be built, how and when and where its sewers shall be laid, the problem of supplying schools fit for the residential community that it is and hopes to continue being, its municipal buildings and civic centers; all these are problems facing the town which in ten years from now will be near the fifty thousand mark in population. With the band-

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A COUNTY BRANCH OF LEAGUE FOR FREEDOM AND PEACE FORMED

Meeting Held Last Week At Home Of Mrs. George T. Hendrie

NEXT MEETING IS HERE

On Friday afternoon, July 16, an assemblage of women from Pontiac, Birmingham, and Detroit who are interested in organizing an Oakland County branch of the Woman's International League for Peace and Freedom, held a meeting at the home of Mrs. George T. Hendrie of Bloomfield Hills.

A buffet luncheon was served at one o'clock after which Mrs. Hendrie opened the business meeting which was held in the spacious living room. Her interest in the Detroit branch of the organization of which she is chairman and her knowledge of the more extensive work throughout the state as Michigan Chairman supplemented with the experience received while in attendance at the annual conventions each year at Washington, D. C., have familiarized Mrs. Hendrie with the history and with the purposes of the league.

Outlined History

She outlined the history of the organization since it started before the war as the Woman's Peace Party continuing up to the present time. She mentioned the interest which President Coolidge evinced by his cordial reception of Miss Jane Ad-

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WOULD CHANGE TO CITY

J. HARRY McBRIDE

Although retired from active participation in Birmingham's political destiny, Mr. McBride Tuesday noon advocated to members of the Exchange club a change from village to city form of government for Birmingham. Mr. McBride retired from the office of village president after serving two years, being succeeded by the present incumbent, Charles J. Shain, three years ago.

RECOMMENDS CHANGE FROM VILLAGE TO CITY

J. H. McBride Advocates New Form Of Government At Exchange Club Meeting.

"Birmingham, rapidly changing these days from a small community into a large suburban area, must, if it is to keep pace with its growth in population, change from the village to the city form of government; I believe that now is the time to effect the change, and I am in favor of this organization as the sponsor for it." Thus spoke J. Harry Harry McBride, local merchant and former village president, to fellow-members of the Birmingham Exchange club Tuesday noon at the Lone Pine Tea House.

To Investigate Plan

Mr. McBride's remarks brought to the surface a proposition that has been under spasmodic discussion in Birmingham for the past five years. Nothing of an organized nature, however, has ever been done relative to submitting the question of a change in government to the electors. At the conclusion of the Exchange club meeting Fred L. Tucker, vice-president, appointed Mr. McBride to head a committee to look into the plan this week, reporting next Tuesday. It is Mr. McBride's belief that he can produce sufficient evidence in favor of the plan to enlist the active support of his club to have the people vote upon it not later than next spring.

Power Limited

"Under the present limitations of Birmingham's village charter the commission is powerless to put through many needed improvements," stated Mr. McBride. "Several attempts have been made to increase the charter's provision relative to the amount of money that may be

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SEEKS A LICENSE FOR GAS FILLING STATION

Although refused a permission to build a gasoline filling station and auto accessory and battery store on South Woodward avenue, between the Temple Grocery and the R. R. Allen & Co. real estate office, by the local Zoning Commission, Ward Cruickshank, of Park street, appealed his case to the village commission Monday night. He was told that, in view of the situation which has arisen over the Zoning Ordinance during the past week, he would be given the commission's final decision next Monday night.

Commissioner David Ladd told Mr. Cruickshank that, if the Zoning Ordinance stands, he would oppose any more gasoline filling stations on Woodward avenue, especially those seeking location in the middle of a block where pedestrian traffic would be impeded.

Anent Our Bond Issues

By Dr. A. W. Ives Member Planning Com.

Ability to correctly visualize the future of a growing community is rare indeed, even amongst those best qualified to know.

In 1910 the writer bet R. L. Polk of city directory fame a good dinner that Detroit, then a thriving city of about 500,000, would have a population of a million in 1920, the next U. S. census; though Mr. Polk had each year, in his Detroit publication, estimated the population of the city he could not see it, so he paid for the dinners. Now I contend it will be two million, and all Wayne County and Oakland are partakers of the advantages of this unheard of prosperity, which applies especially to our

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CORYELL ELECTED TO HEAD SCHOOL BOARD

Leigh Lynch Made New Secretary; Quarton Re-elected Treasurer

PARRY, PALMER NEW MEN

Three senior members of the board of education, together with the two newly elected members, James W. Parry and Ray A. Palmer, met at the Baldwin high school Monday evening for the purpose of organization for the ensuing year.

R. J. Coryell was unanimously chosen president to fill the vacancy left by H. B. Clement whose term of office expired. Mr. Coryell's extensive business experience and his work on the board of education for the past few years make him ably fitted for this new duty.

Leigh Lynch received a unanimous vote for the office of secretary which has been made vacant by R. J. Taylor, whose term also expired. Fred V. Quarton was reelected treasurer in which capacity he has been serving.

In the absence of R. J. Coryell, who is still ill at the Ford Hospital, Leigh Lynch served as chairman of the meeting. Various reports were read and approved, all of which will be published at a later date.

The remainder of the meeting was spent in explaining and outlining the general business procedure of the board to the new members.

CHURCH SCHOOL ENDS HALF TERM

Present Enrollment Of 120 Spells Success Of Vacation Study Session.

This week will end the first half of the Vacation Bible School which is being conducted daily at the M. E. Church. The enrollment up to the present date has reached about one hundred twenty.

Each morning assembly is held in which all the children take part in the devotionals. Singing and Bible reading comprise this service, after which the children go to their separate units, namely; kindergarten, primary, and junior groups. About fifteen little tots are enrolled in the kindergarten, about thirty-five in the junior class, while the primary unit carry off the honors for the greatest number enrolled, there being sixty-six.

On Friday mornings a speaker, who is not connected with this work, is engaged to talk to the children about some form of Christian endeavor. Last Friday Mrs. James W. Parry told the pupils some very interesting things about the children in Japan and how they celebrated birthdays in that far off land. Instead of celebrating individual birthdays as we do here, the Japanese girls have one day in the year on which they gather all their dolls together and play with them. This may seem very strange to American children who play with dolls every day but the children in Japan are not allowed to have their dolls on any day except "doll day". The boys have a "soldier day" once a year. Then many sham battles are fought and grudges are settled. The boys also fly kites shaped like fish because to the Japanese, the fish is an emblem of good luck. This situation exists only with the rich boys and girls because the poorer children have no toys. Thus the pupils were told that their collections went to the Japanese boys and girls so that they might learn the teachings of Christ and have a little joy brought to them.

Two contributions a week are made; Wednesday's collections going for home missions and Friday's to be given for foreign mission work.

The regular routine for the half day's work consists of one period which is devoted to hand work, one Bible study period, and a music period. Each week has been planned so that the first two weeks were devoted to the making of dolls and toys for little children in hospitals and orphan asylums, the third week a gift for mother, the next a gift for father, and the last week something is made by the child for himself.

It is very interesting and instructive to watch these little people create various articles which are expressions of themselves.

Another interesting feature is that of the picnic which is held in the village park every Friday noon. The Bible School closes the last week in July.

LIGHT FRANKLIN ROAD

Due to the efforts of the Franklin Village Improvement Association street lights will soon be installed on Franklin road from the northern limits of the village to the Seven Mile and Lahser roads, it was learned this week.

1926 VILLAGE TAX RECEIPT IS NORMAL REPORTS PLUMSTEAD

$36,400.00 Already Paid In Since July 1; Mailing Bills Helps

SOON IMPOSE PENALTY

"Birmingham's 1926 village taxes are being paid at a normal rate this year," reported Charles Plumstead, village treasurer, early this week. "Of a total of $151,900.00 to be collected this year, my office has already received $36,400.00 since July 1, the date when we began to accept tax money."

Mr. Plumstead stated that he has received many checks through the mail, the result of sending out notices of taxes to every property owner on the village roll. This is the first year that the village has mailed out tax statements; it will be continued in the future, said Mr. Plumstead, who believes that the taxpayer appreciates this service, rather than be compelled to visit or write in to the treasurer's office each year for information concerning their taxes.

Up to and including July 31 no penalty is imposed on taxes, but between August 1 and September 1, inclusive, one per cent penalty will be imposed on all unpaid taxes, while between September 2 and October 1, inclusive, four per cent penalty will be added. After October 1

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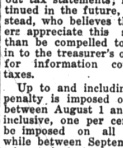
HANDLES SCHOOL FUNDS



FRED V. QUARTON

Above is a picture of the Birmingham citizen who, as treasurer of the local school board, handles hundreds of thousands of dollars annually. Mr. Quarton was re-elected to the treasurship Monday night. He lives on West Maple avenue, and at one time held joint ownership with his brother of a large farm, part of which is known as Quarton Lake Estates, in Birmingham.

WATER BAN REMOVAL EXPECTED ANY TIME

Engineers Working Hard To Complete New Water Supply

Perhaps today, and maybe not for several days, depending entirely upon the engineers to connect the new well to the village mains, the recent ban placed upon sprinkling in Birmingham may be removed. Circulars have been printed by manager Starr and will be circulated just as soon as possible, he said early this morning. In the meantime, despite a newspaper statement in the Pontiac Press, the sprinkling restrictions are still being enforced.

"Citizens are asked to refrain from sprinkling until officially notified by circulars which are ready to distribute just as soon as conditions warrant," said manager Starr. "We have had much difficulty in getting a permanent connection to our new well with the newly laid Pleasant avenue water main. The contractors have had to contend with much quicksand, delaying in a quicker completion of their task.

"Even when we get this main all connected up we cannot expect to obtain full benefits over the entire village from the new well. It has become necessary for us to construct a larger main on West Maple avenue, from the water works station to the eight-inch main at Midland avenue. Between these two points an old four-inch main is all that sends water up Maple avenue, and the friction in this small pipe prevents the new well's complete supply from being sent eastward.

"We also are putting in a 10-inch main from the new well to Southfield avenue by way of the Lincoln avenue extension. As soon as this is connected we can expect an evpn greater portion of the new well's capacity. The people may rest assured that we are working hard as we can to remove the water ban."

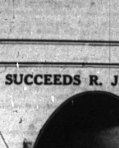
REPAIR HANNA STREET

Monday evening, August 2, at eight o'clock, is the date set for a public hearing on the proposed construction of curb, gutter, and regravelling of Hanna street, between Estes street and Southfield avenue. The entire cost of this project is estimated to be $10,845.00, three-fourths of which is to be assessed against abutting property, and one-fourth to the village-at-large.

EXCHANGE PARTY

As the result of losing in an attendance contest staged during the past four months, half of the membership of the Birmingham Exchange club next Tuesday night will act as hosts to the other half when they meet at the home of C. R. Evans, Wing Lake. It will be a stag affair.

SUCCEEDS R. J. TAYLOR



LEIGH LYNCH

Mr. Lynch, who resides on Dorchester road, Birmingham, was elected secretary of the local school board Monday night. He succeeds in that office, Roy J. Taylor. Mr. Lynch, in business life, is vice-president of Cram & Co., national industrial research organization, with headquarters in Detroit.

OAKLAND HILLS CLUB THREATENED BY FIRE

Spontaneous Combustion Cause Of Flames That Menaced Building

$2500 TO $3000 DAMAGE

Had it not been for the quick action of an automatic sprinkler system and immediate assistance of club employes, aided by the efficient Birmingham firemen under Chief William G. Olsen, the Oakland Hills Country Club, located a few miles west of Birmingham, might now be a pile of bricks and ashes, as the result of fire which broke out over the kitchen of the clubhouse last Sunday morning at 10:30 o'clock. Due to the combined efforts of the above three agencies, the fire was held to two clothes closets above the kitchen, resulting in damage estimated at between $2,500 and $3,000, covered by insurance.

Spontaneous Combustion

According to B. F. Jolley, manager of the clubhouse, spontaneous combustion took place in the ventilation flue which connects the kitchen to the chimney, where a current of air is kept in circulation by a large fan. The fire was first discovered when the engineer, making his hourly rounds of the building, heard the sprinkler alarm bell ringing above the kitchen, set off by the automatic action of the sprinkler system which had been subjected to intense heat.

Mr. Jolley was soon at the scene of the conflagration and, with the aid of the engineer, called the Birmingham fire department and then turned to do what they could to combat the spread of flames until the arrival of the local volunteers. It required two and one-half hours of the firemen's time to entirely extinguish the burning portion of the clubhouse.

Praises Firemen

"Birmingham certainly has a splendid fire department," said Mr. Jolley Tuesday, commenting on the conflagration. "They were at the clubhouse very shortly after we put in the

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LIBRARY ARCHITECTS WELL RECOMMENDED

Burrows & Enrich Have Planned Many Municipal Buildings

By Mrs. Iva Marlotte
Member Library Board.

Inquiry from the tax payers of Birmingham as to the architects who will direct the spending of $215,000 of village money, if the bond issues for a new village library and a new fire hall carry at the election of July 29, has elicited universally favorable comment from those whom Burrows and Enrich have served in the past as well the information as to their training and experience which is due the voters who must trust the architects in the matter of building details and cost of construction.

Highly Recommended.

Earl Potter, member of the Baldwin Public Library Board, brought a verbal recommendation from the Highland Park Board of Education saying that they were the most satisfactory architects they had ever employed, and the proof of their sincerity is in the fact that Burrowes and Eurich are at present building all of the new schools which Highland Park has in contemplation or under construction.

Adam Strohm, Detroit librarian, gave his assurance as to the high reputation of the firm in Detroit and the fine quality of work done by them on Detroit libraries. The Gabriel Richard branch, a Detroit public library, a very beautiful and artistic building designed for an irregular lot and costing $70,000, has been recently completed by Burrowes and Eurich and the Duffield Branch was also built by that firm.

The construction of the MacGregor Public Library of Highland Park, which was recently opened, was in their charge, and the approximate cost was $500,000. Miss Slenno, Highland Park librarian, was very

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EARLY PAPER NEXT WEEK

Due to the fact that next Thursday, July 29, is the date for Birmingham's special election on bond issues totalling $415,000.00, The Eccentric will issue its edition Wednesday, July 28. In order to accomplish this it is requested that all news and advertising copy be in The Eccentric office not later than Tuesday noon, July 27, in order to secure insertion for next week.

TOWNSHIP PLANNING BLOOMFIELD CENTER PUBLIC BUILDINGS

But Birmingham Not Expected To Pay For Major Cost Of Project

SUBMIT HALF-MILL TAX

Robert Y. Moore, supervisor of Bloomfield township, this week revealed plans of the township board to begin the first of three buildings upon the recently purchased township site at Bloomfield Center, the total of which will involve the expenditure of approximately $160,-000.00. Although completion of the entire project may not take place for one or more years in the future, the first of the buildings, a township garage to cost $15,000.00, will be started this Fall providing the electors approve the one-half mill tax at the September election.

Working On Plans

"Architects are now completing a group plan of the project," Mr. Moore said yesterday. "The garage building, in which we hope to house our township trucks, scrapers, etc., will be 30 feet wide by 100 feet long, one story high. It will be built along English types, as will all the township buildings, thus harmonizing with the general tone of the buildings that are going up at Bloomfield Center.

Wait Until A City

"As long as Birmingham remains a village, the township offices will probably be retained in town. However, should Birmingham become a city, thus divorcing itself from any financial responsibility to the township, we shall then submit to the electors of the township, including the proposed Bloomfield Hills Village territory, the propositions of building a fire hall and township public hall.

"The proposed fire hall will be two stories, 60 by 80 feet. The first floor will be large enough to care for three fire trucks, while on the second floor will be suitable quarters for a paid fire department. This building will cost $45,000.00.

Big Auditorium

"In planning for the township public hall, we have taken into consideration the joint needs of a possible village government in Bloomfield Hills with that of the township business. So we have figured on a building two stories high, 80 by 150 feet, at a cost of $200,000. This edifice will have a large basement, providing space for heating plant, a kitchen and large dining room. On

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PROTEST ON ZONING ORDINANCE RESULTS IN ITS SUSPENSION

James Campbell Said To Have Circulated And Filed Petition

REMOVES REGULATIONS

Birmingham, after next Monday night, will have no Zoning Ordinance. The recently adopted Ordinance, designed to regulate various types of buildings in the village, will be suspended as the result of a petition submitted to the village commission by James L. Campbell, of Campbell & Bell, local realtors, and 80 other citizens who signed it.

Charter Provision

Mr. Campbell, according to village officials, circulated the petition and filed it, taking advantage of a Charter provision which calls for the submission of any new ordinance adopted by the commission at a special or general election; if the ordinance receives a majority favorable vote at the election it becomes an active piece of legislation. In the meantime, however, during the time between the formal acceptance of such a petition and its approval by

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Permission To Sell Milk Refused Monday

The Royal Oak Creamery and the Gabel Creamery, the latter a Detroit concern, were told Monday night by the village commission that they could have until Friday night in which in proof why their respective milk outputs should be delivered in Birmingham. Local officials claim that the two companies have peddled milk in Eco City before its annexation to the village, are unable to comply with Birmingham's ordinance governing tuberculin tested milk cows. They were refused Milk licenses.

Men from both companies told the commission that they are willing to have their herds tested by milk inspectors, but president Shain held that the cost of sending employees of the village to far-away points was not in keeping with economy for the public treasury; he said that such inspection would require additional taxation as well as the regular price charged for milk.