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DeMolay Election Held Last Tuesday

At a semi-annual meeting and election of officers of the James S. Hasseberger chapter, order of DeMolay, held at the Masonic Temple last Tuesday evening, Shanley Rosso was elected Master Councilor, succeeding Carpenter Hewitt; other officers elected were: Carlton Young, Senior Councilor; Ralph Wilson, Junior Councilor; Claude Streb, treasurer.

Following the election the newly elected officers were installed amidst solemn and impressive ceremonies, with Past Master Councilor, Jack Burkman, acting as installing officer and retiring Master Councilor Carpenter Hewitt as Marshal.

Tuesday, June 22, the last class of candidates will be initiated with only the regular business meetings held during the months of July and August. Beginning with the month of September, the chapter will again begin conferring degrees.

COMSTOCK TALKS ON GROESBECK METHODS

(Continued From Page 1.)

More than two factions confuse issues.

"We cannot have clean and efficient State or National government unless we have clean and efficient Party government. I think the reason that politics is held in disrepute by many voters is that Party leaders, in the interest of partisanship, have thought it smart politics to confuse issues both inside the Party and as between Parties. I have no patience with the type of political mind which justifies this procedure. The endeavor of Parties and their leaders should be to make it easy for the voter to express his opinion on clear cut issues. Whenever the electorate gets a chance to express its opinion under such conditions, its makes no mistakes. It is only when purposely misled and confused that it goes wrong. And so I have always used my influence as a Party leader for clean and efficient Party management and for clarifying the party position so that the average voter can understand it. I try to apply common sense to my business problems. I have always used the same method in politics. Straight-forward, open and above board common sense in both. Incidentally, if I happen to be elected Governor I shall use the same method in attacking the problems of the State government.

Fundamental Principle

"There is a fundamental principle involved in the campaign this year, which concerns us all regardless of Party. Our forefathers, smarting under the sting of tyranny, conceived an entirely new system of government. They decentralized the functions of government, dividing them into Executive, Legislative and Judicial Departments. For fear this would not be sufficient, they lodged in each one of the Departments a system of checks on each of the others. With one exception, our State governments are modeled after this National form. In the early history of our Republic, efforts were made to centralize the National government in spite of the constitution. The long and historic fight between Jefferson and Hamilton is an instance. These efforts at centralization were defeated. Since that time the question has been fought out many times in the Nation and in the States. It is the question that is involved in this election.

"In discussing the matter with you, it is necessary that I refer to Mr. Groesbeck, our present Governor. I want you to understand that I am not criticising him individually, but as the author of the present system. The system and Mr. Groesbeck are inseparable. You will recall that in the campaign of 1920, Mr. Groesbeck, who had been Attorney General for four years, was nominated by the Republican Party as its candidate in a field of Primary candidates by a 28% vote of his Party. Neither Mr. Groesbeck nor the Republican platform of 1920 mentioned the departure from ordinary and orderly forms of government which Mr. Groesbeck contemplated. He no sooner took office however, then he placed before the Legislature a bill known as the Administrative Act. This bill created the Administrative Board with a membership composed of the Administrative officials of the State elected by the people. It delegated a large share of the functions of the Legislature, conferred upon that body by the State constitution and settled there by long custom, to this Board and it gave to the Governor an absolute power of veto over the actions of the Board. Later on in its appropriation bills the Legislature attached a clause to the effect that this appropriation shall be expended at the direction of the Administrative Board. Because of the veto power, the Legislature thereby placed the finances of the State in the hands of the Governor.

Vesting Financial Power

"You will remember that one of the leading points of difference in the debates in the formation of the United States constitution was the question of where the financial power should be lodged. It was finally placed in the lower House of Congress on the theory that that body was the closest to the people and therefore should have control of the peoples' money. When that Legislature of 1921 acceded to the request of the Executive in the manner heretofore explained, it betrayed the spirit of American institutions and the confidence of the electorate. It set up a dictatorship under which a system of unAmerican and unconstitutional practices has grown up, which must be stopped in the interest of the freedom which we all cherish. No longer is the State Government run by the orderly processes of the constitution and American usage. It is run by one man.

"The Executive Department has absorbed the Legislative. How long will it be if this system is continued, whether Mr. Groesbeck or someone else is Governor, before an attempt will be made to absorb or control the Judicial Department.

"No, my friends, this system is wrong in principle. I wish to call your attention to the fact that in 1921, as State Central Chairman of the Democratic Party, even before the Administrative Act became a law, I started to attack this system. Mr. Cummins in 1922 and Mr. Frensdorf in 1924 made it the principal issue in their campaigns. It is the principal issue in mine and if I am not elected and the Republican who is elected does not return to constitutional practices and procedure, it will be the principal issue of the Democratic Party in Michigan until the people understand the situation and end it with their ballots."

Un-American Departure

"Now Mr. Groesbeck justifies and excuses this unAmerican departure by the claim of efficiency. I grant that it has been efficient in giving him absolute control over the State government and absolute control over the Republican Party, but I grant nothing further. It has resulted in so lowering the morale of the employees of the State of Michigan, elective and appointive that efficient and unselfish service is unknown. Mr. Groesbeck points with pride to the results he has obtained, but I say that the same results could be obtained with greater service to the State on far less money. We stated in the campaign of '22 and '24, that the State could be operated on at least one-third less expenditure. I reiterate this statement and before the campaign is over expect to particularize."

"Mr. Groesbeck says that the people of a great, rich and progressive State like Michigan should not object to the trifling taxes levied upon them. He intimates that the State is run on a property tax of $17,000,000, and a Corporation tax of $6,000,000, and a lot of other special taxes which go for specific purposes, like the gas tax which goes for roads. As an actual fact, in five years there has been expended by Mr. Groesbeck's government $277,000,000, which either has come or has to come out of the pocket of the people in State taxation. This makes an average of around $55,000,000, per annum. What government could not obtain results with this expenditure. When we ask for an accounting we are told not to worry that everything is going alright. 'Just leave it to me and you will get good roads' is the answer to every criticism.

Entitled to Accounting

"Now, my friends, we are proud of our Michigan road system and we do not want to detract from the Governor any of the credit that is due him for his interest in this problem. But we do believe that we are entitled to know that roads are located where they will do the most service to the whole State instead of for political reasons. And we do believe that we are entitled to an accounting on each particular road construction. There are rumors all over the State of roads built by convict labor which are costing tremendously more than the bids made by contractors. It is our money which pays for the roads and we are entitled to know their cost.

"The assumption by Mr. Groesbeck that he is the only man that can give Michigan a good road system is ridiculous. There will be a good roads problem in Michigan when all of us here present are gone. (Perhaps Mr. Groesbeck will outlive us all and still be Governor, who knows?)

Woodward Avenue Project

"I am told that some people in this locality are in favor of the Governor because of the wider Woodward project which he has been started under his regime. Permit me to say that wider Woodward was a problem which would have been undertaken if Mr. Groesbeck had not been Governor because it was necessary. The credit for inaugurating this project belongs not with the Governor but with the people of Detroit, Pontiac, Birmingham and intermediate points who first realized its necessity and banded together in various agencies to bring this necessity before the State officials. The State is committed to the project and no matter who is elected Governor it will be finished.

"Now, my friends, there are many other problems in connection with the various activities of the State government which I would like to discuss with you. Unfortunately the subject is so broad it cannot be covered in one evening. What I ask you to do as citizens of the State of Michigan, regardless of Parties, is to follow the coming campaign carefully. Penetrate with your vision the camouflage which will be injected into the campaign to obscure the real issues. When you have heard all sides, vote. Don't stay away from the polls. If you will do this, I am not afraid for Michigan."

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WE HEARD IT SAID BY—

(Little Editorials picked up by the Staff in and around Birmingham.)

P. J. Lee, Detroit Y. M. C. A. athletic director: "Never scoff or jeer at the boy or girl who comes across the line last in any competetive outdoor or indoor game. Although he or she may not be the winner of that particular game, yet it may have been better and far more reaching effect than goes to the winner. It is far easier in the race for the one with an open field to keep on going than it is for the boy or girl who comes in last."

Arthur Tuggey, president of the Birmingham Civic Senate: "At present our organization is not doing anything on the local civic movie question because we do not yet see any evidence of the proposed theatre here. Nor do we intend to try to keep a movie out of Birmingham. All we want is to see that our boys and girls see the kind of pictures that are good for them. We will welcome a highclass theatre in Birmingham; the matter of showing on Sunday will, of course, be referred to the people at a special election."

Howard K. Bingham, Telegraph Road; "I have noticed evidence of an undesirable practice in real estate circles in Birmingham of late. It is unethical for two real estate concerns to each place signs on the same piece of property and yet this is being done in several conspicuous spots in the village. The matter should be taken before the Real Estate Board for adjustment."

W. L. Owen, local tailor: "Business is good and has been right along. In fact I am over-rushed at times. Of course I haven't such a very large organization, but with increased growth comes many things of troublesome nature. I am quite satisfied as I am, and with the condition of business in Birmingham as it affects me."

Kenneth Bingham, junior member of the firm, Bingham, Sparks & Bingham: "Not as a matter of advertising, but really, I think that the Dorothy LaVern stock company playing at the Orpheum theatre in Pontiac is the best group of players I have ever seen. Their "Applesauce" last week is the only play I have seen then put on, but judging from it, I readily conclude their worth."

GRADE SCHOOL GIVES OPERETTA TOMORROW

The pupils of the local grade schools will take part in an operetta, "In a Flower Garden," tomorrow evening at 8 o'clock in the Baldwin high school auditorium. The cast of 200 is directed by Miss Mae E. Brunsted. W. Rhys-Herbert composed the music and Edith M. Burrows wrote the words of the operetta which represents one day in the life of the flowers of the garden. There will be 15c admission.

STATE OF MICHIGAN.
County of Oakland.

At a session of the Probate Court for the County of Oakland, held at the Probate office in the City of Pontiac, on Tuesday, the 8th day of June, A. D. 1926.

Present: Hon. Ross Stockwell, Judge of Probate.

In the Matter of the Application of the County Drain Commissioner of the County of Oakland, in said State, for the appointment of three disinterested Special Commissioners, to determine the necessity for a drain known as the Acacia Park Drain, and for the taking of private property for the use and benefit of the public for the purpose thereof, and the just compensation to be made therefor.

Whereas, On the 8th day of June, A. D. 1926, an application in writing was made to this Court by the said County Drain Commissioner for the appointment of three disinterested Special Commissioners, to determine the necessity for said drain and for the taking of private property for the use and benefit of the public for the purpose thereof, and the just compensation to be made therefor.

And Whereas, this Court did, on the 8th day of June, A. D. 1926, upon a due examination of such application and of all the proceedings thereto before taken in the premises, find and declare the same to be in accordance with the statute in such case made and provided, and did thereupon, by an order entered then and there, appoint Saturday, the 26th day of June, A. D. 1926, at ten o'clock in the forenoon of that day, as the time, and the office of the Judge of Probate in the city of Pontiac, in said County, as the place when and where a hearing upon such application would be had, and did then and there order that all persons whose lands were to be traversed by such proposed drain, and who had not released right of way and all damages on account thereof, to appear at the time and place designated, and to be heard with respect to such application, if they so desire, and to show cause, if any there be, why said application should not be granted.

And Whereas, There is now on file with this Court a description and survey of such proposed drain, from which said description and survey it appears that the land to be traversed by such drain, and the commencement, general course and terminus of such drain are as follows, to-wit:

ACACIA PARK DRAIN

Main Line

Beginning at a point distant West 420 ft. and South 420 ft. from the S. W. corner of the N. W. ¼ of Section 2, Southfield Township, Oakland County, Michigan, said point being on the easterly bank of the River Rouge; thence N. 46° 21' E. 778.36 ft. to the point of curve of a curve to the right having a radius of 122 ft. and an angle of 53° 03', thence around said curve 106.64 ft. to point of tangency; thence S. 24° 18' E. 312.0 ft. to a point at the intersection of the center line of the L. & W. ¼ line of said Section 2 (said center line of Section 2 being the center line of Beverly Road, so-called), with the center line of a road running southwesterly, thence N. 56° 36' E. along said Beverly Road 4498.5 ft. to a point 19 ft. East and 25 ft. North of the intersection of the Center lines of said Beverly Road and Southfield Road; thence N. 89° 24' E. parallel to and 25 ft. North of the center line of said Beverly Road 2484 ft. to a point 49 ft. West of the center line of Pierce Street; thence curving North on a curve having a radius of 30 ft. a distance of 57 ft. to a point 19 ft. West of the center line of said Pierce Street; thence N. 0° 57' W. parallel to and 19 ft. West of the center line of said Pierce Street 2347 ft. to a point in the center line of Catalpa Drive.

Branch No. 1

Beginning at a point at Station 59 plus 04, said point being 33 feet East and 28 feet North of the intersection of the center lines of Southfield and Beverly Roads; thence around a curve to the north having a radius of 29 feet a distance of 61 feet to a point 38 feet east of the center line of Southfield Road; thence N. 6° 15' W. parallel to and 33 feet East of the center line of Southfield Road 2239 feet to a point; thence N. 7° 00' W. 293 feet to a point; thence around a curve to the East having a radius of 55 feet, a distance of 57 feet to a point in the center line of Saxon Drive; thence N. 89° 49' E. along the center line of Saxon Drive 1297 feet to a point in the center line of Dorchester Drive.

Branch No. 2

Beginning at a point at station 110 plus 95 on the main line, said point being the center line of Saxon Drive and 19 feet west of the center line of Pierce Street; thence S. 89° 49' W. along the center line of Saxon Drive 1295 feet to a point in the center line of Dorchester Drive.

And Whereas, It also appears that the following described tracts of land are owned by persons who are unknown or non-residents of the township or Southfield, the execution of a release of the right of way which has been obtained by the owners of them, will be traversed by said drain to-wit, Unknown:

1. N. 50 ft. of lot 8 of Crystal Springs Sub.

Unknown

2. N. 50 ft. of Lot 11 of Crystal Springs Sub.

Unknown

3. The S. 50 ft. of a 5A parcel of land in the NW. ¼ of Sec. 2 Southfield Twp., lying between Berkshire Drive and Lot 2660 of Beverly Hills No. 7.

H. A. O'Dell and Thomas Bagley.

4. A parcel of land in the SW ¼ of Sec. 2, T. 1 N. R. 10 E. Southfield Twp., Oakland Co., Mich., described as follows: beginning at a point in the center of the Highway (Beverly Road, so-called) distant S. 58° 56' W. 2064.5 ft. from the S.E. cor. of the SW ¼ of said Sec. 2; thence N. 49° 49' 10" E. 5.0 ft. to a point; thence S. 84° 09' W. 256 ft. to a point; thence S. 83° 28' E. 214.0 ft. to a point; thence N. 49° 49' 10" E. along center of said highway 60.67 ft. to place of beginning. Also a parcel of land 100 ft. in width in the SW ¼ of Sec. 2 and the SE ¼ of Sec. 3, T. 1 N. R. 10 E., Southfield Twp., Oakland Co., Mich., the center line of which is described as follows: Beginning at a point distant S. 86° 56' W. 2064.5 ft. and S. 84° 45' W. 156.97 ft. from the N. E. cor. of the SW ¼ of said Sec. 2; thence S. 46° 27' W. 471.0 ft. to a point, in the center of the SW ¼ of Sec. 2, in said Twp.; thence S. 46° 27' W. 243 ft. to a point in the River Rouge.

Engass Bros. or Mill Rd. Land Co., and W. W. Masters.

5. A parcel of land 100 ft. in width in the SE ¼ of Sec. 3, T. 1 N. R. 10 E., Southfield Twp., Oakland Co., Mich., the center line of which is described as follows, beginning at a point in the center line of the public highway (Cranbrook Road, so-called) distant S. 86° 56' W. 2064.5 ft. and S. 84° 43' W. 456.97 ft. and S. 46° 27' W. 471.0 ft. from the N. E. cor. of the SW ¼ of Sec. 2, in said Twp.; thence S. 46° 27' W. 243 ft. to a point in the River Rouge.

Now, Therefore, All such non-resident persons, owners of the above described land, or guardian or persons having the care, or with whom resides any minor or incompetent person), and each of them, are hereby cited to be and appear before this court at the time and place last above set forth, to be heard with respect to such application, if they desire, and show cause, if any there be, why the said application for the appointment of three disinterested Special Commissioners aforesaid should not be granted,—and failing so to do they will waive all irregularities in said proceedings already had.

ROSS STOCKWELL,
Judge of Probate.

6-9

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