
THE LAKE VIEW SAGA

1837–1985



Lake View Township
Cook County, Illinois

THE LAKE VIEW SAGA

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with
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FOREWORD

Many portions of cities have achieved greater fame than the cities themselves. . . For example, Hollywood, California, is known around the world in many cases where people have not heard of Los Angeles. Brooklyn and the Brooklyn Dodgers, and anyone who ever came from Brooklyn had an identification all their own, even though they are an integral part of the city of New York. In the case of Brooklyn, the Brooklynese have a language of their own different than that of the New York nasal tone idioms of Manhattan or the Bronx.

So it is with the township and the town of Lake View, which are very much a part of Chicago. They, too, have a characteristic, a loyalty, a neighborhood connotation, and a community affiliation that has created many types of institutions and community organizations.

The first town election was April 7, 1857. In February of 1865, Lake View was officially made a town by an act of the Illinois General Assembly and its boundaries were set as: Devon Avenue on the north, Lake Michigan on the east, Fullerton Avenue on the south, and Western Avenue on the west. The town was governed by a Board of Trustees. In 1887, the town of Lake View was granted a city charter, divided into seven wards with two aldermen for each ward. By 1889, the area had grown so greatly, that a movement was begun to annex Lake View to Chicago, and after a bitter fight, the Chicago City Council by ordinance annexed the town on June 29, 1889, when the voters approved of the deal. Fought then in the Courts, the Illinois Supreme Court upheld the validity of the annexation.

Lake View, as a prefix, heads a long list of churches, businesses and community organizations. Therefore, there are valid reasons why the Lake View Trust and Savings Bank underwrote a project in 1974 when former Vice President and Director of Public Relations, Stephen Bedell Clark, took it upon himself to do a definitive history of both the township and the town of Lake View, called "The Lake View Saga." And now, in connection with its 80th anniversary, Lake View Bank, with the help of Patrick Butler of the Lerner Newspapers, has updated "The Lake View Saga." A fourth section, "Recent Past", has been added to bring this valuable history of our community current.

As we have noted, before 1889 Lake View was a viable, productive community in a rapidly growing urban setting that brought writers, sociologists, and urbanologists to study its continued growth and prosperity. . . also the dedicated loyalty of its citizens who hold on and keep it from becoming a downtrodden slum, or a neighborhood that would

be devoured by bulldozer and the wrecker's ball, and a latter day bandbox-and-egg-crate housing development.

Lake View has an architecture all its own. The beauty of its spiralling church steeples adding a special character. The architecture of its cemeteries, where not only some of the great citizens of Lake View and the United States are buried, has been done by some of our most distinguished architects who design crypts, mausoleums, statuary, and markers so that those who have had their names engraved on the pages of Lake View history have also had their names embossed on the headstones and receiving vaults. Cemeteries like Graceland, Wunder, St. Boniface, and Rose Hill are most worthwhile places for eager researchers, history students and scholars to visit and study.

Lake View is most unique because of its parks, its industry, and its thriving retail business community at Lincoln, Belmont and Ashland, where we find another name for Lake View. Many people say, for example, that they are going to "Lincoln and Belmont," when in fact they are going to Lake View. Of course, Lake View is most famous because it has a newspaper called the Lincoln-Belmont Booster that has been published continuously since 1921, now considered the grandfather of urban and suburban community press throughout the United States. Its founder, the late Leo Lerner, was the pioneer of what is now a billion dollar nation-wide publishing industry, and it all started in Lake View at Lincoln and Belmont.

There is a pride in Lake View that can be heard when you attend the meetings of the Lake View Kiwanis Club, and you can hear people singing the praises of the community where they live, where they work, and where they practice their professions.

Perhaps what is missing today in Lake View would be the old truck farm gardens of the Luxemburg farmers who founded the township, and who were the great growers of vegetables and fruits, and particularly the cucumbers which turned into the famous Budlong Pickles of Lake View. Today, lovely old stately frame houses stand at this spot, and people live in them and care for them with tender loving care.

RESEARCH TOOL OF THE FIRST SAGA

This saga of Lake View is only a scratch on the surface, and by no means a tap into the roots, of this great, viable, thriving community of over 275,000 people. It is the intention of the publishers and the author that perhaps this booklet will influence others to scratch harder, look longer, and research with enthusiastic endeavor; to perhaps do

12 or 16 volumes full of places, events, and names of the famous people who made their contributions to the Lake View Community in their lifetime.

We first owe a debt of gratitude to Mr. Don Kreider, President of the Lake View Trust & Savings Bank, for making the grant possible to Stephen Bedell Clark, who made the initial research for over two years; to Warren Burmeister, Vice-President in charge of Marketing of the Lake View Bank, who took up all the loose ends and presented the first 435-page manuscript, with pictures, to Michael S. Lerner, Associate Publisher of the Lerner Booster Skyline Newspapers, where the first publication of the Saga ran for 29 consecutive issues in serial form; to the Chicago Historical Society, and to the Lake View-Ravenswood Historical Society for pictures and information; to the Bureau of Maps of the City of Chicago; and

most of all to Bill Siewert of the Booster and his staff. Special mention should be given to the untiring effort of Dorothy Yahiro who typed the manuscript.

The chore was then picked up by Philip Leslie Shutt, a retired journalism and English instructor from Lake Lane College, Mattoon, Illinois, who has also served as a Vice-President of the Illinois State Historical Society, and who is well known among professional researchers. He re-wrote some of the script, gathered new material, selected the photographs and graphics and wrote the captions and prepared the manuscript for printing. Mr. Shutt's work was done under the direction and supervision of Richard C. Bjorklund, past president of the Lake View-Ravenswood Historical Society, and Louis A. Lerner, publisher of the 43 Lerner Newspaper chain.

—Michael S. Lerner
May 1974

PROLOGUE

No attempt has been made to produce herein a work of literary excellence or historical "depth," but rather to chronicle some of the events and the men who breathed romance and stamina into the founding and development of a once pioneer outpost and made it historically memorable.

A comprehensive study of Lake View would of necessity cover many facts of its religious, educational and cultural background, but these aspects are not material to a study primarily intended as factual, important as they may have been in establishing an identity characteristically its own.

We shall sketch in broad outline—how the founding of Lake View is basically the culmination of a series of historical trends set in motion far beyond its borders, long before the Illinois Territory came into being.

—How the roots of Lake View were set down in a trackless wilderness seldom penetrated, except for roving bands of Indians intent on foraging for food and furs.

—How it grew to maturity in a locale which had

changed sovereignty time and again, not because anyone struggled for its possession, but rather because no one wanted to occupy it.

—How eventually it was homesteaded by a Swiss emigrant, later settled by German, Luxembourg and Swedish farmers and artisans, and in its adolescence aided and abetted by stout-hearted pioneers from many nations including our own from the Eastern seaboard.

The narrative of Lake View as it evolved in the days which followed is filled with the names of many outstanding stalwarts in church, education, business and industry, but to Conrad Sulzer, who blazed the trail to become the first white settler in Lake View, is paid special honor.

The contribution of these early settlers and their successors in the development and reputation of Lake View will become apparent as the narrative unfolds, from a no-man's land to the commanding position it holds today in Metropolitan Chicago.

History has no beginning or end, no matter how exhaustive a study may be, for as one authority put it at the conclusion of his labors, "at best it must be fragmentary and whatever is written, immeasurably more will be omitted."

THE VERY BEGINNING

There are some who have questioned why history has ascribed so much importance to the journey of Louis Jolliet (Joliet) and his Jesuit chaplain, Father Marquette. They were not discoverers in a real sense and certainly not colonizers. French fur traders and half-breeds are known to have been at La Portage (Chicago) as early as 1640. The fact remains, however, that there was little official knowledge of this western country beyond the wealth it could produce from the fur trade.

In this connection it should be remembered that in 1671 the governor of New France had proclaimed sovereignty over the whole of the Mississippi Valley without knowing where the river began or whence it flowed. It was the mission of Jolliet and his expedition to supply this missing information.

This they did, but more importantly, they focused attention on the existence of an available portage between the Chicago and Des Plaines

Rivers by the use of which boats could pass from Lake Michigan to the Mississippi River. Here was a continuous water route for direct communication between the French settlement at Quebec in upper Canada and those in New Orleans.

Had there been no such portage to complete this strategic waterway, who can say but what the "Gateway to the West" might have developed at Calumet rather than at the mouth of the Chicago River.

For this, Illinois is indebted to Jolliet and his companions, but to him also must be ascribed the honor of being the first to proclaim that the future wealth of the Illinois country would not continue to be its fur trade, but in the wealth buried in its wondrous fertile soil, "the most beautiful and most suitable for settlement."

It was altogether fitting, therefore, that a monument to the memory of these two early French emissaries should have been placed at the eastern end of "La Portage," which had played such an important role in pointing the way for the future development of metropolitan Chicago.



AN HISTORIC SITE. The site of Fr. Marquette's winter camp in 1674-75, which was located at Damen Avenue on the south branch of the Chicago River. This cross was erected in 1907, but was probably destroyed by vandals.



AS IT IS TODAY. If the reader is really curious as to finding the exact site of the Marquette-Joliet cross, he can find his way down the bank of the Chicago River. The circle on this picture indicates the approximate site of the cross.

THE MARQUETTE-JOLIET CROSS

However, it was not until the early 1900s that serious consideration was given to the erection of such a memorial and the selection of an appropriate location. When once it was decided that the most suitable location would be the site of Marquette's camp during the winter of 1674-1675 "hard by the beginning of the portage," it became necessary to determine with some degree of accuracy exactly where this had been.

A committee of the Chicago Historical Society based on the extensively researched report of its chairman, Ossian Gunthrie, concluded that the camp had been located on a plot of somewhat hilly, thickly wooded ground, lying between the north end of the Damen Avenue bridge and the point where the South Fork joins the South Branch of the Chicago River.

Considerable time and effort was expended in researching the project inasmuch as the site today has the appearance of an abandoned lumber yard devoid of trees or other natural landmarks.

The Chicago Association of Commerce became interested in the project and on September 28, 1907, jointly with the city, unveiled a 15-foot mahogany cross donated by the Willey Lumber Co. Affixed to the concrete base was a descriptive bronze tablet.

Sometime later, a three-foot iron cross said to be of French origin was set up beside the wooden cross by some unknown donor, but it had no historical connection with Marquette. How long the large cross remained before being maliciously destroyed by vandals does not appear in the records.

A second cross similar to the original was donated by the Willey Lumber Co. However, in 1930, with the building of the new bridge to span the river at this point, it became necessary to remove the crosses. Where they rest now can be no more than supposition.

THE GATE OF EMPIRE

For 110 years, from Father Marquette's second visit to the Illini Indians in 1674-75 down to the first permanent cabin erected on the future site of Chicago in 1784, history records little activity in these parts beyond the sporadic visits of the French missionaries in their attempts to Christianize the Indians.

Fur traders and trappers continued to move in and out among the Indian settlements along the inland rivers but with increasing resistance from the Indian tribes as they gradually came to realize these white men were taking from them their only means of subsistence as game in the area became more and more scarce.

Father Allouez is said to have visited the Chicago site in April, 1677, to take charge of the Jesuit missions hereabout, but apparently he left leaving no permanent outpost behind.

Before long, however, Robert Chevalier de LaSalle would be following in Father Marquette's footsteps. Having finished the building of the Griffin, a stout sailing ship capable of navigating the stormy waters he expected to encounter, he started out from the eastern end of Lake Erie with a crew of 30 men on August 7, 1679, intent on discovering and exploring the headwaters of the Mississippi River.

For three days all went well, but as they entered Lake Huron they sailed into the teeth of a terrific storm. With good seamanship they managed to reach the shelter of St. Ignace and the Jesuit mission from which Father Marquette and Joliet had set out six years earlier on a similar mission.

From here LaSalle set his course for Green Bay where, by astute trading with the Indians, he loaded his vessel with a fortune in furs. Heavily laden and with a small crew, he ordered the Griffin to make a return voyage to the east while he remained behind to continue his exploration of the wilderness between the lakes and the Mississippi.

The Griffin sailed, but she was never heard from again.

As he journeyed down Lake Michigan in October, 1679, he apparently put in at the mouth of the Chicago River "and rested for some days on the bank of a river of feeble current now flowing into the lake."

It would seem he concluded this was not a navigable stream at the time and chose instead to make his way into the heartland of Illinois by way of the St. Joseph and Kankakee Rivers to fulfill his commission from the French king to take possession of the whole Mississippi Valley in the name of France.

Frequently, reference is made to Father Marquette and his party as having been the first white men to set up their camp on the future site of Chicago. Be that as it may, the claim seems unimportant to our narrative inasmuch as no settlement resulted by reason of his two visits or that of LaSalle and others who followed for at least 100 years.

In this connection, it is interesting to note the divergence of opinion expressed by LaSalle in a letter to a friend back home in 1682 and James Monroe's report to the Continental Congress in 1775.

The early French explorer wrote, "The boundless regions of the west must send their products to the east through this point. This will be the gate of empire; this the seat of commerce." Monroe could envision the future site of Chicago only in terms of a territory which "will perhaps never contain a sufficient number of inhabitants to entitle them to membership in the confederacy."

CHANGING TIMES

It requires an active imagination for us to realize that until the close of the century, travel to and from what we now regard as the center of transportation and shipping in the middle west was both difficult and perilous. Traveled roads were nonexistent and

water-borne traffic on the Great Lakes was not yet a reliable means of transportation.

Because of the intensive hunting of animals in the nearby forests, the fur trade was being gradually pushed farther to the west toward the Mississippi, turning the sand dunes and seasonal swamps at the mouth of the river into a no-man's land. There could be little wonder that homesteaders found little to attract them to stake out claims in a land which was available by default.

Influential men in the East regarded the area as worthless and a wasteland suitable for nothing more than a portage between Lake Michigan and the fertile Mississippi Valley. James Monroe, in his report to the Continental Congress, said "A great part of the territory is miserably poor, especially that near Lake Michigan."

It remained for John Kinzie, the "Father of Chicago," to prove how wrong they were.

A SETTLEMENT IS BORN

The saga of Lake View may be said to begin with the first permanent settlement established on the mud flats at the mouth of the Chicago River. For 175 years or more, this locale had remained no more than the habitat for roving bands of Indians and the battleground for intertribal conflicts.

Just when the first white man visited the site of West, remains a matter of historical guess. Recorded journals, while numerous, are full of inaccuracies and contradictions.

The exact date is perhaps not too important, but we do know with certainty that Jean Baptiste Pont du Sable built the first permanent homestead in 1784 on the Chicago River, just south of the present Chicago Tribune building. He was a San Domingoan native whose antecedents are scarcely known.

TREATY OF GREENVILLE

Fear of Indian raids variously provoked by the French and British had remained a strong drawback to migrations from the east, and travel for the most part was limited to water routes by canoe.

For this reason settlers wishing to seek new homes in the west generally followed the Ohio River down to the Mississippi. This enabled them to transport their household effects on flat boats with protection from a line of existing forts.

No such route was available across northern Ohio and Indiana, where hostile Indians used every strategy known to them to halt the progress of the white man across their ancestral lands. To remove this menace, General Anthony Wayne was dispatched into Ohio to subdue the Miami tribes, active in this area. On August 20, 1794, he met and defeated them in the Battle of Fallen Timbers and opened up most of Ohio to white settlement.

In the summer of 1795 the Indian tribes assembled at Fort Greenville in western Ohio to meet with General Wayne. In the Treaty of Greenville, which

followed, the Indians ceded to the United States 25,000 square miles plus three additional parcels, one of which was six square miles at the mouth of the Chicago River, "where a fort formerly stood."

Land was not surveyed at the time, but it appears to have been approximately from Fullerton Avenue south to 31st Street, and from Lake Michigan to 48th Avenue (Cicero Avenue).

President Thomas Jefferson recognized early on the strategic importance, politically and commercially, of the six square miles by the Indians in the Treaty of Greenville. To protect this all important "portage," he ordered the construction of a fort in the horseshoe bend of the River when it turned south to enter Lake Michigan at what is now Madison Street. It was a log stockade begun in 1803 and completed in 1804. It was named Fort Dearborn.

By 1809 the local population had increased sufficiently for the settlement to be set apart as Illinois Territory, protected, as they thought, by the new stockade and fort.

In spite of, or because of, the Indians' defeat by the American soldiers in the alternating raids launched on white settlements by various tribes seeking to restrain further takeover of their ancestral hunting grounds, a seething hatred of the fair-skinned spoilers was never far from the surface among the more warlike tribes.

The French had used it to their advantage against the British, and now the British were finding occasion to arouse this animosity toward the Americans in the War of 1812.

Warned by their officers in the field that an attack on Fort Dearborn was imminent, the garrison at the Fort was ordered to withdraw to Fort Wayne, which could be defended to better advantage.

The Pottawattomie, stirred to fever heat by the British, laid siege to the fort. On August 13, 1812, Captain William Wells, with 30 friendly Miami warriors, arrived at Chicago as an escort. The Pottawattomie surrounding the fort had promised an escort, but those who appeared soon deserted.

The garrison evacuated the fort at 9 o'clock on the morning of August 15, moving south between the lake and a row of low sandhills. Hardly had they left the fort before they were ambushed by the Indians lying in wait along the sandhills. Twenty-six soldiers and 14 civilians were massacred. There were few survivors. The following day the fort was destroyed by fire.

FORT DEARBORN REBUILT

Four years after the Fort Dearborn Massacre, John Kinzie, who had been one of the few survivors, returned to his trading post in 1816 and became an agent for Astor's American Fur Co.

Fort Dearborn was rebuilt this same year, and the garrison reestablished. Confidence was restored

as the traders returned and life resumed much as it had been. An agency house, used for trading with the Indians, was built adjacent to the Fort on the river edge.

ILLINOIS TERRITORY ACHIEVES STATEHOOD

The Enabling Act of 1818, drawn for the purpose of conferring statehood on the Illinois Territory, as originally presented to Congress, proposed a north boundary at what is now 75th Street.

Nathaniel Pope, congressman from Illinois, argued the point that this would not include the six-square-mile area at the mouth of the Chicago River included in the Treaty of Greenville, which was both a natural inland port and the entrance to the Mississippi.

Congressman Pope introduced an amendment, moving the north boundary line 41 miles further. The amendment was approved by both houses and even by James Monroe, who expressed a low opinion of the area in 1775 when he spoke before the Continental Congress.

OPENING OF THE ERIE CANAL—1825

The opening of the Erie Canal in 1825, connecting the Hudson River with the Great Lakes waterway, provided a water route from the Eastern seaboard to the site of Chicago. Because of the difficulty in land travel over the northern trails, the opening of an all-water route to the west removed one of the last obstacles holding back migrations to Chicago.

Lake-borne transportation permitted the shipment of a family's household possessions of larger size and weight than could be carried in canoes or along overland trails, which at various times and places could be little better than quagmires after heavy rainfalls.

It is significant that the French, who controlled the fur trade in these parts for 200 years, were not family men looking to establish new households. They brought little with them except limited supplies of food and whiskey for trading with the Indians. They lived off the land and left it much as they had found it.

But the English and the Americans were colonizers. When they moved out from the East, they were intent on homesteading. In doing this, they wanted to retain as much of their cherished possessions as they could manage to carry with them.

RESETTLEMENT GAINS MOMENTUM—1825

Up to this time emigrants from the middle Atlantic colonies moving into Illinois by way of the Ohio River routes were more inclined to seek out new homesteads in the southern plains near existing forts rather than settling their families farther to the north in a "backwoods mudhole" difficult to reach.

When the Indian menace to cross-country travel was largely neutralized by General Wayne, a more

direct route from the East to the site of the infant settlement at the mouth of the Chicago River was made practical and the tempo of resettlement was appreciably stepped up.

The Erie Canal initiated a new era. It marked a reawakening in the East of the opportunities for resettlement in the fast growing but uncrowded towns in the new territories opening up in the Midwest, not only for those wearied by the anxieties of war, but for countless others eager to escape the restraints of urban living. There were also those who were quick to recognize the possibilities for developing trade and commerce inherent in the build-up of these new centers of population.

RESETTLEMENT GAINS MOMENTUM

According to Chicago historian Bessie Louise Pierce, "Some came from the East by way, of course, the Erie Canal to Buffalo, and from there in sailboat or steamer rode the waves of the Great Lakes. Other emigrants left their boats at Detroit, and travelled overland around the southern shore of Lake Michigan to the site of Chicago; or ending the journey by land at St. Joseph, or some other port on Lake Michigan's eastern shore, proceeded by boat, using the portage."

A HOTEL IS BUILT IN THE TOWN—1826

The advent of tradespeople looking for locations to open stores or shops as well as those who had braved the long and somewhat perilous voyage up the lakes to build homes in the new community, created a need for temporary housing. Those who chose to settle on land suitable for cultivation away from the commercial center must also find shelter for a time until cabins could be built.

To provide temporary quarters for those needing such accommodations, Mark Beaubien opened a hotel in 1826 near the "Forks," where the north and south branches of the river converged to form a single stream flowing into Lake Michigan.

A HOTEL IS BUILT

It was not until 1829 that any serious thought was given to developing the Chicago River as a natural resource. The military at Fort Dearborn made a start by cutting a channel through the sand bar obstructing the mouth of the River. This permitted the River to flow due east from the "Forks," into the Lake. In effect, this reversed the flow so that it would not continue to circle south at present day Rush Street around Fort Dearborn, entering the Lake at present day Madison Street.

While Chicago was still very much of an infant community in 1830, it was soon surveyed and platted. The boundaries then established were Madison Street on the south; Desplaines Street on the west; Kinzie street on the north; and State Street on the east; the stretch of sandy waste between State Street and Lake Michigan was made an Indian reservation.

The Blackhawk War of 1832 largely removed the Indian menace as the remaining tribes were pushed farther west to the Mississippi Valley. This provided a small sized boom to the town as settlers began arriving in large numbers. The sale of western lands to settlers and the improvement in river travel were probably two more reasons for the increased emigration.

Whatever the reason, the population of Chicago increased from 150 to 4,170 in the four years from 1833 to 1837.

At the time of the first official survey of Chicago in 1830, there appears to have been not more than 150 of the early pioneers who were content to become permanent residents of the mud infested community struggling to become a town. There were several others who preferred the open prairies and areas to the north. To attempt such a journey required courage. The Little Fort and Green Bay trails to the north were hardly more than beaten paths through a wilderness country, often flooded.

As an alternative, these pioneers chose to make the journey up the North Branch of the Chicago River. Along its banks, on high ground, they could build their cabins, which offered protection from piercing winter winds (thick surrounding woods offset the winds), and an ample supply of water.

Two families of particular interest who homesteaded along the river in the early 1830s were the John Kinzie Clark, and the Archibald Clybourn groups. They narrowly missed being the first white settlers in Lake View, because they moved on further north. A third early settler who staked out his claim just over the western boundary of Lake View, was John Noble. He and his family first lived in the Kinzie home on the north bank of the river, but later on, the Nobles settled in what is Niles and Norwood Park.

THE FIRST WHITE SETTLER

Conrad Sulzer, who became the first white settler in Lake View, was born in Winterthur, Switzerland, in 1807, the son of a Protestant minister. He was educated at Bonn University and went on to do graduate work at Heidelberg in medicine and surgery, but apparently did not follow the medical profession.

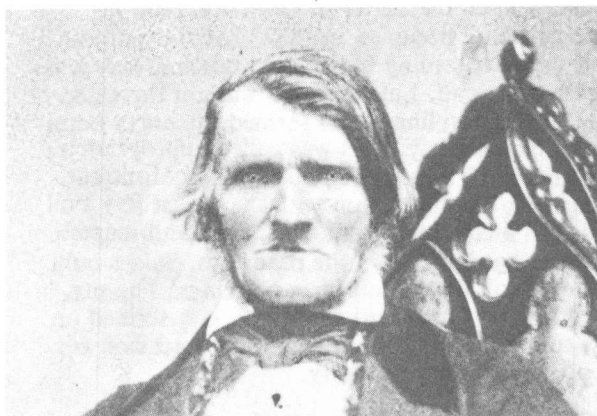
For a young man fresh out of the university, ambitious to make his life meaningful, the homeland had little to offer, religious unrest, economic disruptions and political oppression held most of the European populace in a state of virtual servitude. For those who were able to do so, migration to America appeared to be their only recourse.

The young Sulzer, at the age of 26, found this a prospect too appealing to be denied. Turning his back on the land of his birth, he set out for America in 1833, intent on learning firsthand what the new world had to offer.

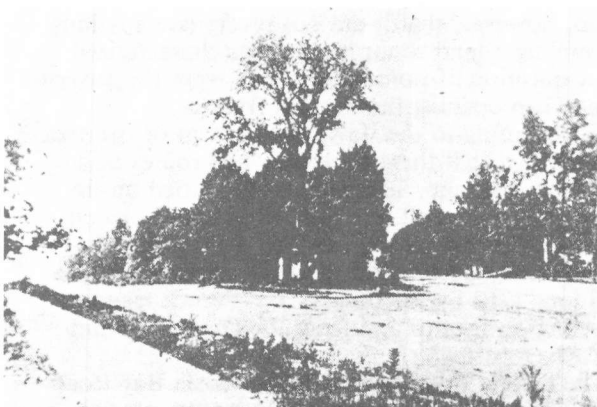
On his arrival in this country, he continued his journey to Watertown in upstate New York, where some of his friends had preceded him and settled in a Swiss colony. His cordial reception by his friends

and their way of life proved so alluring, he was easily persuaded to make his home among them.

During his 3-year sojourn there, he decided to apply for citizenship and became an American citizen. It was there also that he met and married Miss Christine Young. Frederick, their first son, was born March 5, 1836.



CONRAD SULZER-THE ORIGINAL SETTLER of the Lake View community.—Courtesy, Ravenswood-Lake View Historical Society.



BARREN OF TODAY'S traffic in this corner of Montrose, Sheridan and Broadway on a calm June day in 1891. Streets were then known as Sulzer Road (Montrose), Sheffield Avenue (Sheridan), and Evanston Avenue (Broadway). Contrast this with the busy bustle and hustle today at this triple intersection.

SOJOURN IN WATERTOWN, NEW YORK

For the most part, Sulzer's life in Watertown had proved gratifying and yet there were accounts filtering back east of the wide, fertile country being opened for settlement in the Illinois Territory farther to the west.

Intrigued by these glowing tales, he could envisage a whole new pattern of life, close to nature and unfettered by the demands of urban living. Agriculture, as such, had not been his chosen profession, but horticulture was in his blood.

When his son, Frederick, was three months old, Sulzer made the decision to brave the perilous passage up the lakes to the little settlement on the banks of the Chicago River. Since the opening of

the Erie Canal in 1825, the water route had been gaining in popularity; however, it was not until 1839 that a scheduled line of steamers made regular trips between Buffalo, New York, and Chicago. By this time, the river channel had been made passable.

The Sulzer family arrived in Chicago by the river and lake route in June 1836. He purchased 100 acres five miles from the center of town and built his home which he occupied in 1837. There is not much information regarding his original home. There was no east-west road. Later, a road was cut through along the section line which formed the north boundary of his property. This was called appropriately, "Sulzer Road" though it is now named Montrose Avenue. At its intersection with the Green Bay trail cradled in a clearing of tall oaks, elms and maples, set somewhat back from the roadways, Sulzer built a yellow farm house and farm buildings. The site, now a part of Graceland Cemetery, is described on the boulder marking his grave in the northwest corner of the cemetery property.

DIFFICULT ROUTES OF APPROACH

The arrival of Conrad Sulzer in these parts was an event of more than passing interest. It should be noted, however, that it did not precipitate anything resembling a land stampede such as characterized the acquisition of homestead rights from the government when opening the western frontier.

Contributing to the slow development of the area was the fact that there were only two routes of access from Chicago. The one was identified on the survey maps as the Little Fort Road (now Lincoln Avenue). Starting at the head of Wells Street, it threaded its way through the back country along a trail long used by the Indians and French trappers traveling on foot to and from the Green Bay and Fox River portages.

The second route known as the Green Bay Road (now Clark Street) meandering along the coastal region of Lake Michigan, followed the original trail laid out by General Scott as a line of communication between Fort Dearborn and Fort Howard, sometimes known as Navarino or Green Bay Village. This route had its beginning at the north end of Clark Street at North Avenue and on past the old gate to the cemetery in Lincoln Park.

A vivid description of the locale through which these roads passed has been left by one of the early settlers: "The few sparse settlements along the routes of these two illy defined highways might by courtesy have been termed once as farms, but, as seen by the few of us who now survive, they were anything but what we would now call by that dignified appellation."

SULZER BLAZED THE TRAIL

Although there were some ethnic groups who had settled in other parts of the state, he led the vanguard of Germanic immigrants whose native aptitudes played such a decisive role in shaping the destiny of their adopted community, whether it be in

the mechanical arts, horticulture, education, music, physical education, religion, entertainment, and a host of other disciplines in which their thoroughness made their community outstanding.

Nor were these early settlers backward in contributing of their time or abilities in organizing the affairs of government. Lake View was the first of the fringe communities to become a city.

In short, Conrad Sulzer blazed the trail for others to follow, but it is unfortunate that so little of Sulzer's personal life and philosophy has been recorded in available form. A few of his letters have been made public, but so much remains unfathomed.

NEW SETTLERS BEGIN TO ARRIVE

The arrival of Sulzer, as has been noted, did not create a race to acquire land in this yet undeveloped wilderness.

For a time after he had cleared his land and built a comfortable home, he had few close-in neighbors. There appears to have been a lingering hesitation on the part of some would-be settlers to cast their lot in this still undeveloped wilderness. New settlers were slow in arriving.

But overseas there was a growing desire in the hearts and minds of many middle class craftsmen, farmers and industrial workers for an opportunity to employ their creative skills more productively, to carve out a more satisfactory existence for themselves and their families.

Wearied by the political and economic chaos that had followed in the aftermath of the Napoleonic wars, the exuberant tales filtering back to the homeland from those who had already journeyed to the wide open areas in America, fell on sympathetic ears, particularly among the Germans and Luxembourgers who had so much to offer in the way of native skills to a developing community.

This urge for emancipation from a regimented existence in the homeland finally reinforced their courage to follow those of their countrymen who had preceded them in migrating to America and on to the Middle West, where a man's destiny was of his own making.

In the 1840s a growing stream of settlers began arriving in the area adjacent to the Sulzer farm. Many of the Luxembourgers purchased acreage along "The Ridge," which they soon developed into truck farms. Before long, these and the other truck farms in the area became the largest shippers of celery in the Middle West.

In connection with their truck farms, or separately, greenhouses were erected throughout the infant community where floral culture and landscaping became a family tradition bringing to Lake View the reputation as the greenhouse center of the country.

But not all of the new settlers were farmers. Some had been artisans back home, wood carvers, harness makers, carpenters, blacksmiths, metal workers and other trades, all of whom could find needed employment for their varied talents in building up the township.

Basically, however, Lake View in its early days

was a farm community and attracted settlers from abroad who for the most part were like-minded, having lived off the soil in their native lands. This is particularly true of the settlers along the "Ridge" who picked this locale because of the high ground and fertile fields.

Luxembourgers comprised a large segment of the settlers who purchased farms between 1844 and 1847 and formed a magnet for others of their countrymen to follow. There was a sprinkling of Swedes, an occasional Scotsman, and in the 1850s, some Irish following the lead of Philip Rogers and his son-in-law, Patrick Touhy.

But by and large, the "Ridge" remained a settlement of German and Luxembourg farmers with their truck gardens and greenhouses. At the south end was Nicholas Kranz with his farm of several acres straddling Green Bay Road, and at the north, just south of Evanston, Peter Muno held sway.

In between were men like Nicholas Schreiber and his sons, Dominick and Michael, and Henry Reinberg. The Kranz and Muno homes were the centers of social life for the Luxembourgers in the area.

Later arrivals included Michael Weber, who purchased the farm of John Anderson, a stone mason who fashioned many of the grave markers in Rosehill Cemetery and also served as the postmaster of Havelock.

Others were Michael and Margaret Hansen and their son, who ran a restaurant at Rosehill; Nicholas Girsch, who owned a blacksmith shop at Rosehill; Martin Jung, a horticulturist; Thomas Moulding, the first brickmaker in Lake View; Henry Fortmann, John Tillman, Peter Blitsch, Charles Lindemann, Michael Brett and William Miller.

Although many of these men and others lived beyond the township limits of Lake View, as later established, they were actively identified with the social and political life of Lake View. Several of them served in administrative posts in the local government as town and highway commissioners or on the school boards.

In this connection, it should be noted that among the early settlers, communities conformed to spheres of influence and civic involvement rather than to arbitrary lines delineated by the map makers.

Thus, Lake View was identified as a functioning village on the county map published in 1854, although the Town of Lake View was not officially incorporated until 1857. At the time, state law provided that any community of 150 or more inhabitants might, by formal action, be incorporated as a town.

Even after the area north of Devon Avenue to Howard Street was incorporated as the Village of Rogers Park in 1878, the economic, cultural and religious life of the settlers living in this area continued to be centered in Lake View where a central market, churches of many denominations, and a school system were already well established.

Rogers Park, like Lake View, is one of eight townships within the city, but back in their formative years, both were parts of the Township of

Ridgeville, which was reconstituted in 1857.

Their growth and development have much in common. Although lying just over the northern boundary of Lake View proper, the citizens of both had many interrelated activities and interests in their social and commercial contacts.

Since Rogers Park was a Roman Catholic community as was a large section of Lake View, religious ties were strong. Although St. Henry's parish was organized along the Ridge at Devon in 1850, aided by a gift of \$6,000 from Patrick Touhy, St. Alphonsus Church in Lake View was regarded as the center of Catholic influence north of St. Michael's on the Near North Side.

Commercially there was also an affinity between the townships. Rogers Park was predominately a community of homes, where Lake View was fast developing as the largest central market between Chicago and Evanston.

Transportation to Chicago was a slow and tedious journey, but close-in Lake View, with a variety of stores and shops offered a convenient and accessible center for Rogers Park families to purchase whatever their household needs might be, whether food, clothing, flowers or building materials.

Rogers Park was not incorporated as a village until April, 1878, but had its beginning much earlier. Philip Rogers, a thrifty Irishman and vegetable gardener, purchased one-quarter section along the "Ridge" from the government in 1844. Subsequently it became known for a time as "Rogers Ridge."

He converted wood on his property, of which there was an abundance, into charcoal, which he delivered into Chicago by ox-cart. Through this and the sale of produce from his truck gardens, he managed to accumulate 1,600 acres by the time of his death in 1856.

The estate was left to his widow, a son Philip, and a daughter, Miss Catherine C. Rogers. But in 1869, Philip died, bequeathing his share to his mother.

Catherine had married Patrick Touhy in 1865. On the death of her brother, her husband took over the management of the estate.

TOWNSHIP OF RIDGEVILLE ORGANIZED

By act of the legislature in 1849, the counties in Illinois were directed to organize themselves into townships. Prior to that date, Cook County was under what was known in this state as county government; that is, all affairs of the county were managed by a board of commissioners who supervised the community business of local groups of settlers who had not yet established a local government.

At one time or another, some of these were referred to as towns, villages, or even townships, but, being unincorporated, they were officially none of these.

The so-called existing townships usually embraced an area of several square miles, but they, too, were unincorporated and in reality existed only as a point of reference on U.S. survey maps. But to comply

with the act passed in 1849, an official survey was ordered of the area north of Fullerton Avenue, at that time the northern boundary of the City of Chicago, in 1853.

As a result of this survey, the Township of Ridgeville was officially recognized and its boundaries platted. Included was the area from Central (Evanston) south to Graceland (Irving Park), and from Lake Michigan to McDaniel Avenue in Evanston, west to Kedzie and Western.

This embraced most of what would later be designated as the townships of Evanston, Rogers Park and Lake View except the section of Lake View lying south of Graceland was shown on the original survey map as North Chicago. But before the map was redrawn in 1854, this, too, became a part of Lake View through the efforts of Dr. Charles V. Dyer, S.H. Kerfoot, and a third party. These gentlemen obtained approval of their petition circulated among the residents within a two-mile area requesting that North Chicago be included in the Township of Lake View.

A revised map in 1854 established Lake View as that area north from Fullerton to Devon and from Lake Michigan to Western and the North Branch of the Chicago River on the west.

Although shown on the earlier survey maps prior to 1850, the Township of Ridgeville officially came into existence as a result of the legislative act of 1849, one year later in 1850, but on August 27,

1855, the name of the Ridgeville post office was changed to Evanston by the U.S. Post Office Department, a name adopted in memory of John Evans, a prominent citizen on the North Shore who became the first territorial governor of Colorado by appointment from Abraham Lincoln.

Two years later, on February 17, 1857, the Township of Ridgeville was likewise designated as the Township of Evanston.

One of the early pleasure spots was the Sunnyside Inn built in 1850 at the corner of what is now Sunnyside and Clark. It was a restaurant and amusement park which many folks from the city found a pleasant place to drive to for dinner on weekends.

COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY TAKE ROOT

As early as 1851 Conrad Sulzer wrote to a friend back home in Switzerland, "Chicago is now a large city...so much can be made in America of a wilderness within a space of 15 years." It was inevitable that Lake View should experience a similar growth both in population and industrial activity.

Blacksmith shops and metal processing plants were finding a ready market for their wares in nearby Chicago. Especially important in Lake View's industrial development were the precision methods brought over by the immigrants from Germany, Luxembourg and Sweden. Tool and die plants were established in the southwest section along the river.



THIS WAS A POPULAR HOTEL. One of the early pleasure spots in Lake View township was the Sunnyside Inn. It was on the corner of Sunnyside and Clark Street. There was a restaurant and an

amusement park nearby. The hotel was built in 1850.—Courtesy, Ravenswood-Lake View Historical Society.

Carpenters and woodworking artisans were in constant demand to keep abreast of the building activity in new homes and plants. Frame structures were dominant at the time requiring a growing demand for lumber and millwork. Mears Slayton Lumber Co. established a lumber yard, office and factory in 1852 at 1237 Belmont.

Chicago relied heavily on the produce being raised on Lake View truck farms to feed its fast growing population. This, in turn, led many merchants and tradespeople to set up stores and shops along the main arteries into town.

Many of the farmers on their way to the city with their vegetables and other produce put up for the night at the inn built for the purpose at 3400 N. Lincoln. This stopover provided an opportunity to purchase family and household supplies from the local merchants.

Although the Sulzer family was active in all phases of the civic and social life of the community, little information, it would seem, has come down to us of their personal friends and acquaintances. One of these was Mrs. Wilhelmine Olbert, who was born in Lake View in 1852, two years before the Lake View House was built.

The family homestead stood for many years at the corner of Graceland (Irving Park) and Green Bay Road (Clark). Here she spent her entire childhood as a close neighbor of the Sulzer family, in whose home she was a frequent visitor.

Her father, Frederick Leonhardi, held many public offices in the township government and took an active interest with Conrad Sulzer in planning and directing local improvements.

PROFILE OF PINE GROVE

Up to 1850 the growth and development of Lake View had been taking place in the area west of Halsted. The section to the east along the lake shore remained as it had been long before the arrival of the white man in these parts; a windblown stretch of sandy waste and scrub oaks interspersed at times with swampy pools.

But the area had natural advantages which would not long be denied. It lay along the principal trail to the north, crude and meandering though it might be, and had an uncluttered view of the broad expanse of Lake Michigan with its cooling breezes in the summer.

It remained for James H. Rees, a prominent and successful surveyor in Chicago, and E.E. Hundley, recently arrived from Virginia, to come forward with a practical demonstration that here was an area ideally situated for the development of a lakeshore community of fine homes and landscaped grounds.

Together they purchased a tract of 225 acres from the Canal Trustees on May 14, 1852, at an average price of \$15.68 per acre, or a total price of \$3,529.50. The subdivision was given the name of Pine Grove, platted and recorded February 12, 1853.

On the west it was bounded by Halsted Street, on the east by Lake Michigan, to the north by Graceland Avenue, and on the south by Belmont.

At the time of purchase, this tract lay wholly within the Township of North Chicago, which later became part of the southern half of Lake View.

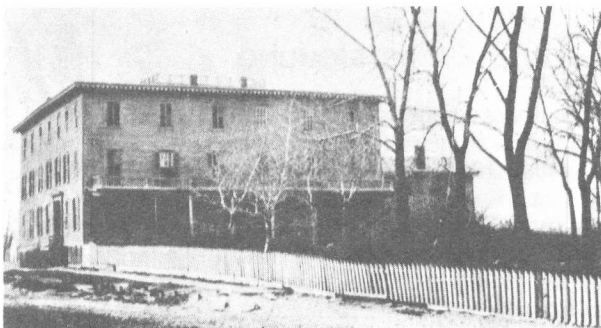
Almost immediately they began planning the erection of a comfortable lakeshore hotel that would attract summer visitors and at the same time serve as a nucleus around which residential estates of 10 or more acres could be developed. Erection of the Lake View House, as it would be called, was started in the fall of 1853.

Anticipating the boost the erection of Lake View House would give to real estate values in the area, S.H. Kerfoot purchased from Rees and Hundley, who were business associates, the north 10 acres of the tract just purchased from the Canal Trustees, "and at once began to lay out and adorn a place which, as the first specimen of artistic landscape gardening in this section of the country, for a long time held its position as the only, and, until Lincoln Park was beautified, the most thorough piece of work in its way west of the Hudson River."

Apparently he added to his holdings later, as he was credited with owning 70 acres in 1874.

Another early settler in the Lake View House area at this time was S.B. Chase of Chase Brothers, who were prominent in the abstract business in Chicago. He purchased a 10-acre tract on the north side of Belden Avenue between the dummy road and the lake.

Here he constructed an attractive villa which, with the landscaped grounds, was said to be worth \$18,000. For some of the property he paid \$50 an acre with a high of \$70 per acre.



THE "SARATOGA" OF ILLINOIS. This popular watering spot for prominent Chicago citizens, called the Lake View House, was built in 1854 at the northwest corner of Byron and Sheridan Road, or possibly Grace Street. There was an unbroken view of the lake, which gave the hostelry its formal name. The picture shows it as it probably appeared in 1890 when it was demolished.—Courtesy, Ravenswood-Lake View Historical Society.

THE LAKE VIEW HOUSE BUILT—1854

Construction of the Lake View House was completed in 1854 by the two owners of the property, James H. Rees and Elisha E. Hundley, at what would now be the northwest corner of Byron and Sheridan or possibly Grace. Besides being one of Chicago's first surveyors, Rees became one of the

organizers of an abstract company that became the predecessor of Chicago Title and Trust Co.

The building was a three-story frame structure, regarded as spacious and well appointed for its time. Almost overnight it became a popular watering place "destined to become the Saratoga of Illinois." Many prominent citizens from Chicago resided there from April through September. It also became a refuge, for those who could afford it, from a cholera epidemic that threatened the city at this time.

When the structure was completed, we are told that Walter L. Newberry, entranced by the unbroken view of the lake as he stood on the wide portico of the yet unnamed hotel, suggested it should be called "Lake View House." Recognizing the appropriateness of this title, the owners adopted this name on July 4, 1854, at the formal opening of the new hotel.

The opening "was a very merry one, for notwithstanding no roads were yet laid out reaching the spot and access to it was only had by devious paths and carriage and wagon tracks over the sand ridges, a company composed of some of the most brilliant men of Chicago gathered around that board at its opening dinner."

It was at this beautiful summer place that the newly married United States Senator from Illinois, Stephen A. Douglas, and his bride tarried a few days, visiting friends such as the S.H. Kerfoot's.

History has been said to be the story of the men who have made it. Lake View has been particularly fortunate, but limitations of time and space do not permit mention of them all.

PETER MUNO

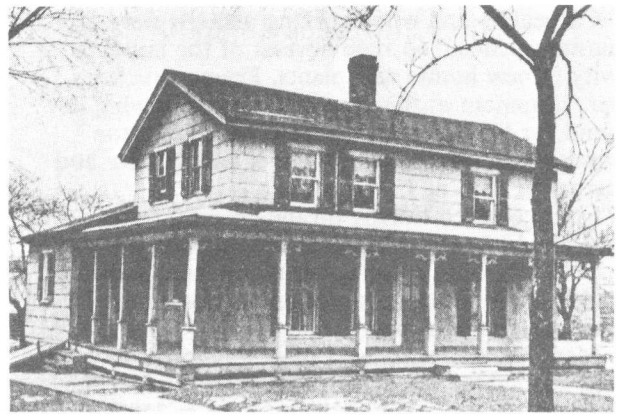
Prominent among the early settlers was Peter Muno, who came to America from Trier, Germany, in 1844. In 1850, he purchased a sizeable tract of land just south of Howard Street.

He built his homestead on a high rise of ground which in later years acquired a mailing address of 7504 Ridge. It was a ranch-type house with a broad porch across the front, facing east and along the south side. From here he had a commanding view of the landscape sloping gently toward the wooded area between his home and the lake.

Although his farm was never included in the Township of Lake View, he always took an active interest in the Luxembourg community along the "Ridge," which extended well into the confines of Lake View, in whose development he and others of his family played an important role.

The Muno homestead remained a well-known landmark until well past the turn of the 19th century. It is still revered by students of the early history of Lake View, for not only does it date from the very beginning of that section but under its roof in the early days were entertained many of Lake View's first settlers.

Peter, the son, carried on in the tradition of his father from his home, which he built nearby. The family was one of the organizers of St. Henry's



A LUXEMBOURGER'S HOME. This house dates from 1844, but it is no longer standing. It is the Peter Muno home, located on Ridge Avenue just south of Howard Street. The Muno family was one of the organizers of St. Henry's parish in 1850 at the southeast corner of Ridge and Devon Avenues, a location which placed it within the Township of Lake View.

Parish in 1870 at the southwest corner of Ridge and Devon Avenues, a location that placed it within the Township of Lake View.

NICHOLAS KRANZ

Among the Luxembourg settlers in the pioneer days, Nicholas Kranz appears to have been one of the earliest. Born in Luxembourg August 16, 1816, he came to America July 7, 1845.

Back home he had been employed in a dry goods manufacturing plant in Buschrodt, but later became the owner. After his arrival in Lake View in 1846, he purchased a tract of 120 acres centering around what today is the intersection of Ridge and Clark.

Here he built the original Kranz homestead in 1848. Later it became an inn known as the Seven Mile House, a popular gathering place for the Luxembourg families who lived in the area.

Peter Kranz, his son, some years later recalled that Abraham Lincoln had once attended a Republican caucus of the farmers along the "Ridge" in his father's tavern. It is also interesting to note that Senn High School today stands on a part of the Kranz farm.

Nicholas Kranz, because of his executive ability and judgment, his candor and fairness in dealing with people, was much sought after to serve in a variety of township offices. His inborn charity and generosity found expression in an endowment provided for a school in his native village in Luxembourg.

Having prospered as a farmer, he subsequently entered the insurance business. So did his son, Peter, in later years. Among his attainments, Peter is remembered as having built the first brick house north of Lawrence Avenue in 1881 on his father's property at 5896 Ridge Avenue, a short distance east of Green Bay Road (now Clark Street).

For several years he served as consul in Chicago

for Luxembourg, for which he was presented the decoration of the Order of the Oak Leaves by the Grand Duchess Charlotte in 1924.

HENRY REINBERG

Another well-remembered member of the Luxembourg colony along the "Ridge" in the pioneer days was Henry Reinberg and his family. The senior Reinberg purchased his farm in 1848.

His son, Peter, born 10 years later on March 5, 1858, had the distinction of being the oldest resident born in Lake View at the time the city was annexed to Chicago. He continued to run the family farm after his father's death, but he, too, changed his profession and became a florist and landscape architect. It is in this capacity that he is best remembered.

Peter, a talented landscape architect, with the Sulzers father and son, and Dominick Schreiber, were in a large measure responsible for transforming Lake View from a drab pioneer village to a community of beautiful cottage gardens and landscaped homesites.

HEINRICH BIRREN

Heinrich Birren was born in August, 1812, in Steinsel, Luxembourg.

Young Heinrich grew to manhood, becoming a proficient woodworker and blacksmith, a wagon-maker and carver of ornate wood trimmings.

At 32 he decided he would follow the example of his many friends and try to build a more rewarding life in the new world. He set sail in 1844 with his young wife, Katherine Faber, some 10 years his junior, and landed in Buffalo, N.Y.

After four years of effort, Heinrich was unable to

find the opportunity he had hoped for in Buffalo. With his little family numbering four, he journeyed across the lakes to Chicago, where he arrived in the summer of 1848.

Heinrich immediately found employment as a blacksmith in the shop of the elder Cyrus McCormick of Harvester fame. For the next few years he labored to the utmost of his ability. The fruits of his labors made possible the opening of his own shop at 171 E. Chicago Avenue.

His success was rapid. He gained a reputation for wagon making and wagon repairing that brought the local undertaker to his shop seeking a hearse. Heinrich turned out a work of art.

This accomplishment provided the stimulation necessary to try a new field that offered even wider horizons. In 1859 he added the word "Undertaker" to his name and became the second to be established in Chicago.

He was assisted by his sons Nicholas and Cornelius in the operation of the undertaking shops at the Chicago Avenue address and at 122 Linden (later known as Eugenie Street).

The great Chicago Fire of 1871 forced the family to flee in the face of its widespread destruction. They lived temporarily in the home of Katherine's sister, Margaret Faber Kransz, in Lake View, until the task of rebuilding was accomplished.

Heinrich died November 10, 1880, and Katherine on March 20, 1895.

Each of Heinrich's four older sons went into the undertaking business, Nicholas in 1877 at Division and Wells, while also keeping the original Chicago Avenue address.

Cornelius branched out farther to the north and opened his establishment at 283 W. North Ave. in 1879. The third son, John H. Birren, born in Chicago in 1859, worked with Cornelius until he was able to open his own business, a livery stable at 1007 Webster.

The fifth son of Heinrich, Peter A. Birren, was born in Chicago on February 14, 1862. Peter also was raised in the undertaking tradition under the guidance of his father and older brothers.

In 1885, with the backing of Cornelius and John, he opened his undertaking establishment known as Birren Bros. at 842 Lincoln, as the streets were then numbered. This address later became 2927. It was the first funeral home in the town of Lake View and prospered at that location until 1926.

In 1890 Peter was able to buy out his two brothers and his funeral home became known as P.A. Birren & Son, which title it has kept to the present day.

The present locations are at 1356 Wellington and 6125 N. Clark. The corporation is operated by Alex Cornelius Birren, son of Peter, and Robert P. Birren and Alex C. Birren Jr., sons of Alex Cornelius.

NICHOLAS SCHREIBER

Nicholas Schreiber, for whom Schreiber Avenue was named, purchased a 40-acre farm in 1849 joining the growing Luxembourg colony along the



FROM WAGONER TO UNDERTAKER. Heinrich Birren, a Luxembourger, arrived in Chicago in 1848 and started as a blacksmith. He also gained a reputation for wagon making. In 1859 he opened the second "Undertaking" establishment to become a part of the Chicago business scene. Here is a picture of the Birren Bros. Undertakers, 2927 Lincoln Avenue, about the year 1885.

“Ridge.” The family established a large and profitable truck farm supplying produce to the Chicago market.

As with all Luxembourg farmers, a well-stocked greenhouse was an important adjunct to the farm. One day it would become perhaps the most important sector of the family’s operations.

Nicholas died four years after the purchase of the farm, leaving the operation to his widow and their oldest son. Shortly after the death of the elder Schreiber, twin sons were born to the widow. The twins, Michael and Dominick, as soon as they were old enough to do so, aided their brother about the farm when not attending St. Henry’s Parochial School. At maturity the twins took over full operation of the farm.

Dominick’s first love, however, was raising living plants. After a few years spent in helping to run the farm, he entered the floral business, which became his chosen vocation. His greenhouses supplied much of the beauty found in the small garden plots or formal plantings for which Lake View was long celebrated. His greenhouses and gardens became a mecca for weekend visitors for miles around.

Dominick is remembered by many of the old timers as having been Lake View’s most popular florist.

PETER SMITH

Another of the early German farmers who settled along the Ridge in the 1840s was Peter Smith. Although his farm lay beyond the northern boundary of Lake View, as established when the town was incorporated in 1854, he and his family were very much a part of Lake View community.

Peter came to this country with his parents from Prussia in 1840. The family purchased their farm in 1842 from “one John Smith.” Peter’s father died in 1876 and his mother in 1880. He assisted his father in working the farm until 1849, when the father turned over full operation to the son.

In that same year on April 29, Peter married Miss Elizabeth Phillips, also a native of Prussia. Sixteen children were born of this marriage, but only nine boys and two girls survived. Mention is made of Peter having been elected a justice of the peace for four years, but he resigned this position after serving two years. He also was elected a town clerk in 1877.

During their life on the farm, the family built three homes, the last of which, built in 1871, still remains in the family at 6836 Ridge. The present occupants are Joseph Fortmann, a grandson, and his wife.

In order to conform to the dictates of modern living, some structural changes have been made, but in any alteration the Fortmanns have preserved the character and flavor of the old farm homestead.

Peter Smith, born June 7, 1826, died April 7, 1901. His wife, Elizabeth, born March 3, 1831, died January 8, 1884.

For almost 15 years following the arrival of Conrad Sulzer, the community had functioned with little

or no semblance of civic organization the early settlers being pretty much on their own to provide necessary conveniences.

But as more and more settlers began occupying the open spaces, such informal arrangements became inadequate to provide even the minimal requirements of what was fast becoming an urban community.

Late in 1854 a group of the farmers who had required homesteads in the fast developing area beyond the northern limits of Chicago gathered together to organize the community and to give formal recognition to the name “Lake View” that they chose as their official designation.

The town limits had already been established by the Township of Ridgeville survey map of that year. Robert Edison was elected supervisor over S.H. Kerfoot with a total of 64 votes being cast.

A de facto government was thus organized in 1854.

While adequate as a temporary expedient, it was realized that with a rapidly expanding population, such an arrangement could not provide the necessary governmental functions for anticipated growth and development. As a consequence, by resolution, it was voted to hold the first town election on April 7, 1857. It was also voted to raise \$175 for expenses.

As Lake View had a reputation as one of the outstanding floral and greenhouse centers in the country, it was not surprising to find flower shops among the early businesses to locate in Lake View. Among these was the Fuhrmann Flower Shop, established here in 1854.

LAKE VIEW PLANK ROAD CONSTRUCTED—1855

With paved roads prevalent from north to south and east to west and inadequate drainage to carry off any excess water after rainfalls, it is difficult to realize there was a time when moving from one part of Lake View to another was an achievement of some magnitude even in the best of weather and almost impossible in any kind of conveyance at less propitious times.

The promoters of the Lake View House and the adjacent shoreline property realized before long that if they were to be successful in developing the area, access to the property would have to be greatly improved for fair weather or foul.

One oldtimer has left us a picturesque description of the difficulty in reaching the new hotel just after it was erected.

“It may be interesting to state that in going out from Chicago to the spot (Lake View House) we waded through mud or dust up North Clark Street to North Avenue, then, leaving the Green Bay Road to find its way as best it could through Wrights Woods...

“There (Fullerton Avenue) we struck the trail along which now lies the western pleasure drive on the north part of Lincoln Park and called Stockton Avenue, to reach which we had to cross a slough as best we could. This trail being on the edge of a sand

ridge we could unrestrainedly follow it and other varying routes for 2½ miles from Center Street until we reached the Lake View House."

A group of "inspired speculative spirits," as they were referred to at the time, banded together for the purpose of building a plank road to make the trip to the Lake View House a less hazardous journey, and incidentally make their own properties more attractive as each of them had substantial holdings.

Initially the group included S.S. Hayes, J.H. Rees, E.E. Hundley, S.B. Chase and S.H. Kerfoot. They shortly were joined by others who had an interest in the project.

The route followed, we are told, was "along Green Bay Road from Fullerton Avenue to the section line on which Diversey Avenue now lies and thence striking due north from the old Green Bay Road along Evanston Avenue (Broadway) to a little beyond Graceland Avenue (Irving Park).

"There the laying of plank ceases though the road was laid out and located one mile farther north to what was then known as Shippey Road (Lawrence Avenue). This plank road made the Lake View House accessible and gave quite an impetus to the proposed settlement about it."

While the plank road was being constructed on the east side of town for vehicular traffic, tracks were being laid along Ravenswood Avenue, farther west, to accomodate steam locomotives, a new first for Lake View.

It seems reasonably certain that the railroad we know today as the Chicago and North Western was the first to lay its tracks through Lake View in 1854.

It appears the first train after its completion from Chicago to Waukegan left the terminal on December 19, 1854. Through trains to Milwaukee commenced running June 9, 1855. A local train service for the convenience of residents in Lake View and the other communities to the north was inaugurated on this line November 13, 1856.

JEWISH CEMETERY

It was in the same year, 1856, that the Anshe Mayriv congregation purchased a four-acre tract on the southwest corner of Green Bay Road and Belmont Avenue for the purpose of establishing a Jewish cemetery. It was used for only a short period; then the remains were moved to other cemeteries farther out and the property converted to commercial use.

Chicago now embraced an area of 18 square miles and Lake View approximately 10½ square miles.

TOWNSHIP'S FIRST ELECTION—1857

One of the staple products the farmers in the area provided for the town's folk at this time were corn husks for making mattresses. In the fall, after the harvest, large quantities were carted into town with their other produce, and sold for 50 cents a bundle.

Housewives claimed they were comfortable for about a year, but by that time husks were reduced

to powder and straightway burned to be replaced by the new crop.

The important event of the year was the first town election scheduled to be held on April 7, 1857. The following slate of officials was elected:

Robert Edison, supervisor; Conrad Sulzer, assessor; Nicholas Kranz, collector; John Mauritzen, township clerk; Issac C. Shippey, justice of the peace; Lewis A. Brown, Jacob Wolf, Francis Baer, commissioners of highways; John Rees, Constable; John Bugner, Overseer of Poor.

Subsequent to the election, the commissioners of highways held a meeting in which they divided the town into districts highlighting the importance placed on the building of roads.

District No. 1 included the area from the south town limit at Fullerton Avenue north to Albert Street, as then known, but later called Graceland and now identified as Irving Park Road. District No. 2 comprised the area from Albert Street to the north town limit at Devon Avenue.

James H. Rees was elected supervisor the following year in 1858 to replace Robert Edison. He served in this office until the town was incorporated.

LYMAN A. BUDLONG FARMER AND EDUCATOR

Unlike so many of the early settlers in Lake View, Lyman A. Budlong was not an immigrant, having been born December 22, 1829 on a rock-laden farm in Cranston, Rhode Island. After finishing his own schooling, he began teaching in his hometown, but gave this up to be married in 1852 and turned to farming for a living, which was and remained his life pattern.

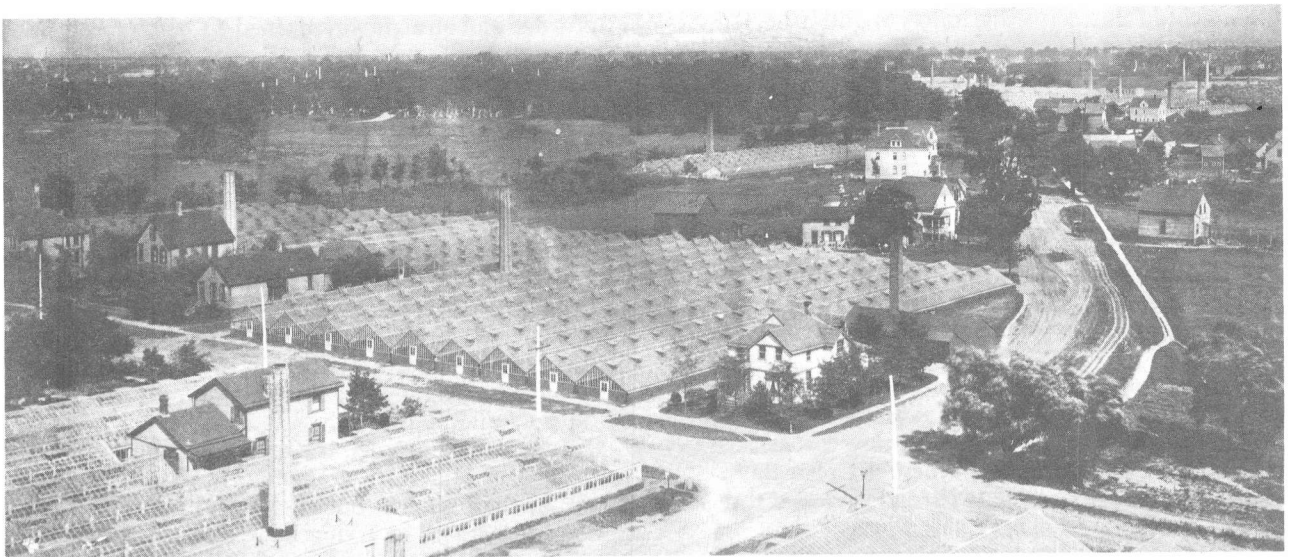
For the next five years he worked his New England farm, but the urge to acquire more productive land finally prevailed and he decided to seek a more abundant life in the virgin farm lands opening up in the west.

Arriving in Lake View Township in 1857, he settled on a small piece of rented land. His initial venture proved so successful, he set out to acquire the farming rights on additional acreage until at one time he had 700 acres under cultivation, to little of which he held title.

As much as 400 acres were devoted to growing onion sets, but large tracts were given over to sweet corn, spinach, tomatoes, carrots, lettuce and cucumbers, much of which he marketed through the commission merchants in Chicago. He also developed a large operation for making sauerkraut and pickles, and built a processing plant in 1857.

As part of the farm operation, he built and maintained a large assortment of greenhouses and storage facilities set in a surrounding of landscaped grounds and attractive flower gardens. Regarded as one of the largest truck farms in the country, the Budlong farms became one of the showplaces on the North Side.

Naturally a large number of workers would be required to carry on the chores involved in managing a farm complex of this magnitude. Many of these he



GREENHOUSES GALORE. This view is looking northeast toward Rosehill Cemetery. Berwyn Avenue is in the foreground. Western Avenue is the other street. Greenhouses in the extreme

foreground belonged to the J. A. Budlong Company. This Picture was probably taken about 1924 or 1925.—Courtesy, Ravenswood-Lake View Historical Society.

recruited from the Polish settlement adjacent to the Clybourn Station of the North Western Railway.

Accustomed to working in the fields before coming to this country, many of these Polish women and the menfolk were happy to find employment on the Budlong farms. At the peak of the harvesting season the railroad ran special trains from Clybourn to the Lincoln-Belmont intersection to pick up and return the workers at the end of the day.

Important as his farming interests were, Budlong found time for active participation in the civic and educational life of the community. For 28 years he served as director of public schools in Jefferson Township as well as several terms on the Village of Bownmanville's board of trustees.

Shortly after the THORP SCHOOL on Foster Avenue gave way to a new and larger building, the name was changed to Budlong School in recognition of his many contributions in the field of education.

Before the close of the century, probably in the early 1890s, he acquired a parcel of land at the northwest corner of Foster and Western Avenues, and here at 2406 Foster, he built a large modern home. After his death, November 6, 1909, his son, Joseph J. Budlong, who had been associated with his father for many years in the management of the farm properties, acquired the homestead.

FREDERICK SULZER JOURNEYS

For the Sulzers, father and son, floriculture was a blend of all the arts. But there were also among the early settlers many for whom a love of the soil was an inbred tradition, an intimacy with nature they had carried with them from the old country. Fulfillment for them lay in cultivating the beauties of nature and her bounty from the soil.

Quite naturally, Lake View acquired a reputation as the center of the greenhouse industry in mid

America. It was also known as the largest shipper of celery in the country. Its carefully tended truck farms, its colorful gardens and landscaped estates along the lakeshore, attracted visitors from miles around who drove out from the city on weekends.

Frederick Sulzer, intent on developing his horticultural talents to their fullest, journeyed to Rochester, New York, an early center of floral culture, in 1857, for an intensive study of nursery techniques. He returned in 1859 and the following year established himself as a florist and landscape architect.

SULZER RELOCATES HIS HOME

Sulzer, having sold a portion of his property lying east of Green Bay Road to Graceland Cemetery Co., reestablished his domicile on the southwest corner of the Sulzer-Green Bay intersection.

Here he constructed a two-story southern type house, set back from the roadway with spacious wings on either side. The homesite was surrounded by a white picket fence backed by an evergreen hedge. On the west the home was protected by a windbreak of tall willows interspersed with plantings of evergreens and flowering lilac, honeysuckle and syringa.

The driveway from the road made its way up to the house through formal landscaped gardens of roses and blooming flowers attesting to the floral artistry of its owners. A vine-covered lattice shaded the spacious and inviting porch.

The pride and joy of Mrs. Sulzer was her flower decked conservatory on the south side of the house, overlooking the fruit orchards beyond whose spring blossoms gave the grounds an appearance of a fairyland. With good reason, this is the Sulzer home best remembered by the early settlers in Lake View and by flower lovers for miles around.

EARLY CEMETERIES

Rosehill the beautiful, as it has been appropriately called, "is one of America's most beautiful cemeteries. Laced and interlaced with nature's rich foliage—touched here by golden sunshine, shaded then into deep tones of moving green—it is confirmation that all things live, and live again."

Located about 6½ miles north of downtown Chicago, it occupies a tract of about 300 acres sloping gently from the ridge on the west 30 to 40 feet above Lake Michigan down to its castle-like entrance on the east. It has the appearance of a beautiful landscaped wooded estate with carefully tended green lawns, curved drives, and clear ponds fed by artesian springs.

The original grant provided for the acquisition of not more than 500 acres. The act approving incorporation was passed February 11, 1859, and the site dedicated July 28 of late year with an elaborate ceremony conducted by the Masonic Order with 8,000 to 10,000 people attending.

After the initial purchase of 60 acres, an additional 160 acres was purchased in November, 1873. In January, 1884, an additional 70 acres was added and some smaller acquisitions later.

Rosehill is rich in tradition—the names of many beloved citizens of Chicago and Lake View live on in the beautiful memorials inscribed to their memory.

Graceland cemetery trustees originally purchased a tract of 86 acres in Lake View lying between Sulzer Street on the north, Graceland Avenue on the south, Green Bay Road on the west, and Stella Street (elevated tracks) on the east.

In 1861 an additional 45 acres was purchased west of the original grant; in 1864, 35 acres east of original, and in 1867, an additional 109 acres, making a total area of 275 acres.

But by an act in 1867, the cemetery was restricted to the use of 86 acres "already fenced and improved," of the original grant, rather than the total purchase of 275 acres, due to the protest of the settlers in the area against the extension of the cemetery grounds.

A portion of this tract included 40 acres purchased from Conrad Sulzer, whose home site was located at Sulzer and Green Bay Roads in the northwest (section R) corner of the cemetery property. It is related that some of the trees and other plantings were set out by Sulzer.

The cemetery was dedicated in August, 1860, and chartered February 22, 1861.

Many of the stout-hearted builders of Lake View Township are here remembered with stone memorials, but dates give scant evidence of the part they played in shaping the destiny of the community they served so well.

An early account pictures for us the access to Graceland from Chicago. "It was reached by horsecars or by the board drive along the lakeshore and through the park. Before long it is anticipated that trains will be running directly to it over the Chicago and Evanston line. A station house has

already been constructed by the company which is really an architectural ornament, containing besides public accommodations, the neat office of the company."

LINCOLN'S VISIT TO LAKE VIEW

It was during March and April of 1860; at the time he was beginning to emerge from the obscurity of a backwoods lawyer to become a political figure of national prominence.

Presumably the visit was planned to lay the groundwork for the Republican National Convention to be opened on May 16 in the Wigwam being hurried to completion at Lake and Market Streets in Chicago.

The proceedings of the convention that nominated Lincoln as the first presidential candidate of the Republican Party are not relevant. What does concern us is that Lincoln was a house guest in the home of Isaac N. Arnold, Republican V.I.P., who lived at 104 Lincoln Park Boulevard, a location just north of Fullerton Avenue in the Township of Lake View.

The actual date of Lincoln's visit does not appear to have been definitely pinpointed, but we do know that as one of the attorneys in the Sand Bar Case, he spent several weeks in Chicago just before the Republican Convention.

"During his visit," it is recorded, "Abraham Lincoln, the judge, and the lawyers in the San Bar Case were all guests at the home of Isaac Arnold."

CAMP FRY ESTABLISHED

At the intersection of Green Bay Road and the Evanston Plan Road just north of Diversey, was a tract of wooded land acquired in 1860 by Edward Wright, a Chicago attorney and real estate developer. The tract was subdivided and called Wrightwood.

But as the Civil War dragged on, it was deemed necessary to provide a training camp for volunteers on the North Side to supplement Camp Douglas on the South Side. Wrightwood was regarded as the best site available, and it was here the army established Camp Fry in 1862, named in honor of General Jacob Fry, one of the promoters of the Illinois-Michigan Canal.

Some of the recruits activated and trained at Camp Fry were from Chicago, but the majority were from Lake View Township, sons of German and Luxembourger farmers who had volunteered to serve their adopted country.

The first group organized was designated 134th Infantry Illinois Volunteers, under command of Colonel Walter W. McChesney of Chicago. They were mustered into service on May 31, 1864, and assigned to garrison duty at Columbus, Kentucky.

A second group, known as 132nd Infantry, was commanded by Captain Thomas J. Pickett of Moline. This group was assigned to garrison duty at Paducah, Kentucky, under General Henry Prince.

After the training regiments vacated Camp Fry, it was converted into a Confederate prisoner of war camp.

After the War the wooded tract again became known as Wright's Grove, which had been a favorite picnic grove before the war for many of the Germanic singing and social clubs. Later it became the locale for the Rienzi Gardens, long remembered as a German beer garden.

TAVERNS OPENED

Farther north at Halsted and Grace, the Eitel Brothers had established the Bismark Gardens in an attractively landscaped setting with outside tables and a bandshell. It was for many years the North Side's most glamorous and renowned summer garden, noted for its concerts and fine food.

The cemeteries organized in the early 1860's being "far out in the woods," gave rise to stopover taverns for those returning home after the ceremonies. Shortly after Graceland was established, the Humboldt House was built at Clark and Belmont, sometimes called the Five Mile House, to cater to this clientele as the Seven Mile House, adjacent to Rosehill, and the Ten Mile House close by Cavalry, served a similar purpose.

THE BRICKMAKERS ARRIVE

The brickmakers of Lake View had their rise and fall. Carried on for the most part by Germans and Luxemburgers lately arrived from Europe, it is interesting to note that the first brickyard in Lake View was established by Thomas Moulding, an Englishman, in 1863, on Southport Avenue.

Moulding was born in Warrington, Lancashire, England, December 13, 1825. As a young man he learned the machinist trade, eventually moving up to journeyman before leaving for America.

In May of 1851 he arrived in Chicago. For about 12 years he worked diligently at his trade and with frugal living managed to accumulate sufficient capital to set up a brick manufacturing plant of his own in Lake View. Although he later moved his plant to the South Side of Chicago, he retained his residence in Lake View and was active in local affairs, especially the school board, on which he twice served as president.

While Moulding may have been the first to start a brick manufacturing plant in these parts, he was only one of many who would find profitable employment in this fast growing industry. For the first several years after Lake View was organized, the manufacturing of brick played a most important role in the building of the town, structurally and economically. In its heyday Lake View was regarded as the center of the brick industry in this country.

Although Thomas Moulding had established Lake View's brick industry in 1863, it earned its greatest reputation eight years later when it was called upon to assist in the rebuilding of Chicago homes and commercial building after the devastating fire of 1871.

But, like so many of our natural resources, the clay pits were not inexhaustible. One by one they were worked out and abandoned. Some owners discontinued further operations while others took up new locations downstate or elsewhere. Many of the abandoned pits left to the elements became dangerous mudholes or foul smelling refuse dumps.

However, with a growing population, these properties, many of them in residential areas, became too valuable to remain undeveloped. As new settlers and workers moved in looking for sites to build homes or industrial plants, the old pits were filled in and the reclaimed plots sold as building sites. In some cases, they were taken over by town authorities and made into recreational parks.

Hamlin Park as we know it today was once a clay pit owned by Otto Zapel. Riverview Park was once a clay hole. Thurlow and Kuester operated a pit on what is now the site of Lane Technical High School. Otto Hage's yard was at Clybourn and Diversey, where the Julia Lathrop Homes now stand. Across the street was the Weckler clay hole over which has been built the north section of Julia Lathrop Homes.

There were eight yards on Ashland Avenue, three on Belmont, four on Wellington and three on Clybourn. Apparently the brick makers chose, for the most part, locations adjacent to the river.

The importance of the brick industry in the economy of Lake View can be partially gauged by the number and quality of the men who were actively engaged in the ownership and management of these plants. When the school building of St. Luke's Lutheran Church was erected, all the brick used was donated by five members of the congregation.

Our list is probably incomplete but we do have a record of the following being active in the brick industry during its heyday in Lake View:

Charles, Louis and William Mueller, H. Lembke, Lutter S. Bohnsack, C.J. Labahn, Wolf and Blaul, Kemnitz and Schneider, Thurlow and Kuester, Bach and Sons, A.J. and William Weckler, Becker and Labahn, C. and J. Harms, William Hahne, Otto Hage, Fred and Otto Zapel, George Heinman & Stahlman, Sunmacher and Glade, Thomas Moulding, H.J. and J. Henry Lutter, and Henry Tille.

THE BUILDING OF McCORMICK SEMINARY

Although McCormick Seminary lies just over the southern border of Lake View (Fullerton Avenue), it is of interest to us in that the land was donated by William B. Ogden, Mike Diversey and his partner, William Lill, and Joseph Sheffield, known as the father of Sheffield Avenue.

All of these men were active in the ownership and development of Lake View subdivisions. An original offer of 25 acres was made by this group to the seminary trustees in October, 1859, with the stipulation that construction must be started within 18 months.

Unable to raise the required funds within the time

limit, extensions were granted to and beyond May 1, 1860.

Even then, the oncoming Civil War voided any prospect of building in the foreseeable future, necessitating the shelving of building plans for the time being. But the original offer was renewed April 27, 1863, and the first building erected February 1, 1864.

TOWN OF LAKE VIEW INCORPORATED—1856

In order to better organize the functions of local government and provide the necessary facilities, Lake View was incorporated as a town in 1865 by legislation approved February 16, 1865, and signed by Governor Oglesby.

The town boundaries as defined by the Charter included sections east of Western Avenue and the north branch of the Chicago River; also sections west from Lake Michigan.

In less legalistic terms, the north boundary was Devon Avenue; on the south, Fullerton; on the west, Western, and on the east, Lake Michigan.

It was provided that the town authorities should be a board of trustees composed of the supervisor, assessor, and the three commissioners of highways. The trustees were given control of thoroughfares, bridges, public improvements, buildings, police and fire departments, and in general all matters usually subjected to municipal rule.

In view of the present agitation regarding pollution of Lake Michigan, it is interesting to note that in the town's articles of incorporation there was included a paragraph to the effect that "the town has jurisdiction over the waters of Lake Michigan bordering upon it, to the extent of three miles, and to prevent or punish any pollution or injury to the source of water supply to the water works also five miles beyond its corporate limits."

The town authorities promptly set to work constructing new roads and bridges; draining low lands with ditches and sewers, and carried forward plans for providing other municipal services.

In 1867, Frederick Sulzer with his election as Town Clerk began his lifelong involvement in the municipal affairs of the town. In particular he is credited with the installation of a sanitary water system that greatly improved the general health of the community and reduced the death rate. In November of 1868, he was appointed commissioner of highways, serving until 1875.

RENEWED ACTIVITY ALONG THE LAKESHORE

Until the close of the Civil War, few if any real estate transactions of importance appear to have been closed after the building of the Lake View House, but once the war was over, interest was revived in the area. Affluent Chicago dwellers desiring larger homesites in a country atmosphere adjacent to the city, with clean air and space for gardens and green lawns, again turned to the natural beauty of this lakeshore property.

W.C. Goudy in 1865 purchased a plot on which he built an imposing residence on Wrightwood, fronting on Green Bay Road just north of Fullerton. The grounds were beautifully landscaped with flowering shrubs and artistically arranged flower gardens. A broad veranda overlooked Lincoln Park with a sweep to Lake Michigan. The property was valued at \$50,000.

The following year B.F. Culver became a resident of the area. He first purchased a tract of 10 acres and the following year added another 10 acres to his holdings. These two pieces of property lay between Wellington, Barry, the Evanston dummy road and Lake View Avenue.

In 1868 he bought additional property in Baker's subdivision, and in 1870 what he called Culver's Lake Front Addition. He built an Italian-like villa on Barry ornamented with an impressive tower at the west side. (It was later sold to Frank W. Palmer).

Some 10 years later he built a large an imposing 15-room brown stone residence at 459 Wellington, which he subsequently sold to Jacob Birk, newly arrived from Germany, in 1893. Culver is credited with having "spent much of his time and expended large sums of money for the benefit of the locality."

The Waller family has long been known in the annals of Chicago, but our interest stems from the time "J.B." purchased 53 acres in the lakeshore area and there built for himself and family a large attractive homestead resembling the fine old mansions to be found in the residential areas in the eastern cities. Built of brick, it was topped by a cupola and afforded a sweeping view of Lake Michigan.

Adjacent to the original Waller Tract was an area that James Waller's son, Robert A., developed as Buena Park. It was the Waller Tract that inspired Eugene Field to write one of his children's poems, "The Ballad of Waller Lot."

Field lived at what is now 4240 Clarendon Avenue, where a plaque on the present building reads, "In 1895 Eugene Field bought a home on this site in Buena Park, then a suburb of Chicago. After enlarging and remodeling the building, Field called his place the Sabine Farm."

THE BRAUCKMANN FAMILY

George Brauckmann, in all probability, was the first of the German emigrants to purchase property in this somewhat exclusive community. Born in Salzduhelden, Hanover, Germany, January 28, 1827, he journeyed to Chicago in 1848 but did not move into Lake View until 1867.

In that year he purchased a tract in Pine Grove extending from the Lake View Plank Road east to the lake and from Barry north to Briar Place. He built his home at what would now be numbered 540 Briar Place.

The triangular plot of five acres purchased by Horatio G. Spafford in 1868, while somewhat smaller in area than most of the neighboring estates,

had one of the finest locations in this section of Lake View. It lay between Evanston Road on the west, Halsted Street on the east and Graceland Avenue on the south.

Flanking the property on the east, across Halsted Street, was the 10-acre parklike setting for the new U.S. Marine Hospital.

NEW ARRIVALS IN LAKE VIEW

It was in 1865 that John F. Gall established his marble works in Lake View as Gall and Rapp. Mr. Gall was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, January 29, 1836. Before arriving in America in May of 1854, he had learned the stone and marble trade from his father. In March, 1856, he married Miss Barbara Ranch of Bavaria, Germany.

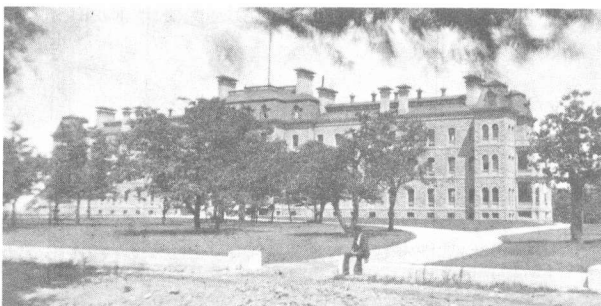
Another new arrival in Lake View about this time was Karl and Helen Kopke, who had come to America from Germany in 1863. Their son, John W. Kopke, was the first baby born on Belmont Avenue.

After having lost their savings through a bank failure in 1867, they made the move to Lake View, thinking they would do better in the country. Karl purchased the property at the corner of Belmont and Damen, where he established a truck farm carting his produce into the Chicago market each morning by horse and wagon.

The sites of the Belmont Theater and the Lerner Booster office were originally a part of the Kopke farm. This property was owned by the Kopke family down to 1922.

Alexander Maltman, who settled in Lake View at Halsted and Wrightwood in the fall of 1868, was born in Glasgow, Scotland, on January 5, 1837. After spending three years in Canada, he came to Chicago and opened a commission business in 1865 as Wilcox and Maltman.

After Wilcox retired in 1869, the business was continued as A.S. Maltman, but the emphasis was shifted to real estate and as financial agents. In 1913 he founded the Aetna State Bank and served as its first president.



THE OLD Marine Hospital. Although not completed until 1873, the United States Marine Hospital trustees purchased 10 acres of land on the lake shore, just north of Graceland in 1868. It cost \$500,000. When completed, it gave a fine view of Lake Michigan. This picture shows it in 1890.—Courtesy, Ravenswood-Lake View Historical Society.

U.S. MARINE HOSPITAL

Although not completed until 1873, the U.S. Marine Hospital purchased 10 acres of land on the lakeshore in Pine Grove Subdivision, just north of Graceland, in 1868 and started the erection of a new hospital as a “refuge for those following a seafaring life.”

It was and still is a magnificent stone building 360 feet long and four stories high, completed at a cost of \$500,000. Standing in the middle of the property on high ground fronting the lake, it commanded a clear view of passing ships up and down the lake.

The old Marine Hospital on Rush street, which it was to replace, was burned in the fire of 1871.

MARTIN VAN ALLEN

Unlike many of the early settlers in Lake View, Martin Van Allen was American born. Back east in New York State, where he was born and raised, he was trained as a civil engineer.

Moving to Chicago in 1854, his engineering experience was soon put to use in the construction of the Illinois Central Railroad. In 1857 he returned to his native state only long enough to marry Martha Bowen and bring her to Chicago.

In 1868 they became residents of Lake View Township. At the time there were only two houses on the tract which a year later would be known as the Ravenswood development. The one was the imposing Southern style residence of Conrad Sulzer with its artistically landscaped grounds. The second was the less elaborate but comfortable farm home of a Mr. Wood, with a well-stocked nursery surrounding the home.



THE HOME OF MARTIN VAN ALLEN, at one time a Lake View school trustee, town assessor, member of the town board and town collector. His home stood until 1970 when it was demolished in the Ravenswood Hospital expansion program. (4506 North Winchester)

That same year Van Allen erected the first home in the new development, a two-story dwelling on Palmer Street as it was then known, but later numbered 4506 N. Winchester. The home remained a Ravenswood landmark until 1970, when it was purchased by Ravenswood Hospital and demolished in their expansion program.

He lost no time in becoming immersed in the affairs of Lake View Township and contributed freely of his time and talents, becoming in succession a school trustee, town assessor, member of the town board, and town collector, or wherever he was called upon to serve.

The Van Allen family was equally involved in the religious and cultural affairs of the community. Frequent religious meetings were held in the Van Allen home which eventually led to the founding of the Methodist Church of Ravenswood.

THE RAVENSWOOD LAND CO.—1869

The same year Van Allen moved into Lake View, he joined with a group of other businessmen interested in real estate development, purchasing 194 acres straddling the North Western Railway right-of-way. Forty acres were acquired from the Wood farm, 40 acres from Conrad Sulzer, 80 acres from Robert Edson, 14 acres from Philip Rogers estate and 20 acres from Judge Blodgett, Judge Touhy and James Barker.

The tract was platted in 1869 but later additions were made by P.L. Touhy, Philip Rogers, J.H. Kedzie and J.F. Keeney in 1870; by J.L. Stark in 1871, by L. Ingledew and Frank Taylor in 1872 by Thomas Lyman in 1878, making a total of approximately 360 acres, of which the Ravenswood Land Co. continued its ownership of 194 acres.

The organizers of the Ravenswood Land Co. included the following:

John M. Wilson, Jared H. Hinckley, Leonard Hodges, Merrill Ladd, Samuel Powers, C. Harris, Seth Sheldon, John Williams, Israel Sunderland, R.S. Parker, C.P. Leland, C.T. Bowen, T.A. Cosgrove, D.A. James, John H. Kedzie, A.F. Seeberger, L.A. Willard, Field King & Co., and Martin Van Allen.

Van Allen, who was a man of wide business and engineering experience, was elected to serve as secretary. His judgment and energy in promoting the development of the subdivision earned for him the title "Father of Ravenswood."

Just why the community acquired the name "Ravenswood" is largely a matter of conjecture even now, as there appears to have been no legalistic action to establish this name. The explanation most generally accepted seems to be that of Van Allen's daughter, who was of the opinion that one of the promoters had at one time lived in a locality by that name.

Writing in 1884, 15 years after the subdivision was established, A.T. Andreas in his History of Cook County has given us a graphic portrayal of the results achieved in a short space of time:

"Ravenswood certainly presents as rich an ap-

pearance as any of the younger suburbs on the North Western road, its avenues and streets being wide and well graded and lined with costly and tastefully constructed residences."

SAMUEL B. GOODKINS

One home in the Ravenswood area frequently referred to because of its historic link between the pioneer generation and the more modern, was the residence of Samuel B. Goodkins, a native of Vermont, who came to Chicago in 1858 after a brilliant legal career in Indiana.

He became a resident of Ravenswood in 1875 with the building of a home at what would now be identified as 4546 N. Hermitage. His son, James F. Goodkins, is credited with having played an active role in bringing the World's Columbian Exposition to Chicago. He was also an early advocate of building a subway for Chicago.

But in the annals of Chicago, the home is frequently mentioned as the Carl Sandburg home, although he and his wife, Lillian, occupied a second floor apartment in the house for less than three years from 1913 to 1916.

RAVENSWOOD SUFFERS A SETBACK

The development of Ravenswood was not without its problems, particularly in the decade of the 1870s shortly after its founding, when an exodus of several families left many properties untenanted.

One of the officials of the Michigan Southern Railroad, thinking this new residential community on the western fringe of Lake View would be an attractive location for the employees of his company to live and build homes, acquired a substantial number of building sites from the Ravenswood Land Co. These in turn were sold to the railroad employees.

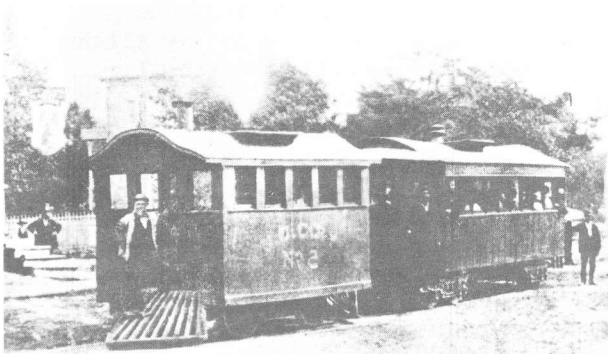
All might have gone well provided the operation of the railroad had remained in status quo, but such was not to be. Instead the Michigan Southern Railroad decided to consolidate with the Lake Shore Railroad, which dictated the removal of the general offices to Cleveland, Ohio, and the relocation of several employees.

But with the passing of time, a steady influx of new settlers intent on finding new homes and entering into the commercial development created a renewed interest in residential property. Ravenswood as a result again came into its own as a community of attractive homes.

LAKE VIEW CONTINUES TO GROW

In 1870 a small steam engine, with three conventional streetcars in tow, called the Dummy Road, operated on rails from Fullerton along Evanston Avenue north to Graceland, and then west to the gravel road known as Green Bay Road.

Crude as it was by modern standards, it was a



A REAL "DUMMY". In 1870, a small steam engine with three conventional streetcars in tow, called the Dummy Road, operated on rails from Fullerton along Evanston Avenue north to Graceland and then west to the gravel road then known as Green Bay Road. It gave access to Graceland Cemetery. Three trains operated daily.—Courtesy, Ravenswood-Lake View Historical Society.

welcomed service to the residents in the lakeshore area, and gave access to Graceland Cemetery, passing as it did along its southern border to the main gate. Three trains daily operated over the three-mile stretch.

It was in this same year that J.A. Hutch, who was active in North Shore property, purchased a plot fronting 500 feet on Fullerton Avenue and extending 600 feet south on Green Bay Road. The house he built, although simple in architecture, was in keeping with attractive homes characteristic of this section with all the modern improvements of its day.

The property was well graded and tastefully landscaped with gravel paths, a fountain and open lawns. He also owned a well-located tract of 20 acres adjoining Ravenswood. Unimproved for the time being, he seeded it with grass in anticipation of developing it into a subdivision in the near future.

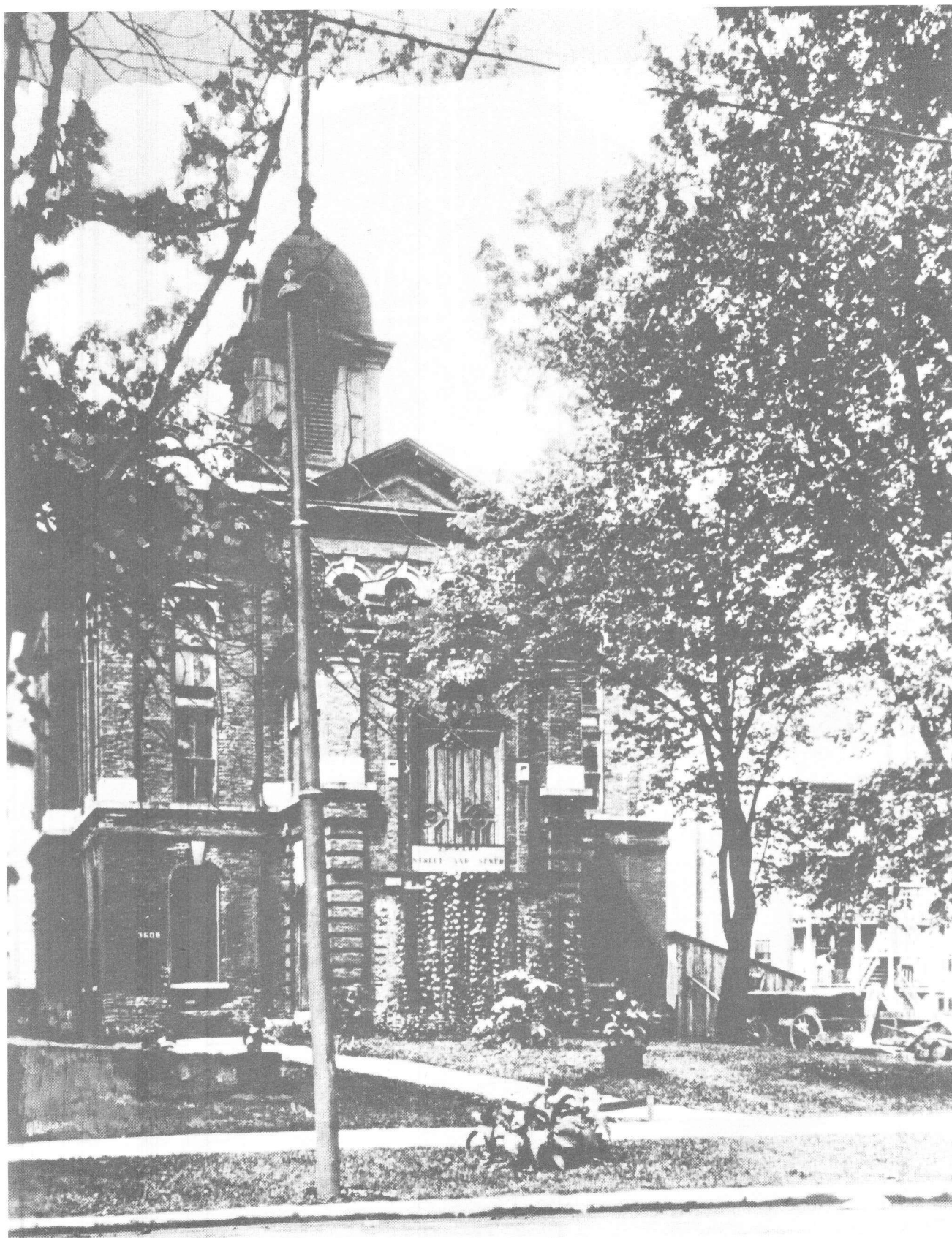
Another appreciated improvement in the area was the founding of All Saints Episcopal Church on Hermitage at Wilson. In the early days, a bell installed in the tower, was used as a fire alarm, activated by an electric signal from the Town Hall. Old timers tell us it could be heard from Addison to the Budlong farm at Foster and Western.

The year also recorded the marriage of Frederick Sulzer to Miss Anna M.C. Buether of Chicago. Five children were born of this marriage: Julia R., Angelina M., Harriet L., Albert F.H., and Grace E., all of whom contributed generously of their time and energies to the social and other activities of Lake View in their adolescent years.



AN 1871 LANDMARK. Here is the Relic House, built after the 1871 Chicago Fire at Clark, Center and Lincoln Park West. It was built from fused

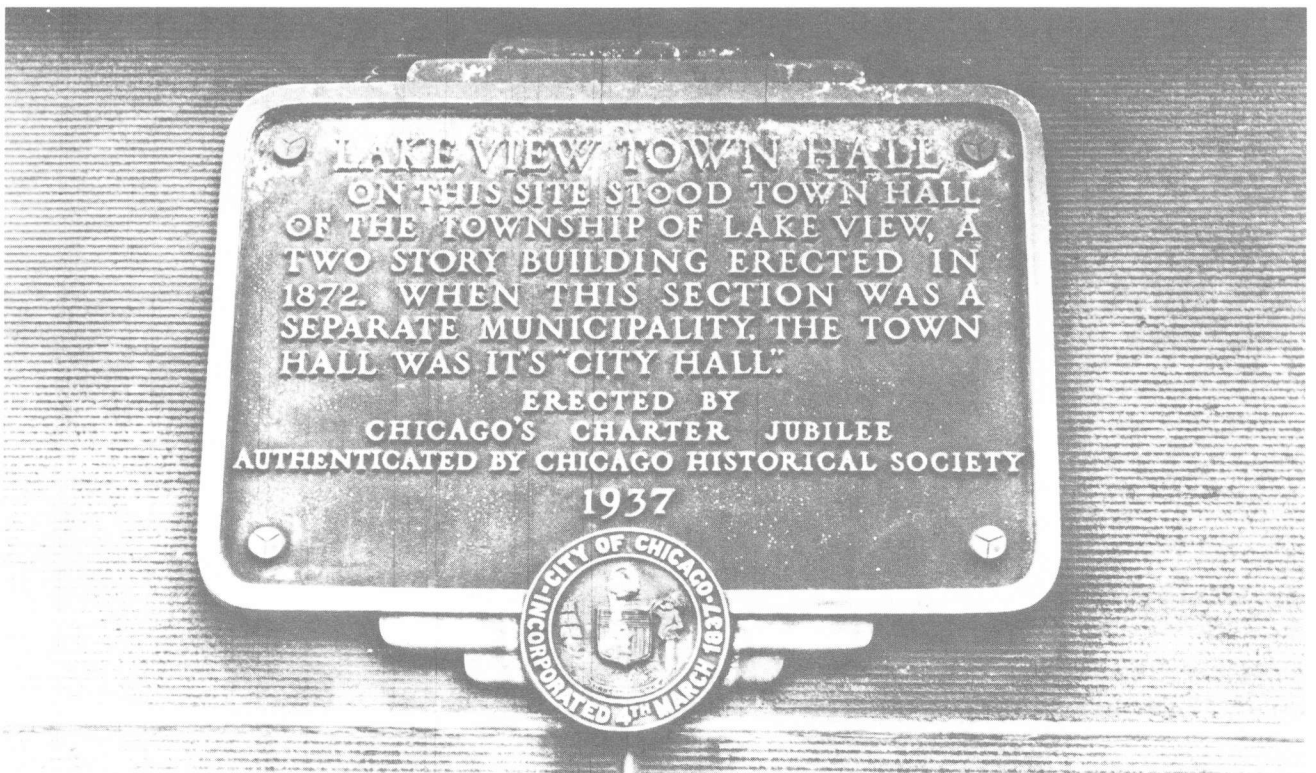
materials of the fire, and for many years housed relics of that holocaust.—Courtesy, Ravenswood-Lake View Historical Society.



THE LAKE VIEW TOWN HALL as it looked in the early 1900s.—Courtesy, Chicago Sun-Times.



ON THE SITE OF the original Town Hall is the Town Hall District of the Chicago Police Department
—Courtesy, Chicago Sun-Times.



BRONZE PLAQUE ON TOWN HALL police station commemorating the original site of Lake View's "City Hall",—Courtesy Chicago Sun-Times.

Another event was the election of Martin Van Allen as town assessor. As such he also became a member of the town board. He later became town collector.

A popular event among the German population, was the opening of Thielman's Garden at Sheridan and Wellington, which became a well known dining and dance spot on the North Side.

The Hill Tavern at Leland and Green Bay Road also was opened at this time. While not enjoying as broad a clientele as Thielman's Garden, it merits mention as it was here the first long distance telephone from Ravenswood to Chicago was installed.

AFTERMATH OF THE CHICAGO FIRE

Fortunately, Lake View was spared the devastating effects of the great conflagration that ravaged Chicago in 1871, though it came too close to the southern border at Fullerton Avenue for comfort.

A direct effect of the fire, however, was the arrival of John Turner to become a permanent resident in Lake View. Mr. Turner came to Chicago from England in 1836. He promptly set himself up in business as the owner of a livery stable just north of the river.

Having prospered in this venture, he purchased an 80-acre tract on Addison Street from William B. Ogden, the first mayor of Chicago, who with his brother, Mahlon, had acquired some 400 acres of choice property in Lake View. Five years later, in 1859, he leased a part of the tract to a tenant farmer who erected a two-story farmhouse with an English basement.

Although small sections of the farm were disposed of by the Turner family over the years, the original farmhouse remained a landmark at 1854 Addison until demolished in 1959, a life span of 100 years. As the city built up around it, Wolcott Avenue was cut through the farm to the north, between the farmhouse and the barn, the latter of which is still standing behind the office of Charles Moeller at the northwest corner of Addison and Wolcott.

As a result of the fire that destroyed his home and livery stable on the near North Side, Turner was forced to occupy the farm home with his wife, Sarah, and their children after providing generously for his tenant and his family.

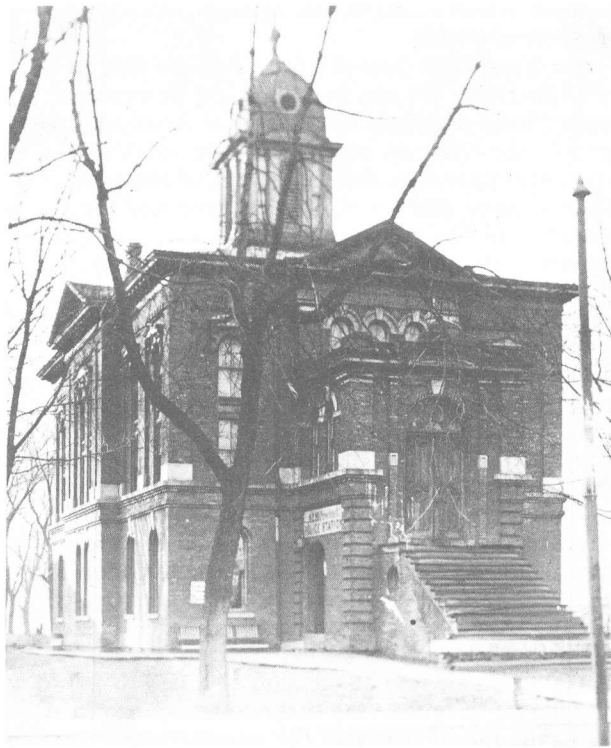
Here he became a producing farmer raising sheep and pasturing cattle and horses for other farmers and rented the remainder to hard working thrifty German truck farmers. As a resident of Lake View he brought with him an active interest in community affairs prompted by a deep-seated sense of civic responsibility.

Forty acres of the original farm were subsequently sold to Samuel Eberly Gross, a real estate operator and subdivider, who set about developing the property as a community of frugal German American families, called Gross Park.

William E. Turner, son of John and Sarah Turner, who died December 23, 1946; presented a carillon to the Chicago Temple in 1935 as a

memorial to his mother and father and his sister, Mary P., and brother, John V.

Another prominent new arrival in Lake View at this time was Major Daniel Goodwin, who purchased six acres in the Pine Grove area near the new U.S. Marine Hospital in 1871 with an investment estimated at well over \$75,000. The beautiful Gothic home he built was a model of architectural excellence at a cost of \$40,000. The beauty of its formal setting was a tribute to the good taste of its owner and occupant.



THE CENTER OF Lake View's Government. This is the old Town Hall on the corner of what is now Halsted and Addison. Built in 1872, it was the "city hall" for all Lake View residents. Later, it became a fire house.—Courtesy, Ravenswood-Lake View Historical Society.

Unconnected with the fire, but a milestone in the annals of Lake View, was the purchase of a building site for the Town Hall from Lewis Lewis, a gentleman farmer, for \$2,900. The trustees regarded the price as exorbitant, but voted to complete the deal, which they did, but the building was not erected until 1872.

It was a two-story red brick structure, containing five rooms, with offices on the first floor, topped by a huge cupola. The second floor was given over to a large attractive assembly hall which could serve the community for a variety of local functions. It was frequently used for church services, as an opera house or concert hall.

In short, the Town Hall was more than the seat of government. The construction cost was set at \$17,000 in 1872, the year it was built.

Subsequently in the 1880s, when a mild depression set in and money became scarce, the Town hall lost its social status and fell into disuse, except to house governmental departments. The final blow came when, after Lake View's annexation to Chicago, the Town Hall was converted into a police station over the vehement protest of the Lake View community.

The center of social activities then appears to have drifted to the Lincoln-Belmont-Ashland intersection.

The state legislature, in 1872, authorized the formation of township high schools to be supported and maintained both by a tax levy and the issuance of school bonds based on the assessed valuation of the whole township.

Lake View High School was one of the first to be organized under the act, but, as might be expected, a controversy promptly arose as to its location. Five-sixths of the residents were said to live south of Byron and more than one-half south of Belmont.

The location was put to vote. A proposed site at Belmont and Halsted received 10 votes; Diversey between Clark and Halsted, 8 votes; Lincoln and School, 37 votes.

The issuance, however, was shortly resolved when Graceland Cemetery offered to donate a site at the northeast corner of Ashland Graceland (Irving Park). An affirmative vote of 113 ballots for this location settled the issue.

But even this free grant had its drawbacks in the minds of some townsfolk. August Nightingale, who was chosen as the first principal, recalled in his reminiscences regarding the selection of this site, "One might have walked a mile in any direction and not found a dozen children of school age except in the city of the dead," meaning Graceland Cemetery.

This same year Ravenswood voted to issue \$75,000 in bonds for the erection of a new schoolhouse to replace the makeshift one then in use. In the fall of that year the school trustees selected a site at the corner of Sulzer Road (Montrose) and Paulina. When completed the following year, the new school was called Sulzer School and the old one abandoned.

DEATH OF CONRAD SULZER

Conrad Sulzer, who had witnessed the growth of Lake View from a frontier outpost in the wilderness, still visited by roving bands of Indians almost to the time of its incorporation as a city and eventual annexation by the booming city of Chicago, died at the age of 67.

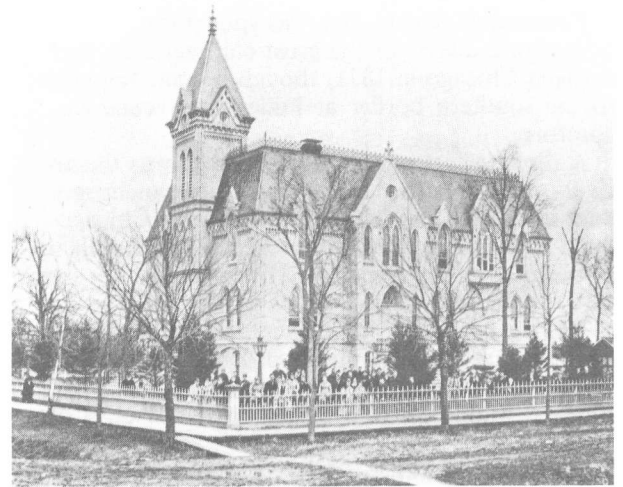
He was buried in Graceland Cemetery, which occupies a portion of his original farm. The grave is marked by a large red fieldstone boulder, appropriately engraved, "First Settler in Lake View," 1837-1873.

Martha Freeman Esmond, in a letter to a friend in the East dated April 20, 1873, has left us a contemporary appraisal of Lake View's development since Conrad Sulzer became its first settler some 36 years previously.

In her letter she wrote, "We drove out to Lake

View Village one day last week, to see what we could do there in the way of a rented House. This suburb, just north of Lincoln Park, is rapidly filling up with residences of a costly character and these improvements will make it one of the choicest residence localities adjacent to the city. Will says it will soon be gobbled up by the city, for the Town Hall of Lake View is only four miles from our courthouse."

She continues with a listing of prominent citizens who had made their homes here: B.F. Culver, W.K. Nicon, Major Daniel Goodwin, S.B. Chase, J.H. Ries, J.B. LeMoyne, H.G. Spafford, F. Tyler, S.H. Kerfoot, W.C. Goudy, J.B. Waller and J.A. Hutch.



THE SITE OF THE original Lake View High School Building has known three construction periods. The original building was erected in 1874 by the Township of Lake View. A disastrous fire destroyed this building in 1876. Another high school was soon built by popular subscription.

LAKE VIEW HIGH SCHOOL ERECTED

In view of the fact that on May 5, 1974 the Lake View High School at 4015 North Ashland Avenue celebrated its 100th birthday, the following information from Andreas' History of Cook County, page 710 is important:

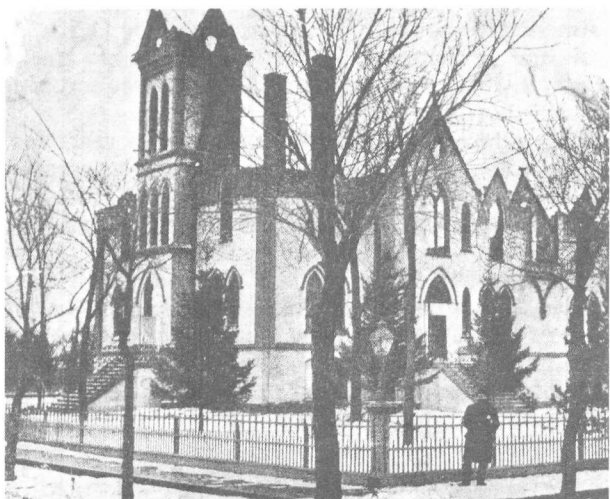
"In March 1873, the legal voters of the township of Lake View presented the treasurer with a petition for the establishment of a high school. At the annual election for the choice of a trustee, the citizens decided in favor of a high school, and the Township Trustees became directors of the proposed institution.

"It was resolved to hold an election for the choice of a site, but before the arrival of the day fixed upon, the trustees of Graceland Cemetery submitted a proposition offering the present site, on condition that the building cost not less than \$15,000, and be erected within two years. A decision having been made in favor of the site, on the corner of Graceland and Ashland Avenue in August, bonds were issued to the required amount.

"The plans submitted by S.M. Randolph were accepted, and the contract for erecting the structure was awarded to Jens Oleson for \$16,000. The first blow upon the new building was struck on the first of September 1873, and opened to the public on the 29th of April 1874. On the 4th of May, the school was formally organized with the following corps of teachers: Principal, A.F. Nightingale; first assistant, Agnes R. Walker; second assistant, Julia A. Lord; Mlle. Louise Appleburg; T.H. Merrill, teacher of music.

"The school structure is of brick, substantially and tastefully constructed. On the first floor are two school rooms and two recitation rooms. The second floor is divided into a spacious auditorium, principal's office, library and laboratory.

"Since the establishment of the high school, fifty-seven pupils have graduated from it, a large number who have entered college, and many others are now teachers in the county. Forty-eight diplomas and over \$300 in money, offered as premiums in the competitive educational contests of the State, have been awarded to Lake View High School, which certainly stands in the front rank with the best public schools of higher grade in the West."



AFTER THE FIRE. This wood-cut of the first High School after the fire shows how much damage was done to the building. It was, not long before a subscription was taken up, and a new building erected.—Courtesy, Ravenswood-Lake View Historical Society.

A great tragedy struck Lake View on March 13, 1885, when the township high school was gutted by fire. However, classes were held as usual on the following Monday at the little Evanston Avenue Chapel. The community, undaunted by the catastrophe, set about immediately to rebuild the burned out building.

A \$25,000 bond issue was floated which, with the insurance on the old building, made possible the construction of a new school building at a cost of \$40,000. Provision was made to accommodate 250 pupils. The building was completed the following year.



AN OLD VIEW of the high school. This picture, from a postal card, shows the present Lake View High School as it must have appeared many years ago. It is quite a contrast with the present location at a busy intersection.—Courtesy, Ravenswood-Lake View Historical Association.

The first graduate of Lake View School was Benjamin Franklin McConnell in 1874. He married Ella Mead of the Class of 1878.

Seventy-eight students were admitted to the high school when it first opened, but only eight were advanced enough for high school level work. They were given instructions alone for two months by Principal Nightingale.



ARE YOUR GRANDPARENTS HERE? On a fine day in the spring of 1904, the graduating class of Lake View High School gathered in front of its building for a picture that is probably still treasured in albums. Why not try to see if you can recognize anyone you know.—Courtesy, Ravenswood-Lake View Historical Society.

Public transportation into Lake View was still rather primitive. A line of horsecars leaving from Clark Street and the river trundled north to Diversy where the horsecars surrendered to a steam dummy road that ran each hour to Graceland, a trip lasting about 50 minutes.

A second line of horsecars left the Clark Street bridge at approximately hourly intervals following a

route north on Clark Street to Lincoln Avenue opposite the main entrance to Lincoln Park. From here it ran along Lincoln Avenue to the city limit at Fullerton.

Eugene Field, the children's poet, who lived in Lake View (Buena Park) for a number of years, when recounting his early experiences in the 1870s, had this to say about local transportation at the time, "The oldest horse in Chicago works for the Lake View Street Car Co. and was present at the Battle of Marathon, 490 B.C.

Although the North Western Railway inaugurated rail service in 1855 and within a relatively short time had 12 trains a day running north and south, apparently it was not until almost 20 years later that a second line of track was laid. Reference to this is made in Everett Chamberlin's "Chicago and Its Suburbs," published in 1874, in which he writes:

"In addition to the second track now being laid on this road, there are now under consideration two other projects looking to the development of the Lake View district by new railroads; one to run out of Chicago on Sheffield Avenue through Lake View to Evanston on a route east of the Milwaukee track; the other a branch through Bowmanville to Evanston, to be constructed by the North Western Railroad Company."

The line referred to as being built along Sheffield Avenue is no doubt the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul line laid in what is now Lakewood Avenue, in 1872. The other would appear to be the Mayfair Division of the North Western, which rejoins the Milwaukee Division in Evanston.

Frederick Sulzer, who during his lifetime, served in almost every important township office, was elected town supervisor in 1875 to serve for one year. Since 1868 he had been one of the three commissioners of highways, a most difficult assignment under the circumstances prevailing on the struggling community.

He had also been instrumental in organizing the township schools. Although not an engineer, he was instrumental in pushing through to completion the following year the construction of a local waterworks.

The waterworks located at the corner of Sulzer Road and Halsted were put in operation on May 1, 1876. The initial equipment consisted of two pumps and five engines. In the fall of 1877 the second pump became operational, with a capacity of 2 million gallons each 2½ hours, the same as the first pump.

John N. Cole had charge of the construction and A.S. Gurner was the first chief engineer. The intake was 1,700 feet from the shore line and in all required 30 miles of pipe. A bond issue of \$125,000 was authorized for the construction in June, 1875.

Although Lake View had begun to assume many urban characteristics, the town was still very much of a rural community. Truck farms continued to provide a livelihood for a large segment of its population, but livestock trading was an important adjunct. One large livestock market for the buying, selling and trading of horses, cows and goats was

located east of Robey (Damen) between Wrightwood and Diversey.

ENANDER FATHER OF SWEDISH COLONY

While the early history of Lake View and its subsequent development owes much to its many industrious settlers from Germany, an important contribution was made by the Scandinavians, though, for the most part, that came later.

One outstanding figure among them was Johan Alfred Enander, born in Westergothia, Sweden, May 22, 1842. He arrived in America in September, 1869, with 20 cents in his pocket and no knowledge of English, intent on entering Augustana College in Rock Island. He came to Lake View in 1876 and in 1883 built his home here.

Several Swedish Americans followed his lead and shortly a Swedish colony grew up in the vicinity of his home on Oak Place (now 3256 N. Wilton).

Enander was a man of many talents, a poet, historian, orator and educator who acquired the affectionate title, "Father of Lake View's Swedish Colony". His name, we are told "is a household word among Swedish Americans from one end of America to the other". He was appointed U.S. minister to Denmark by President Benjamin Harrison in 1889, but because of ill health was forced to resign shortly thereafter.

His principal vocation for a number of years appears to have been editor of the Swedish newspaper Hemlandet, except for three years as professor of Swedish language and literature at Augustana College, which awarded him an honorary degree of doctor of laws in 1893.

He died at his Wilton Avenue home in 1910 at the age of 68. A Swedish branch of the Salvation Army occupied the home following his death. They still maintain a branch location on the site of Dr. Enander's original residence.

THE BIRK-HOHNEN MANSION— A LANDMARK

In 1967, the 90-year old brownstone mansion that stood at the corner of Wellington and Pine Grove was leveled to permit the building of a high-rise apartment building.

The three-story, 15 room Victorian mansion had been purchased by Jacob Birk in 1893 from Belden F. Culver, one of the early real estate developers of Lake View's lakeshore area (Pine Grove). The imposing structure, with its many gables, appears to have been built by Culver in 1877 on a part of the 10-acre tract he had purchased in 1866 at an estimated cost of \$1,500 per acre.

Jacob Birk, with his wife Lena, had come to America from Germany in May, 1855. Back home he had been a harness maker, a pursuit he followed for a time in this country until his success lured him into other fields of endeavor, principally a partnership with Fred Wacker in forming Wacker and Birk Brewing Co.

Following her parents' death, Carrie Birk, the fifth of eight children born to Jacob and Lena Birk, who had married Hans Hohner, moved into the family home at 457 Wellington. Hans Hohner owned harmonica factories in Germany and New York City. The Hohner name remains well-known today wherever harmonicas are sold. The family occupied the home until their deaths.

CIVIC IMPROVEMENT

To provide for the younger generation, Lake View planned the erection of five grade schools, the first of which came off the drawing board in 1878 to be built at Diversey, corner of Seminary. A second was built the following year on Evanston Avenue at the corner of School Street.

Shortly thereafter, the construction of a third building was started at Wrightwood and Ashland, followed by a fourth school building a year later at Wrightwood and Orchard. A fifth school functioned for a time on Belmont near Hoyne.

Another sign of civic growth that came into being in 1879 was the introduction of telephone service in Lake View, when John N. Hills set up a switchboard in his home at Clark and Leland. When Lake View was annexed to Chicago 10 years later, Hill's switchboard with 70 subscribers, became a part of Chicago Telephone Co., now a division of Illinois Bell Telephone.

A public improvement association also was organized at this time on March 15, 1879. The first slate of officers elected consisted of R.S. Andrews, president; M. Kunkel, vice president; G.W. Barnett, secretary, and A.S. Maltman, treasurer. Known as the Lake View Citizens Assn., the purpose of the organization as adopted was to promote projects for the betterment of the community.

The Schwaben-Berein was organized in 1878 with Ernst Hummel as its first president. Its membership was made up of German-Americans from the southern part of Germany, called Wurttemberg or Schwabenland. Most of its 1,100 members were residents of Lake View.

A large part of their funds were used for charitable purposes. The Schiller and Goethe monuments were made possible by the money and influence of this society.

While the Chicago Fire was a catastrophe for all who suffered its devastating effects, it did of necessity usher in an era of feverish activity for those involved in rebuilding the city. At the same time it motivated many families to seek out new homes in the outlying communities.

This resurgence of activity in all walks of life had its counterpart in Lake View, where the decade of the 1880s became known as the "Golden Years" in building expansion.

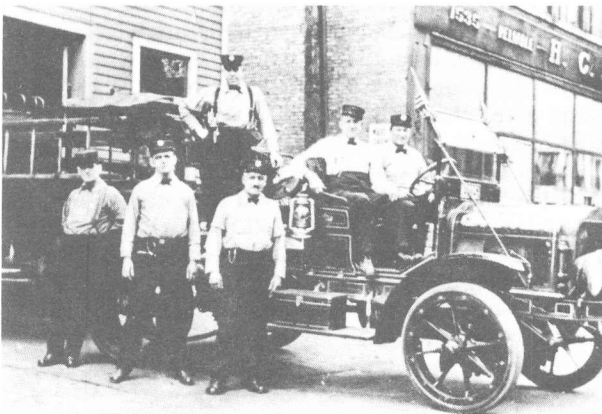
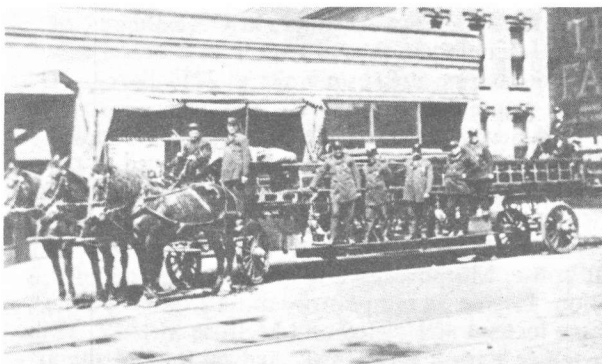
New homes, churches and industrial plants made their appearance in all parts of the rapidly growing community. Lumbermen, carpenters, masons, home furnishing dealers, and merchants, all shared in the surge of activity in or related to the building industry.

A Land Use Survey made in 1940 estimated that 43 percent of the homes in Lake View had been built between 1880 and 1894 with most of them one- and two-story wooden structures.

To provide overnight lodging for folks passing through town on their way to or from Chicago, or for those seeking permanent residence in Lake View, Jacob Best operated the Gross Park Hotel at the northwest corner of Lincoln and Roscoe.

THE LAKE VIEW FIRE DEPARTMENT

It was not until July 15, 1889, that fire protection from the City of Chicago was extended to Lake View. There were then some six fire stations operated by Lake View: 150 Southport Avenue (2145 Southport); 687 Sheffield Avenue (2740 Sheffield); 435 Southport Avenue (2628 Southport); 144 Noble Street (2216 Barry Avenue); 1692 North Clark Street (3217 North Clark); and 827 Belmont Avenue (1529 Belmont).



INTREPID FIRE Fighters. The two pictures show a span of time. The first is that of a hook and ladder truck about 1911. The second picture is a fire fighter of 1926. It is Truck 21 of Engine 55, of the 13th battalion. The truck is in front of its quarters at 1827 Belmont Avenue. (Their first fire truck). —Courtesy of Ravenswood-Lincoln Historical Society.

The fire station housing Engine Co. 55 at 2740 Sheffield was originally the Town Hall of Lake View built to accommodate a fire and police facility (the

41st Police Precinct was installed later), and the 13th Battalion was organized here.

On February 16, 1928, Truck Co. 44 with Engine Co. 55 were organized here moving into a new fire station at 2712 Halsted Street. The old fire station was razed for the Parkwest Housing project.

Engine 33 moved from 2415 Southport Avenue to 2208 Clybourn Avenue in 1906. This unit was originally known as Chemical Engine No. 3 when on Southport Avenue. Engine 33 spent the rest of its existence on Clybourn Avenue, until de-activated on August 1, 1969, and the house has since been razed.

Engine Co. 56 was organized in another former fire station used by Lake View located at 2628 Southport Avenue. They moved to 144 Noble Street, where the City of Chicago had built a frame fire station for them, which they occupied until December 27, 1893. Then in 1935, under the WPA Act, a new brick station was designed on the original site. On January 14, 1936, Engine 56 temporarily moved out of the old frame fire station on Barry Avenue (what was 144 Noble Street earlier), and took refuge at the house of Truck 11, located then at 1529 Belmont Avenue. On December 12 of that year, Engine 56 moved back into a brand new brick building on the former site at 2214 Barry Avenue where they are today.

It is believed that the little frame fire station at 3217 North Clark Street was actually moved to the site at 1052 Waveland Avenue in 1894 for a short time, and a second floor added. However, on December 31, 1894, Engine Co. 78 was organized in that house. Moreover, while in the possession of this station, Engine 78 temporarily moved into a public garage located at Halsted and Melrose in 1915, while a new fire station was constructed on the old site at 1052 Waveland Avenue, and later on in that year they occupied the new two-story structure which is still used today, located directly across the street from Wrigley Field. Fire Ambulance No. 6 is also located here, probably the busiest ambulance unit of the 33 operated by the CFD.

Truck Co. 21 was in a frame fire station in 1889 at 827 Belmont. In 1926, it moved temporarily to the quarters of Engine 55 at 2740 Sheffield Avenue while a new building of two-story brick construction was erected at 827 Belmont, later changed to 1529 Belmont. Sometime in 1927, Truck 21 and the 13th Battalion moved in and took possession of the new brick building on Belmont, near Lincoln. In the late 1930s Goldblatts offered to buy the property. However, it wasn't until March 1, 1941, that the 13th Battalion and Truck No. 21 moved out, and into a new fire station at 1501 West School Street built by Goldblatts. The old structure was used for a toy shop, and later as the shrubbery department, razed about 1947.

BUILDING ACQUIRES MOMENTUM

Characteristic of the modest homes being built was that of Daniel Steinbeck. On a two-acre plot, bought in 1880 from Charles Fullerton for whom

Fullerton Avenue had been named, Steinbeck erected a two-story cottage at the intersection of Lincoln, Belmont, and Ashland and established a truck farm.

But he did not live long enough to realize what a valuable piece of real estate he had acquired. In less than two years after moving into his new home, Steinbeck died from smallpox during Christmas week.

Mrs. B.C. Weber, his daughter, frequently recalled the screeching of the old horse car turntable just outside her bedroom window. It was at this corner also that a toll gate was erected to help defray the expense of maintaining the dirt road running north to Bowmanville, long known as the Little Fort Road (Lincoln Avenue).

This followed the trail long used by the Indians who roamed these parts. After Steinbeck's death, to make ends meet, the family rented the first floor for business use, until the property was sold to Klee Bros. in 1903.

Another of the survivors in the fire who fled the ravaged city and later found refuge in Lake View were Henry J. Klinke and his family. He was born on Beethoven Place between Sedgwick and Wells in 1859.

Like most of the residents on the short street, named after the beloved of all music lovers, Henry was raised in an atmosphere of music. His father had been in the milk business, but in 1871 when the boy was only 12 years old, the family suddenly found themselves in the path of the fast spreading conflagration from the south.

They had only time enough to load into one of the milk wagons such personal effects as they could carry with them. They headed north to the open prairies at Lincoln and Fullerton to join the swelling group of refugees for a long night of horror.

Married at the age of 21, young Henry and his bride decided to build their honeymoon cottage in Lake View at the corner of Wolfram and Racine in 1880. He soon became active in local politics, becoming one of the community's first aldermen.

The council met every Friday evening in the Town Hall, for which each member received a stipend of \$1 for each meeting. Sometime after his retirement his son, Henry, followed in his father's footsteps and became the first alderman of the 47th Ward in Chicago.

Another of the old residences dating from 1880 was the Bush home at the corner of Clark and Diversey. It was a substantial two-story brick building, topped by a widow's walk reminiscent of the old sea captains' homes along the New England seacoast. The many-windowed sun parlor housed an assortment of plants. In later years on an adjoining lot stood the Ferris Wheel, designed for the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition and moved from there after the close of the fair.

Over on the Lakeshore, between what is now Irving Park Road and Montrose, Colonel Burr Robbins, who had only recently retired from the ownership of a circus, purchased a six-acre tract of land.

He built a rambling frame home with a wide sweeping veranda on the property in 1880. His widow and the family continued living here for a time after the colonel's death in 1908, but later it was abandoned and wrecked.

Two other family homes had been built on the property, which remained in the Robbins' family for 80 years. It is interesting, in passing, to note that at the time of purchase the six acres had a lakeshore frontage on the east and subsequently a family pier to accommodate the colonel's steam yacht, which he used principally to commute to and from Chicago.

When sold by the remaining members of the family in 1960, the east line of the property was described as Marine Drive.

The building of new homes was not confined to any one area, but was widespread throughout the township, some mansion-like in proportion and landscaping; others neat cottages or two-story frame homes of workmen. More and more farms were subdivided by real estate developers to provide building sites for the many workers and tradespeople settling in the area, attracted by the industrial development along the river and the railroad right-of-way.

In addition to the new homes being erected in the 1880s, it was perhaps only natural in a largely German community that outdoor beer gardens and cafes should become a part of the local scene. One of these and the most popular and earliest was Thilemann's Garden, located at the present Sheridan Road and Surf Street.

In its heyday a contemporary account had this to say of its popularity, "It was a fashionable summer

garden and cafe of the 1880s located on the shore of the lake near Diversey Parkway. The social gatherings there were among the merriest the city ever knew."

A local newspaper appears to have been in existence for a time, but whence it came and where it went is not clear in the available record. The Lake View Telephone, as it was known, was an outgrowth of the Lake View Townsman, a campaign paper first issued as a five-column folio sheet March 21, 1881.

First number of the Lake View Telephone was issued June 4, 1881, by C. Whitney, editor and publisher. It was enlarged to seven-column folio February 11, 1882, and a year later to eight columns. Whitney was in charge of the publication from June, 1881, to June, 1882. William A. Rennie took over as editor and publisher January 1, 1884, with R.S. Andrews as a partner.

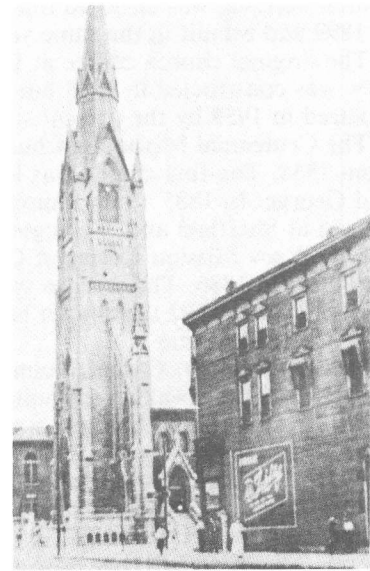
CHURCHES HELPED BUILD LAKE VIEW

For the numerous religious groups who were striving for denominational identity, the decade of the 1880s also proved to be the "Golden Years." Many churches were established during this period and houses of worship erected, some being simple chapels but others imposing edifices.

Most of the settlers from the southern parts of Germany were Roman Catholics, while those from the northern sector were largely Lutheran, but many other denominations actively participated in the religious life of the community.



A SPARKLING CAST. In 1920, the St. Alphonsus Athletic Association put on a play, at the Athenaeum. Taking part were the following, pictured above: Frank Hanses, Matt Feit, Gertrude Wuerth, Nick Reiter, Alice Carpenter, Marie Kraemer, Ed Lang, Matt Popke, Al Fritz, Frank Weber, Helen Maerke, Agnes Gross, Frank Lang, Edward Frey, and again Matt Popke, who doubled in two characters.



BEFORE THE FIRE. This is a picture of St. Alphonsus' Church at the corner of Lincoln and Wellington Avenues, taken about 1882. Many years later, the interior was struck by a disastrous fire, only the beautiful altar was saved.

In a very real sense the churches made a conspicuous contribution, physically and morally, to the upbuilding of Lake View. To them we owe much for the inherent strength and stability their influence wove into the fabric of the whole community, an asset its citizens have never relinquished.

Waveland Avenue Congregational Church, known as the Graceland Mission when founded in 1876, began with services in a small building at Irving Park and Ward Street. In 1877 the building was moved to Waveland and Janssen, adjacent to the location of the present church.

St. Alphonsus Roman Catholic Church was founded in 1882 at Lincoln and Wellington. The church school was opened the following year with an enrollment of 70 children under the direction of four Sisters of Notre Dame.

Belden Avenue Presbyterian and Lake View Congregational were both organized in 1882, but in 1919 the two churches were federated to form the Seminary Avenue Federated Church at Seminary and Lill.

Third German Evangelical Reformed Friedens Gemeinde was organized in 1882, but the name was changed later to the Third Evangelical and Reformed Church. The church building was practically destroyed by fire in 1904 but managed to survive.

The Bethlehem United Church of Christ was established in 1883 at Diversey and Magnolia, where it stands today.

Trinity Lutheran, founded in 1883, erected its church edifice at Seminary and Barry.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of St. Luke was founded as a congregation in 1884. The original church building was enlarged but destroyed by fire in 1899 and rebuilt in the same year.

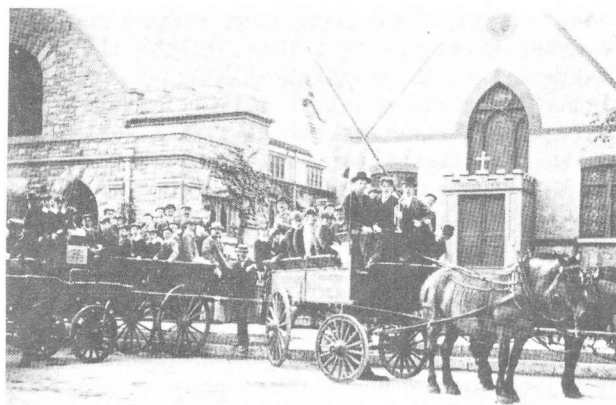
The original church edifice at Belmont and Greenview was constructed in 1905 but was subsequently replaced in 1959 by the present structure.

The Centennial Methodist Church mission dates from 1884. The first chapel was located at Seminary and George. In 1885 a new church building was erected at Sheffield and Wellington.

Lake View Mission Covenant Church had its beginning in 1886. The services were initially held in Swedish. Since 1892 the church has been located at School and Kenmore.

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, founded in 1886, was the first English-speaking Catholic church in Lake View. Its first church building was erected at Wellington and Blucher Street. A new site was purchased in 1891 at the corner of Belmont and Halsted, but later sold and the proceeds used to buy property on Belmont between Halsted and Broadway, where the church, school and rectory now stand.

St. Peter's Episcopal Church congregation first met for services in 1887 in a private home on Briar Place. Subsequently, they moved their place of worship to a rented store on Clark Street. A frame church building was erected in 1888 to serve until the present church at 621 Belmont could be erected in 1894.



TRIP TO A CAMP. Picture taken in 1899, approximate day: July 4. The picture shows the boys' choir of St. Peter's Episcopal Church on Belmont being transported via Werner Bros.-Kennelly Company wagons to a camp at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. The 75 mile trip took two days in the 1890s; today, the run would average three hours.

Lake Park Evangelical United Brethren was founded in 1888. Later it was absorbed into the Parish of Reconciliation at Roscoe and Bosworth.

By 1883 enough Polish Catholic families had moved into the area in the vicinity of Southport and Fullerton to form a committee for the building of a parish church. Twelve lots were subsequently purchased fronting on Southport and Ward, where ground was broken in 1883. The church building was completed in 1884 and blessed the same year.

Although the church property was south of the township limits, so many of the families were residents north of Fullerton, St. Josaphat's Parish Church has long been regarded as a landmark of early Lake View. The original church structure was replaced by a modern fireproof edifice in 1902.

This period also witnessed the building of several new industrial plants by the pool of available skilled and common labor. Also, the building of the North Western railroad adjacent to the river, made the area attractive for industrial development.

One of the earliest of the larger plants to move into Lake View was the Deering Harvester Works, whose original plant was established at Plano, Ill., in 1858. Later, in 1869, William Deering became associated with E.H. Gammon to form the firm of Gammon and Deering.

However, Mrs. Gammon retired from the firm in 1879 and the following year, in 1880, William Deering moved the plant to Lake View under his sole ownership. On January 1, 1884, he formed a partnership with his two sons, Charles and James E. Deering, and changed the name of the firm to William Deering and Company.

At the time they employed 1,500 men and produced more binders, reapers and mowers than any other plant of its kind in the world. The plan and lumber yards covered an area of 25 acres.

The Northwest Terra Cotta Co., founded in 1878, was one of Lake View's oldest and best known plants, both for its unique product, but also for the active interest its officers took in all branches of community life. John R. True, one of the officials of the company, was treasurer of Lake View at the time of annexation in 1889. Gustav Hottinger was the company's president.

Also active in the management were Henry Rohkam and John Brunkhorst, all of whom built and maintained impressive terra cotta residences not far from the plant. In the spring of 1883, the plant was moved from the corner of Lincoln and Mills Street to its Clybourn Avenue location.

The office at the corner of Clybourn and Terra Cotta Place was a frequent gathering place for Lake View notables and politicians. In the early 1880s, the company employed between 185 and 200 men, turning out annually \$300,000 worth of ornamental and architectural terra cotta, which was shipped all over the West.

The Illinois Malleable Iron Company's iron foundry was also opened in 1880 on Diversey, east of the river, by H.E. Bullock. It has remained an important industrial complex contributing in large measure over the years to the reputation of Lake View as a center for the metal trades.

The North Chicago Malleable Iron Works were established Nov. 1, 1882, in two frame structures approximating 17,000 square feet in total area, and housing two annealing ovens and one cupola. Their property located just north of the terra cotta works on Clybourn Avenue was sold to William Deering and Company in November, 1883.

BELGIANS AMONG ETHNIC GROUPS

Lake View can well be proud of the many ethnic groups which have contributed in such large measure to its history and development over the years.

Although not as numerous as the German, Luxembourg and Swedish settlers in the early days, there were many Belgian families whose life among us has enriched the social and industrial history of Lake View.

Of these, one whose longevity merits mention was Lena DeRock. Born in a small village near Antwerp, Belgium, she came to America with her parents, four brothers and two sisters in 1882. At this time it is difficult to identify the exact location of her first home in Lake View, but Miss De Rock remembered it as a modest fishing cottage at Wellington and the lake.

At the age of 17, in 1887, she married Philip Coteleer, a native of Antwerp. In 1893 they took up residence at 1780 N. Seeley as then numbered, but since renumbered 3307 N. Seeley. Her life span encompassed almost a century of Lake View history.

LAKE VIEW SCHOOL SYSTEM

From the earliest days, Lake View had a school system comparable to any in the country, although

its building program was not carried forward as fast as the increase in its school population. The school board of trustees consisted of the following members: John N. Hills, president; Franz Baer and A. S. Maltman. Seth F. Hanchett was secretary and treasurer.

School No. 1 was located on Evanston Avenue (Broadway), corner of School. The original building erected several years previously was replaced in 1879 by a two-story brick structure.

School No. 2 was located on Diversey, corner of Seminary. A two-story four-room building was erected in 1878. Four years later, in 1882, the facility was increased to 14 rooms, rated as one of the most substantial in town.

School No. 3 was erected in 1882 at the corner of Wrightwood and Ashland Avenues.

School No. 4 was at the corner of Orchard and Wrightwood. This building, with eight rooms, was completed in 1883 and was regarded as one of the finest district school buildings in the country.

School No. 5 was located on Belmont near Hoyne. It was a three-room frame structure that had originally housed School No. 2 at Lincoln and Diversey.

In addition to these five schools, a branch primary school, known as Ravenswood School No. 1, was located at the corner of Sulzer (Montrose) and Paulina Streets. An ungraded school was located in Andersonville and a brick schoolhouse erected in 1882 known as the Rose Hill School.

The total value of the school property at the time was estimated at \$112,000 with a bonded debt of \$89,000. The school population in June, 1883, was said to be 3,305, with total children numbering 4,665. The population of the town was recorded as 19,000.

STREET DEVELOPMENT

Most of the streets were still unpaved, but a few of them were beginning to be paved with wooden blocks.

Lincoln Avenue, long known as the Little Fort Road, remained the principal arterial highway through the center of the town. Large willow trees lined it on either side, but its only drainage was by open ditches along the sides, most of the time filled with run-off water after each rainfall.

When horsecars made their appearance, the tracks stood so high above the sandbed, it was almost impossible to drive a horse and wagon across the street in the middle of a block.

But even then dreams for the future were in the making. Writing in 1884, one commentator had this to say for the future of Lincoln Avenue, "This will be improved into a boulevard, giving a short diagonal carriage route from the western part of the township to the center of Lincoln Park."

Graceland Avenue he described as "the eastern terminus of Irving Park Boulevard, and which constitutes the carriage route from Irving Park to the Lake Shore Drive, has been opened to a width of 100 feet to Southport Avenue. At the river, this

street is provided with a new iron bridge.

"This thoroughfare, terminating at Lincoln Park and the Lake Shore Drive constitutes an excellent system adapted to the natural contour of the country, and were made in the interest of the whole public, not for the special enriching of speculative proprietors."

Continuing his account of street improvements, he recorded that Ashland Avenue had been widened to 80 feet extending south to Belmont and Lincoln. "The Ashland Avenue improvement will doubtless be continued southward until it meets the splendid improvement of that thoroughfare made within the city limits by S.J. Walker, Esq. When this is completed, Ashland Avenue will be one of the handsomest drives within and about the city."

He also predicted that Lake Shore Drive on the eastern boundary would be, when completed, one of the finest improvements in or about Chicago, a 200-foot-wide carriage road extending 12 miles from Indiana Street to Evanston, although at the time completed only as far north as the Marine Hospital in Lake View.

Had he written of the side roads within the town, his comments of necessity would have been less glowing. As real estate developers bought up whole farms and subdivided them into building lots, dirt roads were cut through and dignified by calling them streets, but being unpaved, deep ruts and mud

holes soon developed after every rain storm.

The three arterial highways Lincoln, Belmont and Ashland were the first to be lifted out of the mud, but it would be sometime yet before hard paved roadways would replace sand and gravel or wooden blocks.

West on Graceland Avenue at Western, the Martha Washington Home was formally opened on July 1, 1882. The landscaped grounds and buildings were purchased from the Northwestern Military Academy. Originally operated as a special care facility, it was later converted into an accredited hospital.

EARLY HOSPITALS

Geographically, the German Hospital of Chicago was not a Lake View institution, but it has always been so closely identified with the daily lives of the German community centered in the area north of Fullerton, Lake View residents early regarded it as part of their German heritage and largely do so today.

It was not until March 7, 1918, that the name was changed from the German Hospital to Grant Hospital. Until 1912 all meetings of the board were conducted in German. The minutes were handwritten in German script.



FROM FURNITURE to undertaking. At 1628, Belmont Christian F. Krauspe built a two story frame furniture store. Pictured here is the 1887 building with a board walk covering the four foot drainage ditch along the side of the street. In 1926, it was

sold and a new funeral home erected on the same spot. In front of the building are Mr. and Mrs. C.F. Krauspe.—Courtesy, Ravenswood-Lake View Historical Society.

The German Hospital had its beginning in a private residence owned by Frank F. Henning at what was then 242 Lincoln Avenue (but later renumbered as 2225) on December 17, 1883. Mr. Henning made the property available for the use of the hospital rent free for one year. It was described in its charter as "a sanctuary in case of sickness or accident for all persons without distinction of belief or religious conviction."

The hospital opened its doors on August 5, 1884, and admitted its first patient on August 19 of that year. At the first annual meeting held January 13, 1885, it was reported that for the previous year since opening, 25 patients were cared for. Of these, 10 were pay patients and 15 charity patients.

Many illustrious medical men have been associated with the hospital at one time or another during its 100 years of humanitarian service, but of these Dr. Sol B. Kositchek will long be remembered as Lake View's "beloved doctor."

Over a span of many years he has ministered early and late, to the young and to the old, with a selfless devotion to the art of healing. Of him it can be truly said, to know him is to love him. He was also a founding member of Kiwanis Club of Lake View, serving as president in 1932.

Just west of the Lincoln-Belmont-Ashland intersection is a piece of property which has been a part of the Lake View story since July 1, 1883, when it was purchased by Christian F. Krauspe.

Here at 732 Belmont Avenue (later renumbered 1628) he built a two-story frame store and flat building. Upstairs over the store were two flats—the one of four rooms rented for \$8 a month, the one in the rear with two rooms for \$4 a month.

Christ Krauspe, a carpenter and cabinetmaker by trade, purchased the property complete for \$900, and with the loan of \$300, opened a furniture store. Later, on January 15, 1890, with another loan of \$100, he went into the undertaking business.

In May, 1926, Christ sold the frame building to a wrecker for \$35 to clear the lot for the erection of a two-story brick commercial building that now stands on the lot. Just under the roof line on the street elevation can be seen today, two stone blocks embedded in the brick on which are inscribed C & A Krauspe on one and on the other July 1, 1883, the date on which the property was originally acquired by the Krauspe family.

While the original building was unable to withstand the encroachments of time, its identity has been embodied by the Krauspe family ownership of the building that replaced it, making it practically a Lake View landmark.

SUBDIVISIONS IN THE CENTRAL AREA

Prior to 1865 the majority of real estate transfers in Lake View represented the purchase of family farms or smaller parcels for home building sites and commercial locations. But following the formation of the Ravenswood Land Co. in 1869, more and more real estate activity was directed to the purchase

of acreage for investment and subdivision.

Roads were cut through what had once been truck gardens to provide housing for the influx of new settlers attracted by the favorable living conditions and the opportunity for employment in a variety of new plants moving into the area.

One of the early real estate promoters who recognized the potential value of owning Lake View property as an investment was George Snow. Back in 1846, he acquired from James D. Osborne for \$300 a tract of 80 acres that lay between the present Diversey, Belmont, Damen and Leavitt.

He also held title to two other 80-acre tracts: one between Diversey, Belmont, Western and Rockwell, and the other between Diversey, Fullerton, Damen and Western.

He was not permitted, however, to realize the full extent of his shrewd foresight, for in 1870 he died intestate. At the time of his death, his estate was valued at \$400,000. Of this amount \$350,000 was in real estate largely located in Lake View.

In the settlement of Snow's estate, his daughter, Helen, received two square blocks, bounded by Wellington, Barry, Hoyne and Leavitt. In 1880 Miss Snow sold the property to George Lill for \$10,000 with a down payment of \$1,500 and the balance due within four years. Subsequently in 1889, Lill subdivided the property into 94 lots.

Other prominent purchasers of sizable tracts for subdivision in this era included William B. Ogden, the first mayor of Chicago, and his brother, Mahlon; John P. Altgeld, the controversial governor of Illinois; Mike Diversey, who donated a part of his holdings for the building of McCormick Seminary, and S.E. Gross, who developed Gross Park.

With a steady flow of new settlers arriving in the area, it was only natural to find real estate developers moving in and buying up larger tracts of land for subdividing into building lots.

John P. Altgeld, later governor of Illinois, owned a triangular plot bounded by Lincoln, Belmont and Perry (Greenview). This he sold in 1883; subsequently the purchasers subdivided it into 25-foot lots.

A comparable triangular tract lying between Lincoln, Ashland and Barry Avenues, was owned and platted in 25-foot lots by Lill and heirs of Mike Diversey.

North on Ashland Avenue, between School and Lincoln Avenue, was Rusk and Flood's subdivision of Block 10 in Turner's subdivision.

East of Ashland and north of School, extending to Perry, was a subdivision acquired by Sicket and Hufmeyer. This, too, was platted in 25-foot lots.

Perhaps the largest of these close-in subdivisions was a tract from Belmont to School and from Ashland to Perry, with Melrose dividing it into north and south. This property, owned by Kemnitz and Wolff, was purchased January 30, 1884, from the executors of the William B. Ogden estate. This property also was platted in 25-foot lots.

Presumably this procedure had been followed with an idea of selling two or more lots to individual purchasers, but it was unfortunate for the develop-

ment of the area as most of the sales of these small lots appear to have been made to single purchasers who built homes on them regardless of the narrow frontage. The result was many congested residential streets and commercial properties.

NEW ADDITIONS TO COMMUNITY LIFE

An important addition in the life of the community was made in 1884, with the opening of Augustana Hospital. In a remodeled frame residence at Cleveland and Lincoln with a capacity of 15 beds, the hospital was opened to its first patient on May 28.

A residence for nurses was completed at Dickens and Sedgwick in 1922. Subsequently several additions were made to increase the bed capacity. A new modern hospital was constructed in 1926 on Dickens and the old facility demolished.

It was also in 1884 that the community welcomed the arrival of William Schlake, Sr. He had been lured from his native home in Germany to become an instructor in St. Luke's School.

His influence in the community ranged far beyond his scholastic duties. Eventually he was drawn into the industrial field and became president of the Illinois Brick Co. After his marriage in 1887, he and his wife made their home at the corner of Diversey and Ashland.

A real estate transaction of particular importance occurring at this time was the purchase of Kemnitz and Wolff, subdividers, of the unimproved tract lying between Belmont and School, Ashland and Perry (Greenview). This property was a part of the 480 acres of centrally located property owned by William B. Ogden and his brother, Mahlon, then regarded as the largest individual property owners in Lake View.

The purchase was made from the executors of the estate of William Ogden. Kemnitz and Wolff laid out the tract in 25 foot lots for sale to the public and filed their plat, February 28, 1884.

One of the first purchasers that same year was William Giese. He bought lots No. 78 and 79 at the northeast corner of Belmont and Ashland for \$2,000, giving back a mortgage for \$1,500.

It was also in 1884 that the Lake View Police Station was build on Sheffield near Diversey adjoining the small building containing one cell that up to this time had served as police headquarters for a force now grown to 16 men.

LAKE VIEW CONTINUES TO BUILD

A community landmark erected this same year was the Masonic hall at the corner of Racine, Lincoln and Diversey. Although no longer used for Masonic gatherings, the building remains. Just below the roof line imbedded in the masonry are the Masonic symbols and the date 1885, attesting to the fact that it was erected four years before its location became a part of Chicago.

Of importance to the German community was the organization on February 8, 1885, of the Lincoln

Turners. Thirty-two members were inducted at Rachau's Hall at Lincoln and Halsted, but its membership developed so fast that new quarters were found at 1005 Diversey in July, 1886.

SULZER BUILDS A HOME

Frederick Sulzer, the son of Conrad, married Miss Anna M. C. Buether in 1871, and in 1886 started the erection of his own home at what is now 4223 Greenview Avenue on a portion of his father's 100-acre farm.

The imposing brick residence was one of the largest and most ornate homes in the area. The house looks much the same today as when first built. Its two stories are surmounted by a high-gabled roof that provides a spacious attic. The northwest corner is marked by a very wide porch.

The rooms are tall, comfortable and well lighted by numerous windows. A sense of space and roominess is gained by large doorways, which are framed in Georgian pine. The large reception hall is finished in oak.

With Frederick and his family so well known and active in the affairs of the township, it was only natural their home should be a favorite gathering place for social and other town meetings.

The Sulzers had one son, Albert F.J., and four daughters, Angeline, Grace, Julia and Harriet. All of the daughters attended the Ravenswood School and Lake View High School. With the exception of Julia, they all attended the University of Chicago.

Albert was a graduate of Massachusetts Institute of Technology. At the time of his death in 1944, he was vice chairman of the board of Eastman Kodak Co. in Rochester, N.Y.

Grace, the last of the family, died in September, 1957. After her death the Sulzer homestead was sold to Trinity Seminary and Bible College "for a very reasonable price" but subsequently "Sulzer Hall," as it was named by the college, was sold again as the adjacent property had become too high priced for the college to expand at this location.

TRANSPORTATION AND REAL ESTATE

The development of Lake View had been going forward at an accelerated rate during the decade of the 1880s, but public transportation into the town did not extend beyond its southern borders and such as there was remained primitive.

Cumbersome cars, accommodating 30 passengers, were drawn along steel rails by a team of jaded race horses at the rate of 4 to 5 miles an hour. The line up Sedgwick Street terminated at Fullerton Avenue.

A transfer slip for the Lincoln Avenue line going south, issued by North Chicago Street Railroad Co. in 1886, signed by F.L. Thrudy, Supt., read, "This slip will not be honored unless presented at the corner of Lincoln and Wrightwood Avenues with month and day punched and within 60 minutes from hour punched in margin for continuous trip only."

On the reverse side appeared an advertisement of

S.E. Gross and Co., "The best and cheapest lots in Lake View are at Gross Park. Branch office corner Belmont and Lincoln Avenues or 551 Lincoln Avenue".

Samuel Eberty Gross was one of the most spectacular real estate dealers operating in the area at this time. He had come to Chicago from Pennsylvania in 1866 and within 12 years had established no less than 20 suburban villages including Gross Park and Argyle Park. He amassed a small fortune buying and selling real estate and building homes, but before he died he went into voluntary bankruptcy.

Gross was also an author of sorts and lost much of his wealth in a long drawn out plagiarism suit against Edmond Rostand, charging he had stolen the plot for "Chantecler" from Gross' novel, "The Merchant Prince of Cornville".

Janssen and Bosworth also operated a real estate office at the northwest corner of Belmont and Lincoln. The property was purchased by Janssen from S.E. Gross for \$3,000 in 1886 with \$2,000 borrowed from Greenebaum Bank. Some years later he sold the lot for \$20,000.

FROM TOWNSHIP TO CITY

By 1887 Lake View had arrived at municipal maturity and was granted a city charter. Pursuant to the new charter, the city was divided into seven wards with two aldermen for each ward. The elected officials were:

William Boldenweck, mayor; George Lill, treasurer; J.J. Wilson, city clerk, and H.H. Anderson, city attorney.

Serving as aldermen were the following: A.B. Anderson, R.F. Maxwell, M.W. Hodgson, A.C. Sinclair, Herman Klinke, J.W. Stotz, John M. Ludwig, F.W. Washburne, R.J. Lewis, J.E. Schiesswohl, John McConnell, J.P. Wells, P.J. Haynes and B.F. Weber.

William (Billy) Boldenweck, who served as the first mayor, was a very colorful individual and well liked in the community. Born in Jettinger, Germany, August 9, 1851, the son of Karl H. and Charlotte Boldenweck, he came to Chicago with his parents in June, 1854.

At the age of 12 he tried to enlist in the Army but was turned down. Undismayed by this rebuff, he later turned to the Navy. He stowed away on the gunboat Michigan, anchored in the Chicago harbor, but was discovered before the ship left port and again was sent home.

At 13 he left school to try his hand at the tinsmith trade. This he followed for only a short time when he became a clerk in a hardware store. He worked at this until he was 19.

He then became a clerk for his brother, Louis, who was a cut stone contractor. During this time, in 1873, he married Gusina A. Samme. He purchased his brother's business in 1875 but in 1887 retired from active business.

After a colorful career in Lake View politics he entered the real estate business. He also found time

to serve on the Drainage Board in Chicago and subsequently became president in 1897.

He also served as assistant treasurer of the U.S. Sub-Treasury in Chicago from 1906 to 1910. He died in August, 1923.

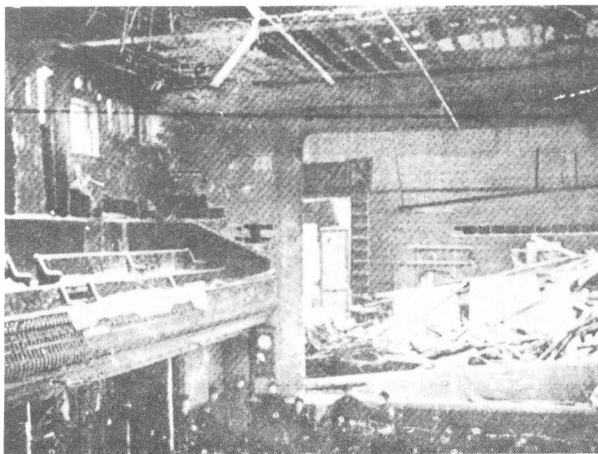
TURNVEREIN AND CHORAL GROUP ORGANIZED

The Socialen Turnverein was organized as an offshoot of the Lincoln Turners in 1887. Initial steps were taken at a Turner rally held on January 26 at Rachau's Hall, Lincoln and Halsted. A building fund was started in July and by the end of the year sufficient funds had been collected to erect a building at the southeast corner of Belmont and Paulina at a cost of \$5,000.

In July, 1889, the cornerstone was laid and the building dedicated in November. The building was destroyed by fire in 1901, but by October in the same year the building was restored.



A *MUSICAL* center. Here is the 1887 building on the corner of Lincoln and Halsted Streets which served for many years as a center for a Lake View German singing group called the Socialen Turnverein.



AFTER THE FIRE. Then, in 1901, a fire destroyed the building, but in that same year another was built.

From its earliest days, Lake View has always been a musical center, particularly for its German and Swedish choral groups. One of the prominent German singing societies was the Gesangverein Harmonie, formed in 1889 in Adolph Borchers's studio.

This was a male choral group organized to promote German classical music and folk songs. The first meeting of the society, comprising 24 businessmen from Lake View, came together in November, 1889. Later the name was changed to Saengerkranz Harmonie.

The first conductor of the society was Henry Von Oppen, who served for 31 years. He was succeeded by Karl Rehzek, the former conductor of the Leipzig State Opera, and subsequently by Ludwig Lohmiller, who directed the society for the next 25 years.

Janssen and Rose purchased lots 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 in Rush and Flood's subdivision of Turner's subdivision of Block 10 in the triangle formed at the intersection of Ashland and Lincoln north of Belmont in June, 1888, for \$22,000. A year later Rose sold his interest to Janssen at a profit of \$2,000.

Janssen subsequently sold the property to members of the Church family who leased it to Sam and Joseph Grossman for 40 years from May 1, 1908, for a total rental of \$160,800, or about \$4,000 a year, graduated each year with taxes paid by the tenant.

John Heim established his real estate office in 1888 at what is now 3148 N. Ashland, south of Belmont Avenue, on a portion of what had been Steinbeck's truck garden, where Lake View women had been accustomed to buying potatoes, cabbages, and other fresh vegetables. Heim regarded his office as the oldest in point of service to individuals in the buying and sale of Lake View real estate.

A new commercial tenant moving into the area in 1888 was Louis Heineman, who established an ironworks at 1535 Melrose.



LAGER BEER WAS POPULAR. The Math Jung tavern on the corner of the Lincoln-Ashland triangle was a popular gathering place for lovers of good German beer. Whether the people in front are customers, or not is now hard to determine, but all looked happy!

Another important real estate transaction at this time was the sale by Catherine Weckler, a subdivider, of the triangular plot between Ashland and Lincoln just south of Belmont to Laurent Clody, a saloon keeper at Byron and Clark. How many lots were involved is not certain, but it had been a part of the original William Lill and heirs of Michael Diversey subdivision plot.

Clody later sold the property to Math Jung in 1889. In later years it became the site of the Howard Theater (not to be confused with the one on Howard Street), which many oldtimers in Lake View still remember from their childhood days. Fay Howard, with her husband Loren, managed the theater, where they produced melodramas assisted by two children they had befriended and any other actors available from time to time.

A Lake View landmark established in 1888 was Schroeder's Piano Store. Herman Schroeder came to the United States from Germany in 1884 at the age of 24. A piano maker by profession, he started building pianos by hand on the second floor over a tavern south on Ashland Avenue.



A LAKE VIEW LANDMARK in 1888 was Schroeder's Piano Store. This was at 1870 Ashland Avenue. When Ashland Avenue was widened in 1930, the old frame store was torn down and replaced with a modern two story brick structure still in operation. Pictured here are Anna Schroeder, and her two children Selma and Fred, about 1900.

So prosperous had his business become, he decided to expand into larger quarters to include display space for the selling of his product. He opened his first store at 1870 Ashland. In 1900 he moved the business to its present location at 3409 N. Ashland.

Herman died in 1907, and his widow turned over the running of the business to her two sons. Paul, then 21 and an expert piano tuner, and Fred, who was 19, a recent graduate from the Metropolitan Business College. The old storefront was replaced with a modern one, and a year later they built a two-story brick repair and storage shop at the rear.

When Ashland Avenue was widened in 1930, the old frame store was torn down and replaced with a modern two-story brick structure where the business has continued to flourish.

Paul died in 1949, but Fred married the former Rose Brieske, daughter of Lorenz Brieske. Together Rose and Fred have carried on the family tradition.

The Brieske family owned the 2800 block on the west side of Southport from Wolfram to George. At the corner of George was the tavern owned by Lorenz, which he operated from 1881 to 1909. At the corner of Wolfram was a tavern owned by Julius.

Julius also operated a butcher shop next to his tavern, and his brother, Robert, operated a shoe store next to the butcher shop.

PROPOSAL FOR ANNEXATION TO CHICAGO

At the beginning of 1889 the city of Chicago comprised about 36 square miles, but the desire to expand was becoming more and more insistent, with supporters both within the city and beyond its borders in the adjacent villages. But there was also strong opposition in both camps.

Clustered within the city of Lake View were several pioneer communities such as Pine Grove, Wright's Grove, Ravenswood, Gross Park, Cuyler, Summerdale, Andersonville, Buena Park, Edgewater, Cedar Lawn and Argyle Park, in all of which local loyalties ran high.

But mounting financial problems to support expanding school enrollments, fire and police protection, local improvements, and a host of other expenses to which a growing community falls heir, were becoming more and more difficult to solve with existing tax revenues. To the officials involved, a merger with Chicago was deemed to be the only alternative though it was realized this would not meet with popular support.

A strong advocate for annexation to Chicago was David Goodwillie, who argued in part:

"I need scarcely go further in this matter. When we recognize the growth of families in Lake View and the multiplication of children as compared with Chicago, the want of assets in Lake View and no prospect of ever having such an amount of assets at our disposal as necessary, who that will look at this question intelligently will say that the time has not come for annexation to Chicago? . . .

"The constantly increasing value of Chicago as a business center necessitates removal of families to cheaper lands. Chicago is depleted of its families and children, and Lake View gains them . . . there never will be the mass of capital in Lake View that there is in Chicago in proportion to its square miles. It is a locality peculiarly fitted for the homes of the working classes. Cable cars and steam roads, and fresh clean property at low prices invite such people here".

ANNEXATION TO CHICAGO APPROVED

In spite of the long and sometimes bitter fight waged by many of Lake View's loyal opposition, the annexation ordinance was approved by the Chicago City Council on June 29, 1889, to become effective

July 15 that same year. It was also approved by the voters at an election held in Lake View on June 29.

But even then for many Lake View residents, the battle was not yet concluded. As a result of a series of meetings, the mayor forced the issue into the courts by refusing to turn over any of the township funds to the treasurer of Chicago "after demand duly made".

A test case was brought involving school funds. All of the arguments presented to the court were given full judicial consideration and ultimately passed on by the Illinois Supreme Court, whose decision upheld the validity of the annexation ordinance.

Several other outlying communities were included in the ordinance, but Lake View was the largest and most influential. By annexation, 57 post offices were brought under control of the Chicago Post Office.

For years it was recommended to insure correct delivery that the name of the previous post office be included in the address as well as Chicago, such as Lake View, Chicago. This was advisable because of the fact that there were many duplicating street names in the various towns taken over by similar annexation.

By annexing Lake View, the area of Chicago was increased by approximately 10 square miles; $4\frac{3}{4}$ miles north from Fullerton to Devon, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Lake Michigan to the North Branch of the Chicago River.

A DECADE OF URBAN EXPANSION

Even before annexation became effective, the city of Lake View was fast becoming an urban center rather than a rural community. Productive farms were being transformed into housing subdivisions and dirt roads cut through.

Small shopping and business groupings had been springing up at strategic intersections. Lincoln-Belmont-Ashland had already become a hub of commercial activity. An increasing number of gymnastic halls, musical societies, outdoor beer gardens and picnic groves provided leisure hour diversions.

The decade of the 1890s witnessed the continued building of industrial plants along the southern boundary and along the railroad right-of-way, as well as the opening of commercial ventures to service the nearby residential neighborhoods which were being developed for plant workers.

With the improvement of transportation facilities, better roads and the opportunity to find jobs and acquire modest homes at a reasonable cost, a movement of people from the more crowded areas of Chicago gained momentum.

For reasons that appear unjustified, the name of Sulzer Road was changed to Montrose by statute, September 26, 1892. That year Frederick Sulzer died at 54.

Over on Sheffield, a fireproof multiple-story building was erected in 1890 by the Ellison Storage Warehouse for the temporary storage of household furniture, pending removal to permanent quarters. Charles Baumann and Company opened its real estate office on Lincoln south of Barry in 1899.

Anderson and Armstrong, roofing contractors, established their business at 3234 Sheffield in 1891.

John Congdon opened a paint store at Lincoln and Wrightwood in 1893. Five years later, Koretz took over the business and hired a horse and buggy to deliver his orders.

August C. Reimer's drug store, opened in 1894 at 2780 Lincoln Avenue, has served the neighborhood ever since.

Christ Kauspe who had owned and operated a furniture store on Belmont just west of Ashland since 1883, decided to enter the undertaking business as well. With a loan of \$100, he became a funeral director in 1890, a business members of his family have continued.

Two years later, Ernest E. Schmidt established a funeral parlor on Belmont just beyond Western. It, too, has remained in the family for three generations, since 1892.

In 1896, Max Mittlacher opened a tailor shop at the corner of Lincoln and Belmont.

NATIONAL TEA COMPANY

This large food chain had its start in 1899 in the grocery store of George Rasmussen, a Danish immigrant, at what is now 1328 Belmont, just east of the location of a National Tea Store today.



THE BEGINNING OF NATIONAL TEA. This is a picture taken about 1929 showing three buildings no longer standing. At the far left is the first Lake View Bank & Trust Company; in the center is the popular Meyer's Drug Store; and at the right the National Tea Company's Store which had its genesis in Lake View township.

PICKLE FARM

On Western at Berwyn, flourished the Budlong Pickle Farm where many Lake View women found employment in the field, harvesting cucumbers in season. To transport them, a farm wagon with planks across the body, called daily at Lincoln and Belmont to pick them up.

Mrs. Ella Krengle, a life-long resident of Lake View, born in 1895 at Ashland and School, then numbered 1785 Ashland, recalled that a livery stable was located across the street from her home. Farther down the street was Shamberg's junk yard, but she does not recall other buildings nearby.

In the files of the Chicago Historical Society is the transcript of an interview with a "German dry goods merchant on Lincoln Avenue since 1904."

Although unidentified, it is clear that this merchant was H.C. Struve, who opened the first dry goods store in Lake View at 3167 Lincoln Avenue.

He retired in 1929, at which time he sold the store to Goldblatt Brothers.

The Historical Society's transcript quotes Mr. Struve as follows:

"I came to this country in 1881 as a child. I had had some schooling in Germany, and went to school for a short time in this country. Then I started working for Cyrus Lippe, a man who had come from the east, and who made shoes. Mr. Lippe made the first welt shoe by machine, and it changed the shoe business in Chicago a great deal. Previous to that all shoes were made by hand and required expert workmanship. In 1891, I had my own shoe store at Chicago and Wood streets.

"I remained in the shoe business until March 4, 1904, when I started this dry goods store on Lincoln Avenue. It was the first dry goods store in this district, and was a large store for the time.

"In 1904, Lincoln Avenue had just been paved with cedar blocks, and still is for that matter, for it is quieter when there is as much traffic on a street as there is on Lincoln Avenue. Russels had a planing mill down the street for a time, but it wasn't there long.

"Many Germans worked in the Deering Harvester Works in the old days. I can remember when the greatest fear these people had was to be laid off work, for employment was not plentiful then. Wages were so low; carpenters worked for ten hours a day making boxes, and even the foreman got only \$2.00 a day.

"In 1884, Ashland was a plank road. We didn't have much amusement in those days, but we always had a good time. We used to go to Ogden's Grove on Clybourn near Halsted, and we did have good times there."

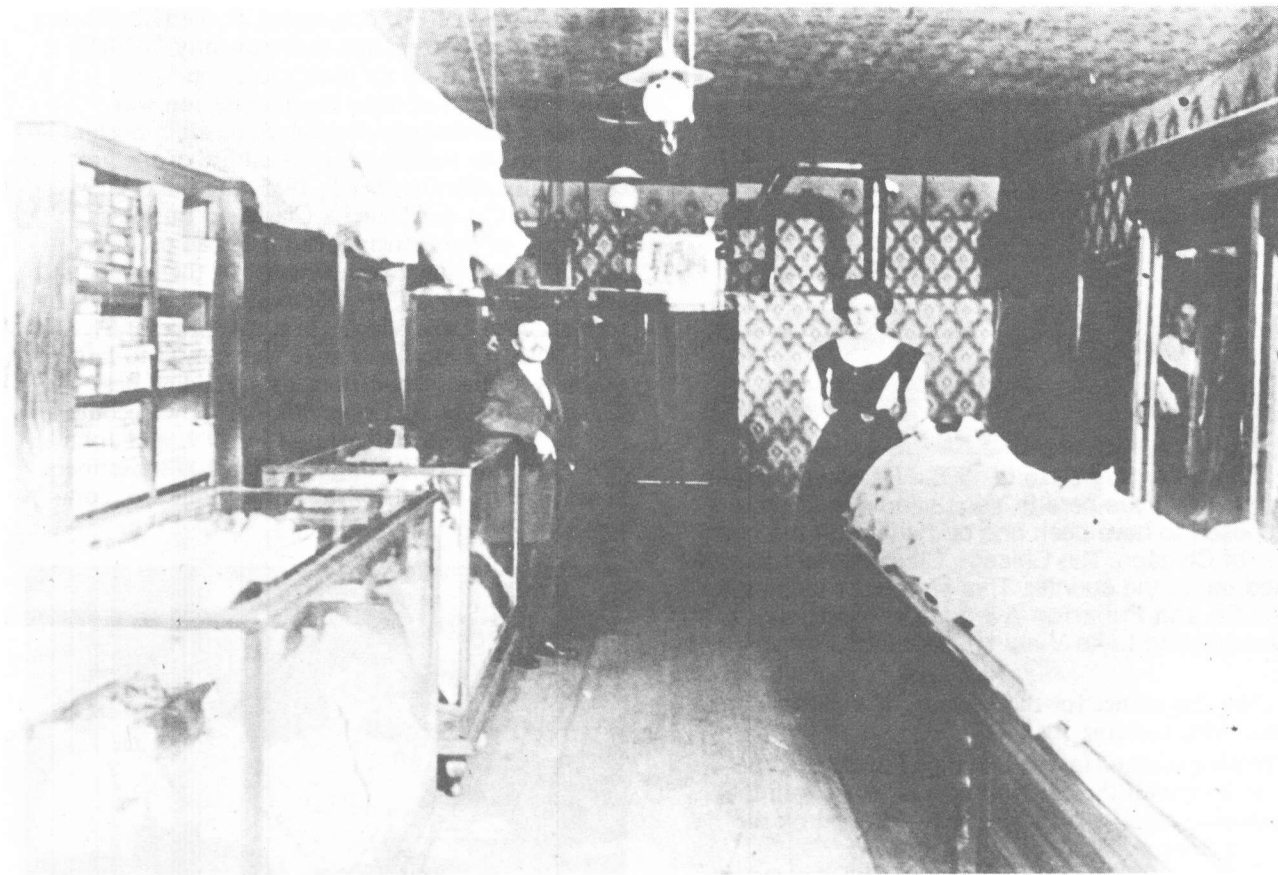
GIRDING FOR THE FUTURE

By 1900, Lake View had definitely won its spurs as a vital, thriving community. It never had been a boomtown and was not now. Rather it could be said it knew where it was going and was on its way. Its growth was persistent, but never flashy.

It had developed over the years that the prosperity of the area, its strategic location as the hub of converging arteries of travel and the ease of access to its markets from surrounding communities afforded by constantly improving means of transportation made secure Lake View's reputation as one of the most important marketing, cultural and residential communities in these parts.

Among the events worthy of note during 1900 was the extension of the existing car lines into the commercial section of the town. Up to this time, one line ran up Clark Street from the river to what had been the city limit at Fullerton.

The other, regarded by Lake View natives as the "main line," ran from the river along Lincoln Avenue to the car barns at Wrightwood, a distance of 3¾ miles. By 1900 the "main line" was extended



FIRST READY-TO-WEAR STORE for women. No date is given for this picture, but it shows the interior of Hart's "Ladies' Ready-To-Wear" store located at the original site, 1021 Lincoln Avenue.

Later, it was moved to 3130 Lincoln Avenue.—Courtesy, Ravenswood-Lake View Historical Society.

to Belmont Avenue, where a turntable was in operation.

In spite of improved transportation to downtown Chicago, Lake View continued to attract new retail shops and service organizations to the shopping areas developing along Lincoln, Belmont and Ashland Avenues, and at other strategic marketing locations.

One of the new stores opening at this time was a ladies' ready-to-wear shop owned by William S. Hart at 1031 Lincoln Avenue (later numbered 3130.) This store had the distinction of being the first of its kind in Lake View and remained a fashion leader for more than 50 years.

Many of the buildings erected in these early days were typical pioneer structures and not suitable for more than limited tenure, while awaiting the time when the advance of urban development would make their replacement an economic necessity. To date, Lake View had been building to meet the demands of the day; now she must start rebuilding with an eye to the future.

One of the early victims was the structure at the northwest corner of Belmont and Lincoln that housed the popular tavern run by William Kalms. The one-story building, surmounted by a bevy of large beer and merchandise advertising signs, was wrecked



MANY OF THE BUILDINGS built in the early days have been torn down—such is the price of progress. One of the early victims was this structure on the northwest corner of Belmont and Lincoln Avenues, which housed the popular tavern of William Kalms. When the new building took its place, Kalms' was still on the street level of a two story brick structure. —Courtesy, Ravenswood-Lake View Historical Society.



THIS WAS A drug store in 1895. The soda fountain that you can see here in Vogelsang's drug store is supposed to have been one of the first on the north side of Chicago. The Chicago City Directory is propped up on the counter. This store was located on Lincoln and Fullerton Avenues.—Courtesy, Ravenswood-Lake View Historical Society.

to clear the corner for the erection of a modern two-story brick building.

William Kalms' tavern continued to occupy the street level with the addition of a rathskeller in the basement. A series of offices was provided on the second floor.

The year 1901 opened and closed with destructive fires. In January of that year, the Sociale Turnhalle was gutted by fire with a property loss estimated at \$15,000. Insurance of \$6,000 and a never-say-die spirit enabled the members to launch a rebuilding fund immediately. By October of the same year, the building had been restored.

Toward the close of the year, a more destructive fire occurred on December 15, 1901. The fire, which started at 5 a.m., totally destroyed the car barns at Lincoln and Wrightwood. It was not until noon of that day that the stubborn blaze was brought under control.

The property loss to the transit company was estimated at \$125,000. The firemen were seriously handicapped by frozen hydrants resulting from the extreme cold. The temperature at the time was recorded at 11 degrees below zero, and the whole immediate area was enshrouded in a blanket of ice.

The fire was said to have been caused by an overheated stove in one of the cars housed overnight in the barns. A total of 200 cars were destroyed including 100 summer cars and practically all of the cable cars used on the Lincoln Avenue line. Horse cars were substituted until cable cars would be sent over from the West Side barns.

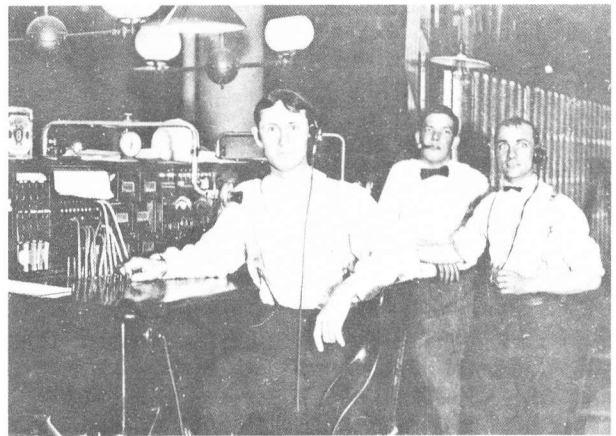
COMPANY BUILDS NEW HOME

One practical yardstick for measuring the growth of a community has long been the number of telephones in service. Mention has been made of the first long distance line installed between Lake View

and Chicago in 1870, originating at the Hills Tavern at Leland and Green Bay. Subsequently, in 1879, a switchboard was set up at this location.

By this time telephone communication was becoming increasingly recognized as an important adjunct to the business and social life of the growing community. On October 1, 1883, the Lake View Telephone Co. published a Classified Business Directory of the Principal Businessmen of Lake View, "containing a complete list of the residents and business houses, together with miscellaneous information of Lake View," at a sale price of \$1.

In 1891, the local exchange was moved to larger quarters on the second floor of a building near Clark and Belmont. Lake View had now become a part of Chicago by annexation in 1889, and John Hill's switchboard serving less than 100 subscribers, became a link in the Chicago Telephone Co. complex.



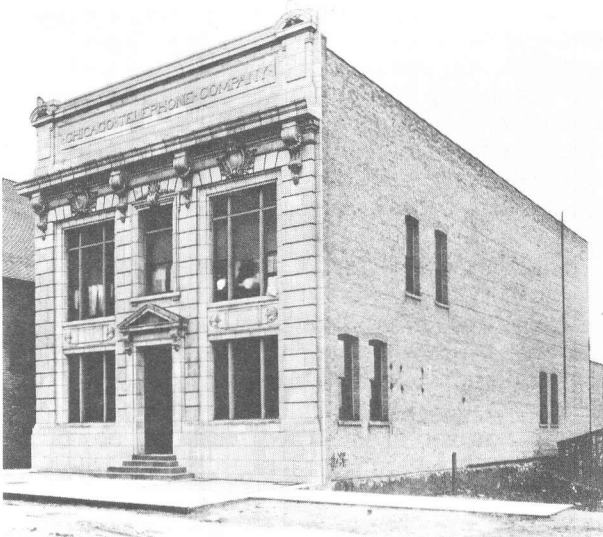
HERE IS A PICTURE of the first switchboard operator sometime in 1891 for the Lake View Telephone Company. There were less than 100 subscribers—the telephone was still an interesting gadget.

During these formative years, frequent demonstrations were conducted to convince prospective subscribers that telephones were far more than an interesting gadget. With only 388 telephones in service by the end of 1896, this number had increased in 10 years to approximately 3,300.

To provide for the anticipated growth of the community, the Lake View Central office in 1901 erected a home of its own and moved its facilities to 3522 Sheffield.

MERCHANTS—PAST AND PRESENT

Another first for the Lake View business community came in 1902, when Dr. Christian Keller, an optometrist, Charles Siegler and Jacob Mandelbaum, owner of a hardware store at 3430 Lincoln, formed an advertising committee to promote a cooperative advertising program for the community. This was the foundation of the Lincoln-Belmont-Ashland Business Association.



A MODERN TELEPHONE BUILDING (1905). To provide for the anticipated growth of the Lake View community, the Lake View Central Telephone Company erected a home of its own at 3522 Sheffield Avenue.—Courtesy, Ravenswood-Lake View Historical Society.

Among the past presidents were John Dahm, Sanford Abrams, Owen Brumbaugh and Herbert Klee, whose father, Simon Klee, purchased the corner lot at Belmont and Ashland from the Daniel Steinbeck family in 1903.

It was in this year, also, that Peter Merz opened his drug store at Lincoln and George. He was one of the oldest registered pharmacists in Chicago. The Merz name was a household word, and the Merz drug store remains a Lake View landmark. Lee N. Merz, the son, took over the business after the death of his father in 1930.



EARLY MILK DELIVERY. At the turn of the 20th century, your friendly milkman traveled the streets of Lake View in a vehicle similar to this one. A dairyman of local notice was the John Eich Dairy Company. Here is a picture of the boss on one of his daily deliveries.—Courtesy, Ravenswood-Lake View Historical Society.

The merchants coming into the area the last ten years of the 19th century represented a broad diversification of services and essential products. Here they found both a growing market and a skilled labor force. They were here to stay and stay they did.

There can be few old timers who are not familiar with the Wetterling name. Charles F. Wetterling, Sr. came to Lake View in 1891. The retail store of Charles Wetterling and Sons, Inc., was opened in 1903 at 1540 Belmont. On the upper floors sausage was smoked and meat processed, and also at the wholesale plant at 1244 George. The business is still a Lake View industry.

Max A.R. Matthews at 1228 Belmont, is another pioneer merchant dating from the turn of the century. Until he was past 90, he was active in the business of mill supplies.

Max A.R. Matthews & Co. continues to function at the same address under the direction of Herbert Matthews. There can be few plants in Lake View whose maintenance has not benefited at one time or another from the Matthew father and son service.



THE HORSES' home at 837 Belmont Avenue was Campbell & Simpson's blacksmith's shop, a busy place for horses. Notice the horseshoe signs on the front of the building. No date is given for the picture.—Courtesy, Ravenswood-Lake View Historical Society.

Not all the men may be as familiar with Weicker's Bakery as were their wives. Opened in 1904 at 3358 N. Ashland, it remained a favorite bakery for half a century.

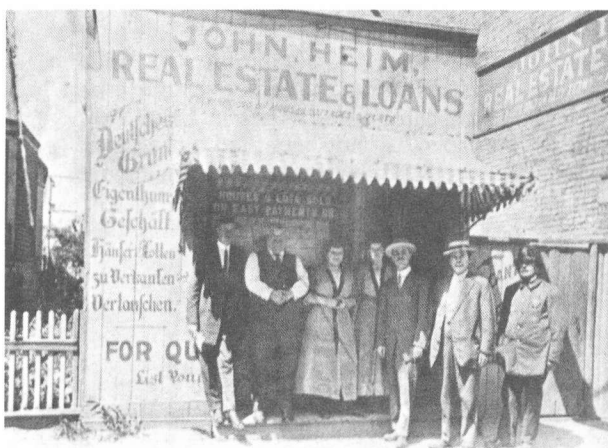
Prominent among the early pioneer business families was that of Jacob Jaffee, who opened Williams Smart Shop on Lincoln Avenue just north of Belmont in 1913. The business has been owned and operated continuously by the family since its founding.

Sol and William Jaffe, who took over the management of the business on the death of their father, have continued to run the business at 3146 Lincoln. They have long made their home in an apartment over the store.

Some time prior to the purchase of the corner lot at Belmont and Ashland by Simon Klee in 1903, Mrs. B.C. Weber, the only child of Daniel Steinbeck, moved the frame cottage built by her father in 1880 from the corner to 3132 N. Ashland.

Here she made her home until about the middle 1940s, when she sold the homestead to Ald. Charles Weber. He added an imitation storefront and converted the building into his newspaper office.

Folklore in the neighborhood has it, that before being moved from the corner location, Steinbeck's widow rented the first floor to a variety of business tenants from produce distributors to cigar and candy vendors. Pat Haines and John Heim are said to have had their early real estate offices here.



IN 1888, John Heim established his real estate office at what is now 3148 Ashland Avenue, on a portion of what had been Steinbeck's truck garden. His business was probably the oldest in point of service of any real estate dealers in the Lake View community. The heavy set man, second from left, is John Heim himself.

In contrast to the other suburban communities absorbed by Chicago, in 1889, Lake View, with a corporate existence for a period of years previously, strove valiantly to maintain a civic pride in its own institutions and a show of independence.

This, however, they were finding increasingly difficult to do in an expanding commercial economy without even the simple textbook functions of a local bank; namely, the gathering, lending and transferring of money.

Lake View merchants and businessmen had shown a remarkable recuperative power from the economic dislocations of 1903, but there was a feeling abroad that "we must look to the bankers to make prosperity a more orderly affair."

A new sophistication was in the air. Whereas a century ago folks were supposed to have only 72 "wants" of which 16 were necessities, they were said to have acquired 464 "wants" by the turn of the century of which about 94 were regarded as essential.

Be that as it may, folks in Lake View were convinced they should have a bank of their own.

Fortunately for the citizens of Lake View, a group of financial backers in the inner city, who were like-minded, was recruited. An organization committee was shortly formed, a state bank charter applied for and granted, and on November 20, 1905, the promise of a local bank became a reality with the opening of the Lake View Trust and Savings Bank, the first to be organized on the North Side.

A YEAR OF PARADOX AND GROWTH

However, two serious disturbances occurred during the year. A teamsters union strike created such turmoil and mob violence, a group of inner-city banks spent \$50,000 for special police protection. A petition was sent to the governor, requesting he call out the National Guard to restore order and protect property.

As the year was drawing to a close, the people of Chicago were shocked to learn on Monday, December 18, 1905, that the Chicago National Bank, Homes Savings Bank, and Equitable Trust Co. all had closed their doors in failure. The three banks had been under the direction of John R. Walsh, an able and respected banker who had twice been president of the Chicago Clearing House.

What might have been a serious blow to banking confidence may have been tempered somewhat by the fact that the year as a whole was one of the most prosperous the city had ever experienced.

A PROSPEROUS YEAR

The year as a whole was one of the most prosperous the city had ever experienced, in spite of the strike and bank closings.

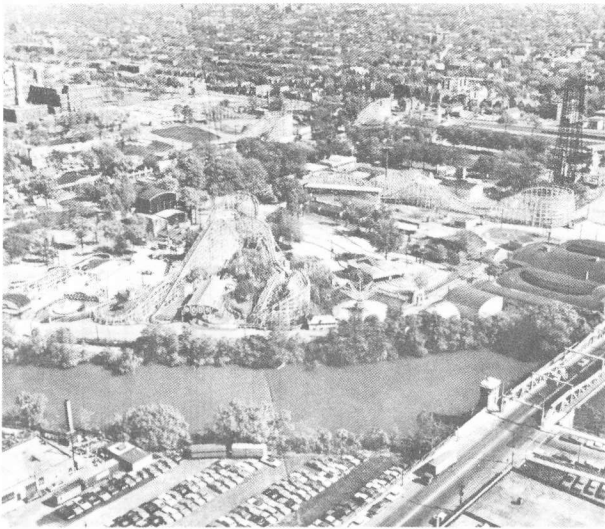
Two firms were established in the Lake View area, for example, which indicated this prosperous growth in the business community.

E. Schoenberger & Son opened a commercial printing shop at 3303 Lincoln Avenue, that is still operated by the family, although the plant has been relocated at 3439 Lincoln Avenue.

The second firm, attesting to the community prosperity was Klee Brothers. Organized by Simon Klee, one of Lake View's pioneer merchants, they erected a store and office building on the southwest corner of Belmont and Lincoln. The Klee family, father, and son Herbert, who succeeded his father in the management of the business, has been actively identified with the Lake View's commercial and civic development for more than 25 years.

A FUN SPOT FOR SIX DECADES

William Schmidt, known as the father of River-view Park, had owned and operated a popular German bakery on Clybourn Avenue since the early township days, but his avocation was sharpshooting. He and a group of friends indulged their hobby each weekend at an abandoned brick yard largely isolated in a swamp area devoid of transportation except through overgrown trails by foot along the Chicago River at Belmont and Western.



RIVERVIEW AS IT WAS. Many people in Lake View and in Chicago spent delightful hours at this Amusement Park which started out to be private shooting grounds. This air-view of Riverview Park was taken in 1967, just before it was torn down.

As Mr. Schmidt watched these weekend excursions develop into family outings for more and more of his friends, he decided to acquire the 70 acre tract on his own, and turn it into more than a rifle and gun range.

As his plans developed, it took on the appearance of a picnic ground, and in 1903, it became known as Schuetzen Park. To provide amusement for the children who accompanied their parents, small rides and other recreational equipment were installed.

In 1905, the name was again changed, this time to Riverview Sharpshooter's Park.

The year following, a group of Swiss-Italian woodcarvers was brought to this country by a Philadelphia company. George, the son of William, had by this time become active in promoting the park as a commercial venture, commissioned these woodcarvers from abroad to build a merry-go-round, to be installed in the park, such as he remembered seeing in Berlin's Tiergarten on a boyhood trip with his parents.

The Carousel was completed and delivered in 1908. The hand carved prancing steeds in their brilliant colors were fittingly installed in the Park, where they continued to delight the hearts of a host of children for half a century.

In 1908, it was incorporated as Riverview Park Company, but by 1967, it had outlived its usefulness, and the park was closed. George Schmidt's widow and son, William, then sold the property for redevelopment.

POPULAR RECREATIONAL AREAS

One of the natural advantages of Lake View from the earliest days has been its lakeshore location. For many years the Lake View House, with its expansive panorama of Lake Michigan, was the center of a summer colony of affluent Chicagoans.

To the north at the foot of Wilson Avenue, in its heyday before the First World War, was one of the North Side's most popular bathing beaches. A so-called pavilion, along with wooden cubicles for the bathers, stood on a sloping stretch of sandy beach.

Jutting out into the lake from the shore was a long pier on which wooden benches were provided for the nonbathers to watch the aquatic participants or to soak up the sun and fresh air off the lake.

This popular recreational facility was replaced later by Clarendon Beach a few blocks south, but it never acquired the following that had flocked to Wilson Beach. It was a municipal project with an up-to-date bathing pavilion, but for some reason lacked the romance and social significance associated with Wilson Beach for the postwar generation.

Possibly it did not last long enough to attract a following as it fell victim to the lakeshore landfill program shortly after it was constructed and was left high and dry about a mile from the new shoreline.

Not far distant from the popular lakeshore recreational area was an equally popular baseball park, which for North Side fans dates from 1916. For some 10 years it was known as Cubs Park, but in 1926 it was officially named Wrigley Field in honor of William Wrigley Jr., who died in 1932.

The Chicago Whales of the Federal League had played there in 1914-15. Subsequently the league became baseball history and the Cubs moved in from the old West Side park in 1916.

The original seating capacity had been limited to 14,000, but with major improvements, which came in 1922-23, the capacity was increased to 20,000. It was not long, however, before a further revamping of the park became necessary to accommodate the expanding attendance. The grandstand was double-decked in 1926-27, and in 1937 improved bleachers were built.

Since that time the park has been progressively improved for the convenience of the fans and beautified with ivy covering the outfield walls. In spite of the millions of dollars expended in building mammoth ball parks in other parts of the country with lighted fields for night games, Wrigley Field remains the most beautiful baseball park in the country, so much so that it has become a baseball tradition among lovers of the sports.

The reputation of Lake View has profited enormously by being the home of Wrigley Field, and to preserve the integrity of Lake View as a residential community, the Wrigley family had steadfastly refused to install lights on the field for fear night baseball would be an unwelcome intruder, affecting the security and property values of the neighborhood.

However, in 1981 the Tribune Company bought the team from the Wrigley family. At that time, the Cubs assured residents that they would not install lights. Then, in the summer of 1984, the Chicago Cubs won their first divisional championship in 39 years. An edgy Lake View Citizens' Council met with Superintendent Rice to find out how he



AERIAL VIEW of Wrigley Field from the bleachers. In 1984 the Cubs won their first National

League East Championship since 1945.

planned to handle crowds and traffic if a World Series were actually held here. Ultimate victory, however, once again eluded the Cubs. Fans consoled themselves that there'd always be next year. What wouldn't wait until next year, however, was the Wrigleyville neighborhood's ongoing battle to keep night baseball out of Cubs park. Groups like C.U.B.S. (Citizens United for Baseball in Sunshine) had at first thought the issue had been settled once and for all with the passage of city and state laws

effectively banning night games at Wrigley Field. But in late 1984, Baseball Commissioner Peter Ueberroth allegedly ordered the Cubs owners, the Tribune Company, to file suit challenging the constitutionality of those laws. Ueberroth later denied actually ordering the Cubs to install lights. But he did admit to giving them a choice of either moving some post-season games out of town, or getting those ordinances repealed.

PASSING THROUGH



MOVIE STARS IN LAKE VIEW. The Essanay Studio, at 1345 Argyle Street, was an active business in the center of the front row is every girl's heartthrob Francis X. Bushman. He had his

arm around sexy Beverly Bayne. Would you believe on his far left, Gloria Swanson? —Courtesy, Ravenswood-Lake View Historical Society

THESE BROUGHT FAME TO LAKE VIEW

No history of Lake View would be complete without at least a partial listing of its many citizens who either were born here, or lived here, and then went on to fame and fortune in entertainment, sports, or politics.

Perhaps the greatest of the show business personalities is Gloria Swanson, a graduate of Hawthorne Grammar School and whom Lake View High School, as well as Senn, claims as an alumnus. She and Wallace Berry and Ben Turpin, he of the x-rated eyes, got their start at the old Essanay Studios on Argyle, before Hollywood beckoned.

Lake View High School was the stomping ground of one of the world's greatest ventriloquists, Edgar

Bergen. It was also the home base of another outstanding ventriloquist, Jimmy Nelson.

In a more contemporary vein, there is Director Bob Fosse, who, in 1973, ran away with an Oscar, an Emmy, and a Toni award, a never-before equalled accomplishment. Some of Bob's relatives still live in the area.

There are many more who made it in the big time: George Gobel, who used to play football with the Neighborhood Boys Club; Franklie Lane and the late Jack E. Leonard, both products of Lane Tech and dance marathons; Joe E. Lewis, who called Lake View his second home; Fibber McGee and Molly; radio and TV announcers Hugh Downs and Les Tremayne; plus a host of lesser lights of stage, screen and radio.

THE SPORTS WORLD

What neighborhood in the United States ever had three of its sons in the big leagues at the same time? It happened here with Phil Cavaretta of the Cubs, Ed Linke of the Washington Senators, and Arndt Jorgens of the New York Yankees. These three, as well as Frank Dasso, Jim Smilgoff, University of Washington Coach, and Jake Sommerfield, minor league star, all learned their baseball under Percy S. Moore of Lane Tech, the grand old man of prep baseball, who also won three national championships in American Legion Ball.

The community also had its big football star in Lou Gordon, who after his pro days were over, made it big as a National League official.

In basketball, was there ever a man who did more for the game than Abe Saperstein? He got his start as a rotund little manager at Welles Park, and went on to become the guiding genius and founder of the Harlem Globetrotters.

As for a local team, the group assembled to represent the Serbians, consisting of Bato Goverdarica, and Mike and Sam Vukovich, plus a couple of helpers won numerous national championships. These boys, as well as George Mikan, who lived here for a number of years, could hold their own with any present day pro team. There would have to be mentioned, Sid Yates, all-American from Lake View High, and an United States Congressman. Then there is little Sam Lutz, who played for Lane Tech in the 1920s, followed up his hard-court aggressiveness to the business world by becoming a big-time TV producer, best known for producing the Lawrence Welk shows for many years.

POLITICIANS, TOO!

Probably the most famous politician hereabouts was Mayor William Hale Thompson, "Big Bill," who lived at Lake Shore Drive and Belmont, and whose safety boxes, when opened, made the late Secretary of State Paul Powell's shoeboxes look like matchboxes. On the more positive side, there is the present Senior Senator from Illinois, Charles Percy, the "boy wonder" of Bell & Howell, then located at 1801 Larchmont in Lake View.

For a bit of political irony—in the early 1930s, there were three obscure supervisors at neighborhood parks here. Their names: Charles J. Fleck, George W. Dunne, and Peter J. Miller. Fleck, of course, became one of the biggest names in Illinois Republican circles as right hand man to Governor Bill Stratton, and was a Ward Committeeman.

Dunne steadily moved up the political ladder, and became President of the County Board. Miller was considered one of the most effective conservative voices in the General Assembly of Illinois, where he spent some 20 years.

There are probably other famous people from Lake View, whom old timers may remember. The listing above indicates some who will always be remembered and looked up to proudly.

REMEMBER THESE PEOPLE

Lake View has produced many famous people. For example, Governor John Peter Altgeld, the great liberal Chief Executive of Illinois, was the subdivider of the corner of Lincoln-Belmont-Ashland, Chicago's third largest retail shopping district located in the heart of Lake View.

John Haderlein the elder, who later was Postmaster of Chicago, was the first of a number of German Postmasters from Lake View. Remembered are: Arthur C. Lueder, Ernest Krieten, Carl Schroeder, Edward P. Saltiel, former State Senator, introduced the first premarital examination law in the United States. Later, it was adopted in all 50 states of the union. Alderman, and later Judge Oscar F. Nelson, was also Vice-President of the Chicago Federation of Labor. William N. Erickson started in Lake View as a star basketball player at Lane Tech. Later, he was the owner of the Blue Ribbon Laundry on Clark Street. He was also a former President of the Cook County Board of Commissioners, and a member of the County Board for more than 43 years.

There was William Feigenbutz, Alderman and Republican 45th Ward Committeeman. Fred Britten, a 12 term Congressman of the old 9th District has lost his longevity term to present Congressman Sidney R. Yates, who has served since 1948, with the exception of the loss of two terms (1962-1964) while he ran for the Senate, lost, and served one term as United Nations Ambassador. Joseph L. Gill, former State Representative, Clerk of the Municipal Court, and Ward Committeeman, holds the record as a delegate to the most Democratic Conventions. On one occasion, in 1952, he was Cook County Democratic Chairman. John Hoellen Senior, and John Hoellen Junior, father and son, both served as Aldermen of the 47th Ward. Arthur C. Dehmlow, member of the Lincoln Park Board of Commissioners, still has his name on a plaque on the monkey house at the zoo. The Honorable W. Bill Merryman came from the hills of Tennessee to become Alderman of the 45th Ward. Edwin F. Meyer, former old time sand lot baseball player and manager, was also 45th Ward Alderman. John Meyers was State Senator for two terms during the 1930s.

Famous old time Precinct Captains were Packy Schwartz, Frank Skibby Wagner, Joseph Fanta, Jerry and Jim Levatino, John Bud Smith-Bill Roeder, Howard LeCompte, Frank Niemetze, Louis Gianini, Frank West, Jimmy Resse, Herman Siems, Walter Marbach, Ray Schumacher, and Bunny Brian.

William E. Pollack, State Representative and Majority Leader of the House of Representatives of the Illinois General Assembly was a Lake View High School Alumnus. State Senator James Barbour was long remembered for his distinguished grey hair and the Senatorial splendor of his dress. Ralph Church and his wife both served in Congress, representing the old 10th District, covering Evanston and Lake View as well.

Probably the most legendary Lake View politician of all time, however, was Charles Weber who served 40 years as 45th ward Democratic committeeman, 32 years in the state legislature, 12 years in the City Council, and four years as a county commissioner. He organized seven playlots throughout the ward; sponsored annual picnics at Angel Guardian Orphanage; and held a "Kids Day" every summer at Riverview Park at which he typically passed out \$1,000 in \$1 bills. Weber may also have been the first Chicago public official to call for legislation requiring dog owners to pick up after their pets. "I know the dogs can't read," he once noted. "It's not their fault, it's their owners."



A REAL BASEBALL TEAM. Alderman Charlie Weber is long remembered for his support of numerous community activities in the Lake View area. Here is a picture of his team in 1929. At the far left is Edwin F. Mayer, former Alderman of the 45th Ward. Others pictured are (front row): Jugo, Mason, Wolf, Meyer, Schmidt, Beyer. Standing, left to right: Edwin Meyer, Glowienke, Waller, Petzold, Herrman, Collins, Hoehme, O'Neil, Klein.

Weber organized one of the city's first community cleanup campaigns and reportedly spent \$6,000 of his own money to buy the ward its own street sweeper, which he himself often liked to drive while wearing his Bavarian *liederhosen*. More than once, the "Burgomeister," as Weber liked to call himself, personally chased down litterbugs in his Cadillac. He even had ashtrays installed at selected bus stops. And he gave the 45th ward its own flag, which flew at Lincoln and Belmont during the late '50s.

Weber had been born in 1894 over his father's restaurant at 2924 North Southport Avenue; attended Saint Alphonsus School and DePaul University; and eventually made a small fortune in real estate, insurance, taverns, an ice cream parlor, a gas station, concessions at Riverview, and a neighborhood newspaper, "The Lake View Independent." He also reportedly made the best beer on the North Side during Prohibition. At the same time, however, some old-timers credit Weber with keeping the gangsters out of Lake View, despite alleged attempts by Al Capone to take over the action here. In 1933, Gus Wrinkler, a reputed Capone flunkly,

was riddled with 75 shotgun pellets outside a beer distributorship reportedly run by Weber at 1414 West Roscoe Street, but Weber was never suspected. "It was probably Bugs Moran (a Capone rival) who did that," a long-retired neighborhood businessman speculated 50 years later. "Weber's guy didn't kill anyone. Ever".

Some say Weber's biggest coup would have come on August 27, 1960, when Democratic Vice Presidential nominee Lyndon Johnson was to have appeared at a Riverview "Kid's Day" with a busload of local youngsters. But 11 days before that, Weber and his wife, Emma, were found dead of carbon monoxide poisoning in their home at 3601 North Wolcott Avenue. Police found a car engine running, and an open trapdoor leading to a crawl space into the house. Investigators said the gas was apparently sucked out of the garage and into the house through an air conditioning system as the Webers slept. The bulk of the Weber estate, including a yacht in Palm Beach, Florida, went to the alderman's longtime aide and confidante, Renee Clayton. The rumor was that the assets were a lot less than the originally estimated \$250,000. Weber's admirers noted at the time that he "spent it almost as fast as he made it, usually on other people." He himself had often said that "if you want to have a friend, you've got to be a friend." So perhaps it wasn't surprising that Saint Andrew's Church, which seats about 1,700, was filled to overflowing the day of the double funeral. Nor were many of the mourners astonished that Weber's longtime friend, Archbishop Bernard Sheil, felt comfortable enough to have been unusually candid in his funeral homily. "Charlie Weber was no saint," the prelate conceded. "May his time in Purgatory be short."

BROTHERHOOD ALWAYS

Since 1940, the Lake View Council on Religious Action has held annual banquets during Brotherhood Week in February. The organization has thus made an historical contribution to Lake View. The Council was the dream of the late Rev. John P. Heyworth of the Unity Unitarian Church. The dinners have also been sponsored by other community service clubs to swell attendance each year.

There seem to have been no awards given until 1954 and 1955 when plaques were received by the late Bishop Sheil and the Rev. John Heyworth.

The first Sheil Award was presented in 1956 to the late Rabbi Binstock. Then, in 1957, a plaque was given to the Rev. Mr. Heyworth. From 1958-1962, there were no awards.

The first Heyworth award was received in 1963 by Dr. Preston Bradley.

Beginning with 1964, the following prominent Lake View citizens have received this major Brotherhood Award each year: Dr. Sol. B. Kositchek; Harry Starr, Leo A. Lerner, David O. Taylor, Stephen B. Clark, Gene De Roin, Commander John P. Fahey, Rve. James Jay Kingman, Rev. George A. Rice, Michael S. Lerner, Burt Weise.

With 1970, there was the annual Sheil Award given to Carl Wirtz, Allen Hicks, Mnsgr. John S. Quinn, and Fr. Thomas Byrne.

The first Sol B. Kositchek award was given to Al Prisliger in 1973.

In 1974, awards were presented to Judge Kenneth R. Wendt, Sister Teresa Jordan of St. Sebastian's School and Dr. Lawrence L. Hirsch.

ROMAN CATHOLIC LEADERS

It has been conservatively estimated that more than 70 per cent of the people living in the Lake View area are Roman Catholics. It would seem a matter of historical interest that the parishes and their pastors, with the founding dates of the parishes, should be made a part of the Saga record:

1. Our Lady of Mt. Carmel (1886) 1912 John O'Brien, Patrick Gill, Mnsgr. Joseph Casey, Ernest Primo, and Thomas Byrne.
2. St. Andrew's 1894 Andrew Croke, David McDonald, William Griffin, Bishop Bernard J. Sheil, and Mnsgr. John Quinn.
3. St. Alphonsus 1882 Joseph Essing, Maximus Leimbürger, Henry Schagemann, Henry Weber, Wm. Loewekamp, Jos. Fairle, Jos. Beil, Nicholas Franzen, George Thomas, Peter Foerster, August Ahlert, John Diederich, Wenceslaus Steinbach, Henry Oenning, Edward Fastner, Francis Fagen, Joseph Hahn, Chas. Heing, Paul Schwartz, Norman Muckerman, Jos. Bilsley, Henry Novak, and T. William Coyle.
4. St. Benedict's 1902 Joseph Zimmerman, William Dettmer, Mnsgr. Walter Fasnacht, and Raymond Ackerman.
5. St. Bonaventure 1911 Martin J. McGuire, Mnsgr. William T. Long, and Vincent J. Moran, Leo P. Coggins, and Lucius B. Delire.
6. St. Clements's 1905 Mnsgr. Francis Rempe, Edward Leiser, George Knippen, and Robert Sauer.
7. St. Josaphat's 1883 Candid Kozlowski, Francis Lange, Mnsgr. Francis Ostrowski, Domini Zuchowski, and Anthony Wojtechki.
8. St. Sebastian's (1886) 1912 Edmund Byrne, James Cloonan, Edward Barron, and Joseph B. Kinane.

A NEW LIBRARY BUILDING

In 1939, a campaign was undertaken by The Booster publications and other neighborhood organizations to replace an "horse-and-buggy library" called the Broadway branch of the Chicago Public Library, located at 3317 Broadway.

Opened in 1917 in Butler house, the library was at first called the "Butler House Branch" with Miss Mabel Moderwell as its first librarian. Soon the branch outgrew its headquarters, and in 1922, moved to what was then considered adequate space. Miss Helene LaBerge served as librarian for eight years, and was succeeded by Miss Frances Rice.

The rapidly expanding neighborhood soon taxed the resources of the library. Spearheaded by the late

Leo A. Lerner's newspapers, and his efforts on the library board, and aided by community groups such as the Lake View Community Council and the North Side PTA Council, the neighborhood demands for improved facilities ended in success.

On November 20, 1941, ground was broken for a new library. Present were: Mrs. Dorothy Smith, librarian of the Broadway Branch at that time; Miss Jessie E. Reed, librarian of Hild regional library, and Mr. Lerner, then a library board member, together with representatives of neighborhood institutions and organizations.

Less than a year later, formal invitations were issued by the library board to the dedication on September 12, 1942, of the new branch library at 644 Belmont. Joseph B. Fleming, president of the board, in the course of his speech thanked Mr. Lerner as the prime mover in establishing the new facility.

Renamed "The Lake View Branch Library" to indicate the greatly broadened scope of community activities to be carried on, the branch was now under the direction of the new librarian, Mrs. Nellie M. Clark. Under her guidance the book collection and activities have expanded.

To name the community services the Library has offered during the past few years would take up too much space. A few of them may be noted:

Weekly concerts of recorded music; Lake View Discussion Group; nutrition groups, first aid classes and consumer services during World War II; Great Books group; a "Meet Your Neighbor" series presenting local personalities, and a weekly book-film program. There have also been exhibits of paintings, sculpture, photographs and hobbies provided by residents of the Lake View Community.

The Children's department has participated throughout, sponsoring war-time sewing groups, children's reading guidance classes for adults, story-telling hours, summer reading games and book services to Children's Memorial Hospital.

"BAD NEWS" TILLIE

"They were ploughing up the last celery patch in Lake View to make room for Weiblinger's saloon, when Bad News Tillie moved into the 3500 block of Ashland near Cornelia.

"Her advent was considerably more spectacular than the unloading of Gentry Brothers Circus half a block down the street, and was reviewed with unmasked intent by all kids of the neighborhood and most of the adults.

"Tillie didn't bring any moving van filled with the customary oddments of furniture generally revealed in such occasions. She was more practical. She appeared on the scene seated by the side of a steamroller behind which, on four stone-mason's trucks, was hitched a long, narrow two-story house.

"A moving crew got the house on its foundation before the day was out. In this work they were greatly encouraged by Tillie, who cursed them with a spectacular vocabulary in English, German, and

Luxemburg French.

"When they had finished, she chased away the kids, and retired through her somewhat inaccessible front door via a step-ladder attached to the house by wooden cleats.

"There are many stories about her. Her actual name was Mrs. Herman Goelz—she had a little, wispy husband whose apparent object in life was to keep out of her way.

"July 15, 1905, was a memorable day in that neighborhood. Tillie appeared in Frick's Grocery Store to buy a bar of soap, by which, she informed the grocer, she was going to "kill her no good husband." He and some male friends about him guffawed. The next day she came back and said she had done it. Frick called the police. They found Herman in a bath tub with the back of his head caved in. It seemed likely that he had slipped on a new cake of soap which lay at the bottom of the tub."

(She was supposed to have moved to a small truck

farm near Bensenville afterward.)

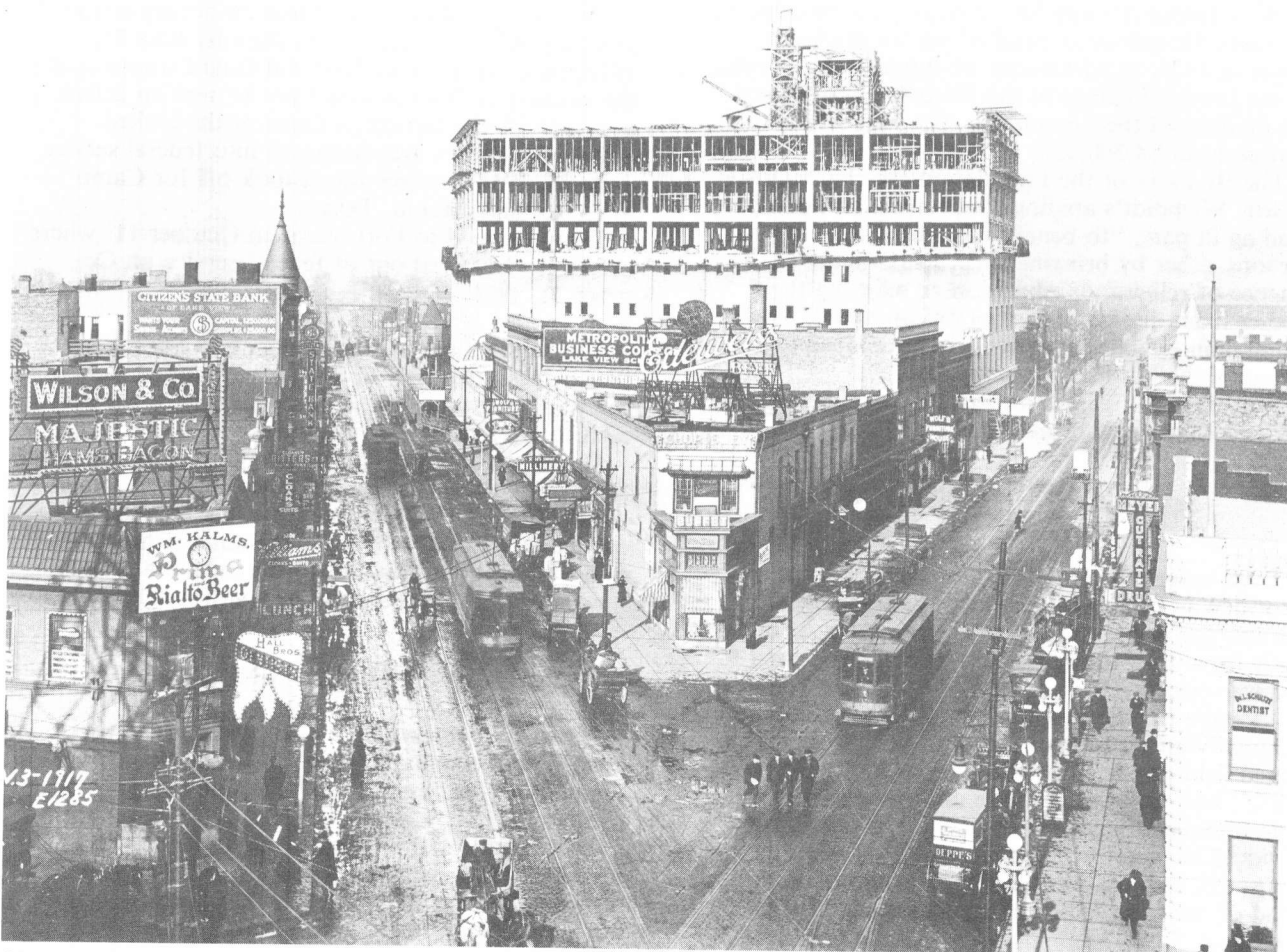
Chicago Herald
March 30, 1949

THE WIEBOLDT FAMILY AND FOUNDATION

William Adolph Wieboldt came to Chicago from Germany in 1871. Twelve years later, he opened his store on Grand Avenue in April 1883, becoming one of Chicago's pioneer merchants.

His interest in Lake View and potential for future development appears to have dated from 1911, when he began the erection of the Lincoln Building in the triangle formed by the intersection of Ashland and Lincoln, which had been the site of Math Jung's popular tavern, and the Howard Theater.

The building, a four-story brick combination commercial, theater and office structure, was completed in 1912, and here he established a North Side office. It was also the year that Elmer Wieboldt



STILL A FAMILIAR SIGHT. Here is a picture of the Lincoln-Belmont-Ashland corner about 1916. In the background can be seen the Wieboldt Store being erected. The Kalms tavern is at the lower left.

The corner of the Lake View Bank can also be identified.—Courtesy, Ravenswood-Lake View Historical Society.

became associated with his father in Wieboldt Stores, Inc.

In the year following, on February 18, 1913, he purchased additional property fronting on Ashland Avenue. Shortly, the Wieboldt's also purchased lots south from School Street between Ashland and Lincoln on which was built the main section of the present Wieboldt Store.

Construction of the eight-story building was begun in 1916, and completed just previous to Christmas 1917. Later an annex was built on the north side of School Street with a connecting passageway beneath the street.

Over a period of some 18 years, Wieboldt's also assembled several parcels of land between Otto Street (Henderson), and School Street, lying between the two connecting alleys east of Ashland for a parking lot.

On the west side of Lincoln, across from the store, they also acquired two improved lots as an investment. South of Belmont, on the east side of Lincoln, they also purchased lots in John P. Algeld's subdivision, which is now part of the Goldblatt Store property.

William A. Wieboldt clerked in his uncle's store on Blue Island Avenue for 12 years after he came to Chicago. He retired as head of the six Wieboldt stores in 1921, at which time he funded a large share of the family holdings in the Wieboldt Foundation. He established the Foundation that year with an initial grant of \$4,500,000.

The By-Laws of the Foundation are characteristic of Mr. Wieboldt's abiding love for his fellow man, reading in part, "to benefit an indefinite number of persons either by bringing their hearts under the influence of religion or education or relieving their bodies from disease, suffering or constraint, or maintaining public buildings or works otherwise lessening the burdens of government."

William A. Wieboldt died in 1954 at the age of 97, and Elmer at the age of 81.

WORLD WAR I

Even before the United States was drawn into World War I as an active participant, change became the order of the day in every facet of our daily lives. Everything we said or did was geared to the war effort.

"People for the first time used the word 'billion' familiarly and it became useful in describing the national debt or the amounts owed us by foreign countries," one writer said. "The undreamed costs of war stimulated ingenuity in devising taxes; the individual income tax became a real bite; estate taxes appeared; corporation taxes took a jump, and a new kind of specialist—the tax expert—made his first appearance."

In July, 1916, the first Illinois Field Artillery, which had only recently been expanded to two battalions composed largely of men from Lake View and the North Shore towns, was called out for ac-

tive duty and dispatched to the Mexican border together with National Guard units from various parts of the country, to suppress the raids harassing the border towns along the Rio Grande, led by Pancho Villa.

Considering the relatively small number of Mexican bandits involved, such a large force of American troops seemed somewhat excessive. There was a feeling among the troops that this was no more than a dress rehearsal for the conflict to come, a trial run in moving and supplying large bodies of troops in the field.

Observers remarked it was the first time since the Civil War that a whole division had maneuvered together in the field.

The regiment was returned to Fort Sheridan in November for return to civilian life, but these and other border-trained troops became the nucleus for recruiting student officers for the First Officers Training Camp at Fort Sheridan the following year.

Lake View's interest in this mobilization of National Guard units lies in the fact that Battery B of the First Illinois Field Artillery was located at 2356 Lincoln Avenue under command of Capt. Frank M. Course.

They were mobilized for Mexican border service at Camp Lincoln, Springfield, Illinois, June 21, 1916, but, inasmuch as National Guard troops under the existing militia law could not be sent on active duty outside the territorial limits of the United States, the battery was mustered into federal service June 26, 1916, and on July 4 took off for Camp Wilson, San Antonio, Texas.

They returned to Fort Sheridan October 11, where they were mustered out of federal service on October 31, 1916.

The steady flow of new settlers into Lake View that marked the early decade slowed appreciably as the war continued, but with the signing of the Armistice, the inflow was resumed.

During Lake View's formative years, German and Swedish settlers had predominated, but now other nationality groups had begun moving into the area, particularly Poles, Slovaks and Italians who settled in neighborhoods adjacent to the industrial plants the war had proliferated in the southwestern corner.

THE KIWANIS CLUB LENDS A HAND

Wherever one turned in 1921, there was a problem. For the captains of industry and finance or the man on the street it was the same except for magnitude.

To organize and implement such efforts they turned to Kiwanis International, which had been founded January 21, 1915, with the purpose of giving guidance and direction to local groups concerned with helping to supply to the boys and girls in their community some of the advantages not otherwise available to them.

In the fall of 1921, on October 15, a group of

community leaders met together in a restaurant on Belmont Avenue, intent on forming a Kiwanis Club in Lake View. This group was expanded to 51 men by December 12, at which time they decided to apply for a local charter. This was granted by the International early in January, 1922.

Elmer F. Wieboldt was chosen to serve as the first president of the Kiwanis Club of Lake View.

True to the Kiwanis motto, "We Build," the club has been involved in countless projects to assist in supplying teaching and hearing aids to the schools, raincoats for crossing guards, day camp and recreational facilities and numerous grants to the local social agencies in supplementing their youth programs.

Under the leadership of Elmer Wieboldt, the club and its members spearheaded the drive to raise funds for the building of the Lincoln-Belmont YMCA. The list of the Kiwanis Club officers and directors during its 50 years of service to the community has been impressive and well might be regarded as a Who's Who in Lake View.

THE LINCOLN-BELMONT BOOSTER

Prompted no doubt by the hectic days of 1920-21, the Lake View merchants pooled their merchandising know-how to devise ways and means to regain the ground lost during the dark days of the Depression.

The outcome of this get-together was to appoint a committee headed by Sanford Abrams as Chairman to promote a cooperative advertising program. The committee included Elmer Wieboldt, H.C. Struve, Adolph Koretz, A.D. Bernstein and Oliver W. Cox.

The plan agreed upon was the joint sponsorship of a weekly advertising flyer, appropriately titled "Lincoln-Belmont Booster," extolling the virtues of shopping in Lake View, the largest and most convenient shopping center outside the Loop. In addition, it would carry in its advertising columns, the sales messages of the local merchants displaying the infinite variety and attractive values of the imported and domestic wares being offered in the local stores.

To initiate this plan of action, A. Orrie Caplan, in 1925, was retained as publisher and Leo A. Lerner as editor.

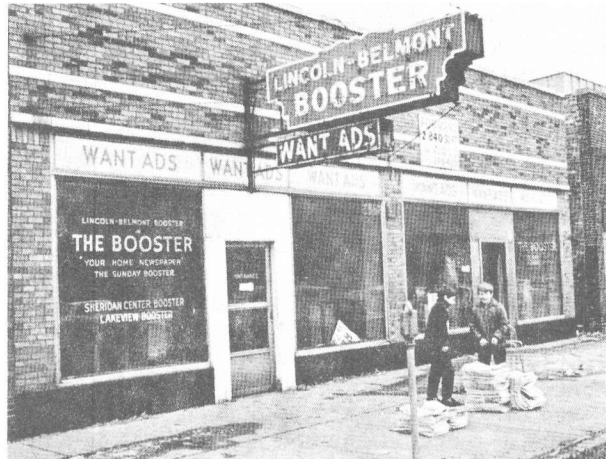
It was then the new owners decided to convert The BOOSTER to an integrated community newspaper. In 1943 Caplan and Lerner expanded the scope of their publishing business by the purchase of Myers Publishing Co. from Thomas F. Myers Jr., in whose plant The BOOSTER was being printed.

In 1949 Leo A. Lerner bought out Caplan's interest and assumed full control of the papers as their publisher. Shortly, this post was expanded to cover all of the Lerner North Side newspapers.

When the general offices of the publishing company were moved to the far North Side in 1947 to 7519 N. Ashland, Lake View had the good fortune to have Michael Lerner remain to run The BOOSTER from the old office on Greenview.

Leo Lerner died in 1965 after laying the founda-

tions for the world's largest chain of neighborhood newspapers, and was succeeded by his son, Louis, who later served as vice president of the Chicago Public Library board and U.S. Ambassador to Norway. Michael Lerner retired in 1980, Louis Lerner died in 1984. Six months later the papers were sold to Pulitzer Publications in St. Louis, while keeping their local identity.



THE ORIGINAL HOME. Pictured here is the first office of the Booster newspapers on Greenview Avenue.

Although mindful of the nationwide recognition and awards accorded the Lerner chain of newspapers for editorial content, makeup, and community involvement, Lake View has largely centered in The BOOSTER by reason of the many community improvements it has aided and abetted. Whether it be cooking schools or parking lots, better housing or improved schools, Christmas street decorations or neighborhood housekeeping, Mike Lerner and The BOOSTER could always be found in the middle exchanging blows with the politicians, if need be, but getting the job done. The Booster staff has served Lake View well for over 60 years.

MERCHANTS AND BUSINESSMEN

Alfred Eustance of the Economy Fuse Company, at Greenview and Diversey Avenues designed the snowmobile used by Admiral Byrd on his trip to the South Pole. Herman Siemund of the Greenview Manufacturing Company, designed the first mold for the Popsicle, frozen confection for kids. A.C. Buehler of the Victor Adding Machine Company, later Victor Comptometer, played football for the Hamlin Park Hanks in 1920, and during World War II helped build and develop the famous Norden Bomb site. Ernest E. Schmidt raced sulky and standard bred horses in the old race course that was situated in what is now the Waveland Park Golf Course. Milt Hirsch of the Hirsch Clothing Company, played football on the University of Illinois team in the 1930s. Oliver Cox, of the Lake View Trust & Savings Bank, and Ed Burmeister were

semi-pro baseball players. Herbert Klee of the Klee Brothers clan was a champion amateur golfer. Leo A. Lerner, publisher and founder of the Lerner chain of papers was an exceptionally fine softball pitcher. He was on the mound for the Robey Playground when they won the title in 1921.

—MICHAEL LERNER

And of course, there was the popular Howard Theater which had a large following each week. This was located next door to Math Jung's Tavern and Social Hall, which occupied the apex of the triangle at the intersection of Lincoln and Belmont, on the south side of Belmont. Here Fay Howard and her husband staged melodramas and other theatrical productions, using such talent as might be available, including at times neighborhood youngsters.

But the passage of time dictated the old must give way to the new. In 1911 the Wieboldt Foundation purchased the property. The three story frame building, which had almost become a landmark, was wrecked to make way for a modern four story masonry office and commercial building.

Almost as though to preserve a theatrical tradition for this location, the Wieboldt Foundation included in their plans for the new building, a spacious modern theater with a marble lobby and ample seating capacity. When completed, it was leased for use by the Orpheum Circuit, then producing vaudeville shows.

Officially it was given the name "Lincoln Hippodrome" but in common parlance, it was more frequently referred to simply as "Lincoln Theater."

Unlike the other nine Orpheum circuit theaters, the Lincoln theater did not conform to the usual two performances a day. Although regarded as a family theater, there was only one performance at 8:30 p.m. followed by a silent movie. However, there were matinees on Saturday and Sunday.

The Orpheum management thought so well of Lake View audiences' critical judgment, that many new acts were first run at the Lincoln Theater. If successful, they were approved for downtown showing.

However, live vaudeville shows were unable to survive the onrush of movies and night clubs which had a broader and more exciting appeal. Many theaters, like the "Lincoln" with a bit of refurbishing and a showing of top rated movie programs, found they could hold or recapture their former popularity.

For two decades or more, their efforts were successful but the threat of television was quickly becoming a reality.

As this gained momentum, theater audiences began to fall away until many once successful theaters were forced to close. Among them was the long popular Lincoln Hippodrome. After long months of disuse, it was dismantled and reconstructed for the use of May Sons, a ladies' boutique, in March, 1953.

Another popular movie palace in Lake View was the Belmont Theater, erected by Balaban and Katz

at a time Hollywood productions began their spiraling ascent to stardom. It was the last word in resplendent ornamentation. Once inside, one might feel he or she had been transported to the gorgeous palace of some oriental potentate.

For a time folks flocked to enter its portals seeking to be freed from the anxieties of down to earth living, only to have their dreams shattered as they emerged.

But such psychological escapes could not outlast realities in a world moving so fast there was seldom time to comprehend what changes tomorrow would bring.

ELKS MEMORIAL HEADQUARTERS

Lake View has always expressed a keen interest in its younger generation, particularly its babies, and on June 2, 1926, the latter had their day. Some 400 of them in gaily bedecked carriages and perambulators passed in review along Lincoln Avenue facing the judges who were officers of the Lincoln Belmont Boosters Assn. and sponsors of the parade: namely, Adolph Koretz, O.W. Cox, Sanford Abrams, and J.W. Hegerman, chairman of the baby committee. Every participating baby was given a gold ring. Cash prizes totaling \$500 were distributed, "and scores of articles which no well-equipped baby should be without."

The natural beauty of the approach to Lake View from the east was greatly enhanced during the summer by the completion of the Elks Memorial Headquarters at Diversey Parkway and Lakeview Avenue on the site of the old Lehman home.

The solid marble building is of classic design. The expansive dome high above the nave was resplendent with a lining of gold leaf. Solid bronze doors graced the entry.

It was stated at the time that the building had cost \$3 million with the fittings. The memorial was officially opened on June 24.

Almost as a corollary to the erection of this beautiful landmark, the Outer Drive, which previously had been completed only as far as North Avenue, was extended during the summer, and on November 10, opened to traffic as far as Belmont.

The Lincoln Trust and Savings Bank, which had been founded in 1913 as a successor to Lincoln Savings Bank with capital of \$200,000, opened in the new building at Lincoln and Irving Park on November 14.

Earlier in the year the Chicago City Council amended its original ordinance, proposing a bathing beach at Clarendon and one at Bryn Mawr, so that ultimately the north shore lakefront would be a continuous beach from Diversey to Devon.

A new record for Lake View High School June graduates was established when 470 members received diplomas.

JOHN DILLINGER

On the sordid side, Lake View became the focus

of national publicity on July 22 when John Dillinger, the nation's No. 1 public enemy, was killed by FBI agents as he was leaving the Biograph Theater in the 2400 block on Lincoln Avenue.

For better than a decade Jack Kotz owned and operated a shoe store in the loop. From 1921 to 1933 he maintained a downtown location, but after battling two depressions in the Loop, he decided he would do better growing with an outlying community where people lived and worked.

Turning his back on the supercharged atmosphere of the loop, he became a welcome addition to the Lake View shopping center with a store at 3248 Lincoln, opened in 1934. Here he remained until 1940 when he moved to a corner location at 3301 N. Marshfield.

William Wieboldt, one of Chicagoland's pioneer merchants and a lifelong benefactor of Lake View, gave liberally of his time and talents as well as his resources in helping his fellowmen and the underprivileged.

Back in 1915 he conceived the idea that a local YMCA should be established in the community. He presented his proposal to Joseph Budlong, president of the Lake View Bank, and got a promise to support a fund-raising program.

But even with Wieboldt's pledge to start the fund with an initial contribution of \$110,000 it would take time and the active participation of more than a small group of men.

Progress was slow at the start.

In 1922 Elmer Wieboldt was elected first president of the Lake View Kiwanis Club and suggested the club help build a Lincoln-Belmont YMCA. As a result, enough money was pledged to assure final success. Ground was broken June 22, 1928.

The Wieboldt family interest, however, did not end here.

Elmer Wieboldt, was elected to serve as the first chairman of the board of directors and Albert Buehler as vice chairman. The building was completed and dedicated October 7, 1928.

Even after it became necessary for the Wieboldts to forego active personal participation in YMCA affairs, they continued their financial support through the Wieboldt Foundation.

One of the popular emporiums in the neighborhood for twenty five years had been the Struve Dept. Store, with entrances on both Lincoln and Belmont Avenues.

The store, owned and operated by H.C. Struve since its founding in 1904, was sold to Goldblatt Brothers on January 26, 1929. Almost immediately the new owners set about enlarging the store and made a further expansion in 1931.

An improvement made in the 3200 block on Ashland Avenue at this time was the erection of the Meyers Medic Building at the Melrose corner. This was a two story building, faced with limestone, designed for commercial use on the street level with medical offices on the second floor.

On July 31, the board of education acquired title to a large tract of land at Western and Addison as a building site for Lane Technical High School, reported to be the largest public school in the world.

A BACKWARD LOOK

Dating from before the turn of the century, Lake View had acquired a reputation as an entertainment center. Scattered through the area were numerous well-known German and Swedish restaurants and picnic groves. Beer gardens, many with open air dining and entertainment facilities were well patronized, particularly during the summer evenings, drawing much of their clientele from the north side of Chicago as well as from Lake View itself. For those partial to horse racing, there were tracks easily accessible. Choral and instrumental group concerts were numerous and well attended.

ORIGIN OF LAKE VIEW'S STREET NAMES

Very few people think about the origin of their street names. For every name, however, the city had a reason for using it. Both the Chicago Historical Society, and the Bureau of Maps of the City of Chicago have furnished the following information:

ADDISON

Refers to Joseph Addison of The Spectator (18th Century).

ARLINGTON PLACE

Named after Arlington-on-the-Potomac, home of Gen. Robert E. Lee. (Called Deming Street, earlier).

ARTESIAN

Named for the city's artesian wells used to produce half-a-million gallons of water a day.

ASHLAND

Named after the home of Henry Clay, or after Reuben Ashland, land agent, 1852-1859.

BARRY

Named for either W.H. Barry, a Lake View real estate subdivider, or John Barry, commander of the ship Lexington during the American Revolution.

BEACON

Named for Boston's Beacon Street.

BELDEN

For Belden Culver, onetime secretary of the Chicago Historical Society and a prominent real estate investor.

BELL

Named for both Alexander Graham Bell and World War I Major General George Bell, Jr.

BELLE PLAIN

Meaning is "Fine Field." In 1877, it appeared on a subdivision plat of Chicago.

BELMONT

Named after early Civil War battle.

BERENICE

First name of daughter of subdivider Charles F. Ford.

BERNARD

Named for J.L.S. Bernard who built expensive North Shore homes before the turn of the century.

BERTEAU

Named after F.Y. Berteau, French socialite, and in 1863, an American citizen.

BISSELL

William Bissell, Mexican War officer and Illinois governor (1856-60).

BOSWORTH

Named either for the famous English battlefield or another subdivider.

BROADWAY

Named after New York's famous street. (Known earlier as Evanston Avenue).

BUENA

Boyhood home of Rogers Park subdivider Edward Wallen.

BYRON

Named after famous English poet, or, after Admiral "Foul Weather" Byron, a British Naval Officer.

CHRISTIANA

The street ran through an early Scandanavian neighborhood and was named for the then capital of Norway (since renamed Oslo.)

CICERO

Honors the woman senator who opposed the crowning of emperors and favored a republic.

CLAREMONT

Robert Fulton's steamboat.

CLARK

Named after George Rogers Clark, who is said to have followed the old Green Bay Trail from North Avenue to almost 6000 North.

CLIFTON

Named after the New Jersey City, the home of a Lake View sub-divider.

CLYBOURN

Archibald Clybourn, an early butcher, ferryboat operator, and Chicago's first constable.

CULLOM

Named after the late U.S. Senator Shelby Cullom of Illinois (1877-1883)

DAMEN

Named after the Rev. Arthur Damen, founder of the Jesuit Order in the West.

DEMING

Named after Fred Deming, an 1860 sub-divider.

DIVERSEY

Named after Michael Diversey, of Lill & Diversey, brewers, who owned land in the vicinity.

DRUMMOND

Named after Judge Thomas Drummond, Northern District of Illinois (1850-1854).

ESTES

James Lee Estes came to Chicago after four terms as sheriff of Keokuk, Iowa, where he hanged four men for "riotous incidents involving Mormonism".

FOSTER

John Foster, Chicago school trustee in the 1830's, set aside \$1,000 to buy medals for outstanding students.

FRANCISCO

Named after the City of San Francisco.

FULLERTON

Named after Alexander N. Fullerton, one of the first three Chicago lawyers, owned Lake View property.

GEORGE

Named after Samuel George, reputedly the man who killed the last bear in 1834 on what is now the corner of LaSalle and Adams Streets.

GORDON TERRACE

Named for real estate promotor G.H. Gordon.

GRACE

Named after Grace Gurnee, the daughter of Chicago Mayor Walter S. Gurnee (1851-1853).

GREENVIEW

Named after the town of Greenville, Illinois.

HALSTED

Named after William H. and Caleb Halsted, who financed the building of the street. Mayor William Odgen named the street after these brothers. (Formerly called Dyer Avenue.)

HARDING

Not named for the 29th president, but probably for Capt. Fredrick Harding, who organized the first Union Army volunteer company in Chicago at the outbreak of the Civil War.

HENDERSON

Named after the sub-divider, A.H. Henderson (1866); or, Charles M. Henderson, another sub-divider; or, Col. Richard Henderson, an early Lake View settler.

HERMITAGE

Named for the home of Andrew Jackson.

HONORE

Named after Henry H. Honore, public parks promoter.

HOYNE

Thomas Hoyne, founder of Chicago Historical Society and what is now Chicago/Kent College of Law.

HUTCHINSON

Named after Charles L. Hutchinson, a member of the South Park Board of Park Commissioners.

IRVING PARK

Named after the famous American novelist, Washington Irving. (Formerly known as Graceland Avenue).

JUNIOR TERRACE

Site of the first Junior High School.

KEARSARGE

The Union warship that sank the Confederate raider "Alabama".

KEELER

During 1855 beer riots, Constable Cyrus Keeler reportedly distinguished himself for bravery.

KENMORE

Named after the New Jersey summer resort of the same name.

LAKEWOOD

Named after the home of Col. Fielding Lewis, brother-in-law of Gen. George Washington.

LEAVITT

Named after David Leavitt, Illinois-Michigan Canal commissioner.

LELAND

Named after Cyrus P. Leland, sub-divider. (Formerly known as Screiber Avenue).

LINCOLN

This route to Little Fort, now Waukegan, was named after Abraham Lincoln.

MAGNOLIA

Reportedly named for a tugboat skippered by a Capt. Gibson who was credited with saving hundreds of lives during the Chicago fire.

MARSHFIELD

Named after Marshall Field I, a sub-divider.

MILWAUKEE

From the Wisconsin city, whose name means "Good Earth" or "Good Country".

MOHAWK

Named after the famous Indian tribe.

MONTROSE

Named after James C. Montrose, the "Marquis of Hamilton," a Scotch nobleman, and defender of King Charles I of England.

NOBLE

Named after Chicago civic leaders, John and Mark Noble.

NORTH

The Chicago city limits in 1837

OAKDALE

Named after the City of Oakdale, Pennsylvania.

OAKLEY

Named after Charles Oakley, a builder of the West.

OGDEN

Chicago first mayor, William Butler Ogden, who later became president of the Union Pacific Railroad.

PAULINA

Named by Reuben Taylor, a sub-divider, after his wife's first name. (Formerly known as Ridgeville Road).

RACINE

Named after Jean Racine, early French poet and dramatist. (Formerly known as Draper Avenue).

RAVENSWOOD

Named after the sight of ravens seen nesting in woods located near Leland and Clark Streets.

ROSCOE

Named by real estate operators, Baird & Warner.

ROSLYN

Named after the town of Roslyn, Nassau County, N.Y.

ST. JAMES PLACE

Named after the French saint.

SCHOOL

Named after the District School House located there. (Formerly called Otto Street).

SEELEY

Named after sub-divider Amos Seeley.

SEMINARY

Named after Monticello Seminary, Godfrey, Illinois. (Formerly called Drummond Place.)

SHEFFIELD

Named after sub-divider Joseph Sheffield.

SHERIDAN

Named after the famous Civil War General, Phillip Sheridan.

SOUTHPORT

Named after the main road leading to Southport, Wisconsin, later known as the City of Kenosha, (Formerly named Glenwood).

SUNNYSIDE

Sunnyside Hotel, meeting place of early Ravenswood Land Company.

VICTORIA

Named for the English queen who took the throne the year Chicago became a city, and who gave 1,000 books to the Chicago Public Library after the 1871 fire.

WARNER

Named after L.A. Warner, an 1893 sub-divider. (Formerly called South Leavitt Street.)

WAVELAND

Named by Joseph Sheffield because some of his real estate would often be submerged by water during Lake Michigan storms.

WAYNE

Gen. "Mad Anthony" Wayne, who negotiated the treaty with the Indians that ceded the site for Fort Dearborn.

WELLINGTON

Named after the famous English Duke.

WELLS

Named for Capt. William Wells, a former Indian agent, who was killed in the 1812 Fort Dearborn massacre. Legend has it he fought so bravely the Indians cut his heart out after they killed him so they could share in his courage.

WESTERN

The city's western boundry in 1853.

WINCHESTER

Named after Winchester, Va. (Formerly called Matson Avenue).

WINDSOR

Named after Windsor Castle.

WINNEMAC

Name of Paiute Indian Chief, means "Catfish".

WOLCOTT

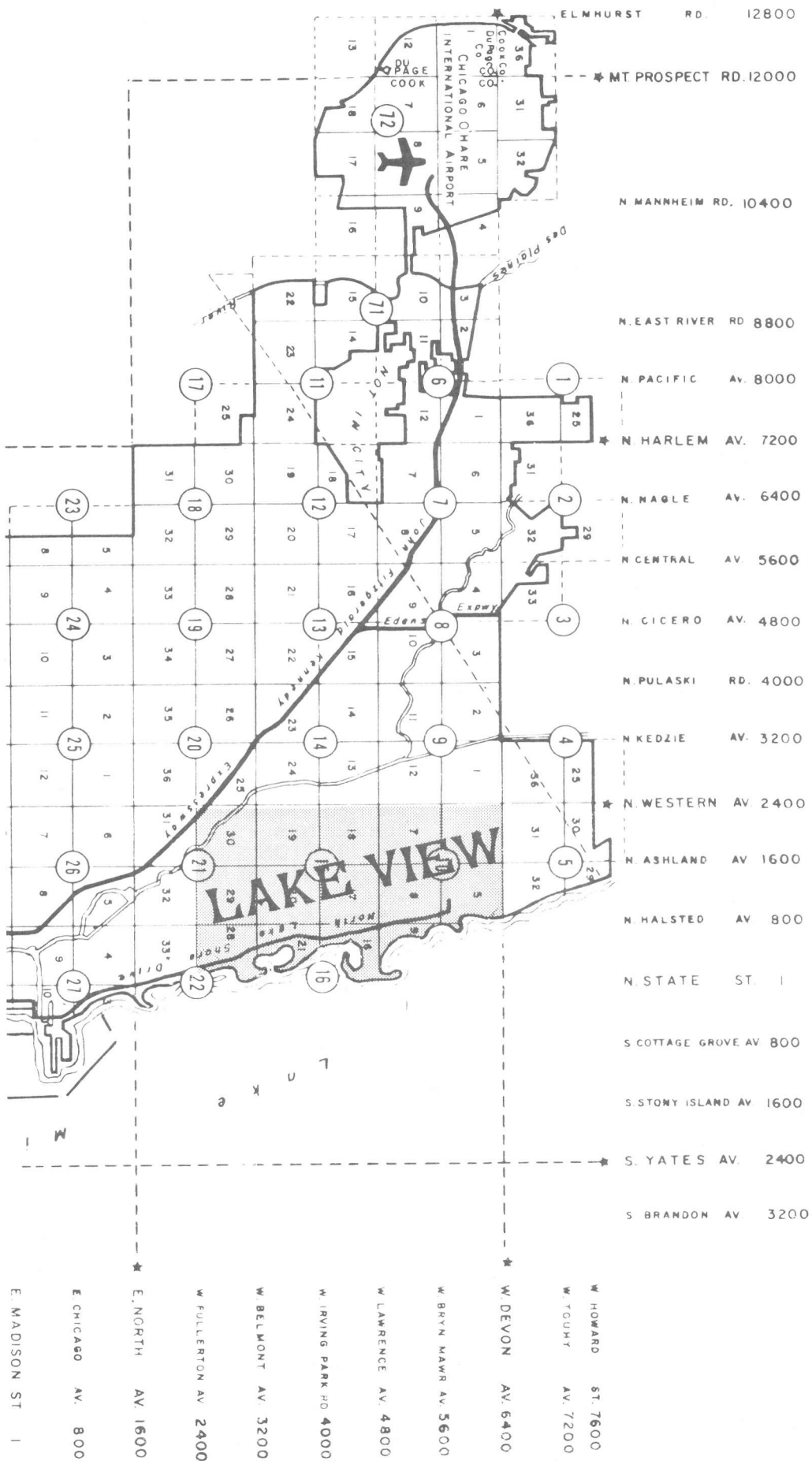
Named after Alexander Wolcott, an Army Surgeon and Indian agent at Fort Dearborn. (Formerly called North State Street.)

WOLFRAM

Named after Henry Wolfram.

WRIGHTWOOD

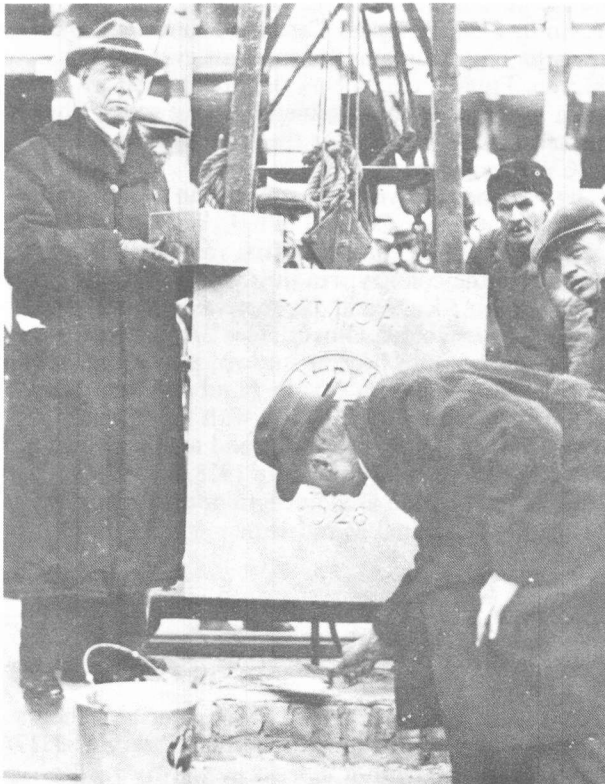
Named after Edward Wrightwood, a Chicago attorney, and sub-divider, or after John S. Wright, an 1830 Lake View Settler.



RECENT PAST

CONTINUED GROWTH

Between 1910 and 1920, the population of Lake View grew from 60,535 to 96,482. By the end of that decade, a handful of community leaders had organized the Lake View Kiwanis Club, which in turn was soon spearheading a drive to raise funds for the proposed Lincoln-Belmont YMCA; Harlem Globetrotters founder Abe Saperstein was still coaching at Welles Park; St. Alphonsus had become the largest Catholic parish in the country, if not the world; and the Lincoln-Belmont-Ashland shopping strip was undeniably the busiest retail district outside the Loop. The Belmont Theater at 1637 West Belmont was still under construction, and for a time would become one of the city's most popular silent movie/vaudeville houses; across the street, a giant tooth dangled from a second floor office proclaiming painless dentistry at the hands of the Hall Brothers. And Jacob Cohn, founder of Continental Coffee Company, was still



THE BEGINNING OF the Y.M.C.A. The Lincoln-Belmont Y.M.C.A. was a dream of William A. Wieboldt. Ground was broken in 1928, when the building was completed and dedicated. In this picture, we see the cornerstone laying. Standing by the cornerstone is John V. Farwell, an early Y.M.C.A booster. The man with the trowel has not been identified.



A THEATER that is no more. Not far away from the corner of Belmont and Ashland west was the Belmont moving picture theater. This is a picture of the building about 1929.

making deliveries in a \$25 wagon and a horse he rented for \$1.50 a day.

Architects already at work on the new YMCA, on the other hand, were being instructed to design the best money could buy. For \$815,000 the project's sponsors got a swimming pool, two gyms, indoor track, racquet and handball courts, a cafeteria and snack bar, and residents' rooms. "Up until World War II, the YMCA was primarily a center for businessmen to come and play ping-pong, handball and eat ice cream." Burton Wiese, the facility's longtime manager, recalled in the late 1970s, "Presidents of nearby companies used to get their haircuts where the private dining room now stands", he added.

Serving as the Marshfield YMCA board's first vice chairman, incidentally, was Albert Buehler, who'd become his father's ninth employee at Victor Comptometer after graduating from the University of Illinois in 1921. Back then, Victor had only one adding machine, which sold for \$100. Buehler, a great believer in saturation, once had a salesman call on every store on a block where he'd already sold seven machines. The salesman ended up selling two more! Not surprisingly, the Victor plant at 3900 North Rockwell had become the nation's largest producer of adding machines and calculators by the time Buehler retired.

Another local business kingpin, Albert Ivar Appleton, had come from Sweden as a boy in the early 1870s and was assistant superintendent of the Independent Electric Company before opening his

own small loop shop in 1903. His Appleton Electric Company moved to 1701 West Wellington Avenue in 1921. By the time he handed the business over to his son, Arthur, in 1948, the 2,000-employee firm had provided lighting for a number of major clients, including Comiskey Park here in Chicago and Shea Stadium in New York.

That same year, the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary opened Immaculata High School, 640 West Irving Park Road, and ran it for 60 years until rising costs and dwindling enrollment forced them to close.

THE ROARING 20s

In the early 1920s, waves of the well-to-do again swarmed into Lake View, this time on the new lakefront landfill. Until they were razed in 1984, the three Kellogg mansions at 2945-60 North Lake Shore Drive were all that remained of an era when "Great Gatsby" scale opulence was commonplace east of Broadway. The once-palatial Century Theater, 2828 North Clark Street, opened as a vaudeville house and cinema in 1925 and remained a popular neighborhood theater until its conversion into a shopping mall by developer Selwyn Malisoff 50 years later. In 1928, Anshe Emet Synagogue moved from Sedgwick Street to 3760 North Pine Grove. The temple had been founded two years after the Chicago Fire in Louis Sax's home on North Avenue, where about 20 Bohemian, German, Russian, and English Jews met for services.

The former Commonwealth Hotel, 2757 North Pine Grove Avenue has become subsidized housing for senior citizens. Many of the residents undoubtedly remember the day in the late 1920s when rising young singer Joe E. Lewis was almost killed by hoods in his room at the old Commonwealth. Lewis, who was singing at the time at the Green Mill at Broadway and Lawrence, got most of his voice box cut out when he decided to work for a rival speakeasy, the Rendezvous, at Clark and Diversey. He probably would have died if he hadn't been able to walk to nearby Columbus Hospital. Even so, it took him more than a year of speech therapy before Lewis was able to even think about returning to the stage, not as a singer but as a comedian.

ARCHBISHOP BERNARD SHEIL

Archbishop Bernard Sheil was a legend in his own time. At the time of his death in 1969, he'd been a priest for 59 years, auxiliary bishop for 41 years; and pastor of Saint Andrew's for 31 years. He had founded the Catholic Youth Organization as his answer to the gang problem, and the best-known feature of that program, the Golden Gloves boxing tournaments, are still held in the Saint Andrew's

gym. He was an early supporter of the labor movement, and a vigorous critic of neo-Nazism and anti-semitism in the years when Adolph Hitler was still being praised by many Americans for restoring order to Germany. "The only Jew the gentile need fear," he warned, "is the imaginary one he has created in his own mind". The feisty father eventually became the first non-Jew to receive the national B'nai B'rith Award for humanitarianism. In the early 1850s, Archbishop Sheil became an equally rigorous opponent of Senator Joseph McCarthy's "witch hunts". "Communism," Sheil insisted, "poses no threat in a society where justice and charity prevail".

Born in 1884 at Grand and Paulina, he had once rejected an offer from the Cincinnati Reds baseball club after setting an outstanding record as pitcher for Saint Viator College in Kankakee, where he was studying for the priesthood. Ordained in 1910, he served at Holy Name Cathedral until the outbreak of World War I, when he joined the Navy and became chaplain at Great Lakes. He later became Catholic chaplain in the Cook County Jail--and an early believer in crime prevention after walking more than one of his parishioners to the gallows. Sheil believed many boys ended up in jail because they'd simply had nothing better to do than get in to trouble. So in 1930, he asked Cardinal Mundelein to approve the biggest boxing tournament ever held in Chicago. Finally, convincing the prelate that a punch in the nose could sometimes save souls, Sheil got permission not only for the tourney, but the entire CYO program.

Over the next 25 years, the CYO ran a pilot training school at Lewis College; WFJL, an FM radio station; a behavior clinic; the first remedial reading program in the country; readjustment programs for young Puerto Ricans and Japanese-Americans; and, of course, the Golden Gloves. The "Apostle of Youth," as he soon became known, also found time to round up guide dogs for the blind and help Navajo Indians when he wasn't busy with his official duties as Saint Andrew's pastor and auxiliary bishop of Chicago, a post he held since 1928. In 1939, Bishop Sheil became archdiocesan administrator on the death of Cardinal Mundelein.

LAKE VIEW'S 50th ANNIVERSARY

That same year, the Lerner Newspaper launched a campaign to replace the aging public library at 3317 North Broadway with a new facility.

Also in 1939, Lake View held an 11-day celebration marking its 50th anniversary as part of Chicago. Approximately 1,000 local children marched in a lantern parade led by a 35-piece CYO band from Saint Andrew's; a bevy of girls on one-horse shays; and even a herd of cows and oxen munching hay on the curbs around Lincoln and Belmont. Harry Halstead, 1803 West Cuyler Avenue, and



LOOKING OVER LAKE VIEW — Crossroads of trade and enterprise. In the forward center of the picture is the triple intersection of Lincoln-Belmont-

Ashland in 1939 (Lake View's 50th anniversary of annexation to Chicago).—Courtesy, Chicago Aerial Survey Company.

Dorothy Nelson, 4201 North Ashland Avenue, were picked as the pageant's "Sweethearts of 1889", and a local girl decked out in a bustle dress with "leg of mutton" sleeves was officially crowned "Miss Golden Jubilee".

The Depression, of course, was never far from people's minds, even in the midst of an anniversary gala. One observer noted, in fact, that people had never had it so good, even in hard times. "The present Depression couldn't hold a candle to the one 40 years ago when there were no relief agencies, and poor folks lined up for blocks to get food from the Sheffield Avenue police station, where loaves of bread were stacked halfway up the ceiling.

Since then, of course, the nation's first public housing development -- the Lathrop Homes -- opened in 1937 on the 2800 block of North Leavitt. The 35-acre complex was made up of 925 apartments in 29 buildings costing a total of \$5,500,000 and named for Julia Lathrop, a close friend and associate of Jane Addams, first chief of the U.S. Department of Labor's Children's Bureau, and a member of the League of Nations Child Welfare Committee.

WORLD WAR II

But by the end of the 1930s it was clear that even bigger problems than the Depression would soon be hitting Lake View, as everywhere else. Europe was once again embroiled in war. Members of neo-fascist groups like the German-American Bund openly paraded down Lincolnstrasse, and even staged a Nuremberg-style extravaganza one evening at Riverview Park. Lake View's traditionally easygoing German community seemed for a time bitterly divided over whether Hitler deserved their active support, cool neutrality or vigorous opposition.

In early 1940, Bishop Sheil; Rabbi Louis Dinstock of Temple Sholom, 3480 North Lake Shore Drive; and the Reverend John Hayworth of Second Unitarian Church, 656 West Barry Street, organized the Lake View Council on Religious Action to promote ecumenicalism long before anyone even heard the word. A Brotherhood Week banquet was held in early February to offset the pro-Nazi propaganda making the rounds even here in Lake View in the



VIEW OF LINCOLN AVENUE looking north in 1939, the 50th anniversary of Lake View's annexation to Chicago.

last months of American "neutrality". But once the die was cast at Pearl Harbor, Lake View all but led the city in the sale of war bonds, and the collection of used fats and greases. People donated radios to sailors at Great Lakes, baked cakes for U.S.O. centers, and even went to meet the troops at the train stations to give them soap, combs, and toothpaste, sometimes even scarves, socks and mittens. Lake View families entertained servicemen, including a few foreign troops from as far away as the Soviet Union.

Much of the war effort here was led by Joseph Gill, who paid for all U.S.O. parties in the Lake View center out of his own pocket. Harry Starr and George Iberle helped make Lake View a leader in the sale of war bonds --and nobody stopped to notice that Iberle was a German immigrant, that Lake View was a German community, and that this country was at war with Germany!

Local factories won Army and Navy "E" awards, and the Maloney Family Kitchen Band helped sell literally thousands of dollars worth of bonds and saving stamps. Ranking officers, as well as movie stars like James Cagney, Edward G. Robinson, Carole Lombard, and Clark Gable, made it a point to stop here on their cross-country tours.

Victor Comptometer helped develop the crucial Norden bombsight. And the Elks became the only civilian organization in the entire country chosen to recruit construction specialists for the Army and Navy. They met their quota three months ahead of schedule.

Yet Lake View was also the place where 11 German crewman of the U-505 were feted by 45 of their onetime captors nearly 40 years later. The submarine crew had been captured in the first boarding operation of its kind since the War of 1812 in June, 1944, off the coast of North Africa. Meeting at Zum Deutschen Eck, 2924 North Southport, in September, 1982, the former enemies drank a toast to the late Admiral Daniel Gallery, the Ravenswood native (and one of three brothers who became admirals) who decided to try to take the ship and its crew alive. The next day, the aging German sailors paid a visit to their old ship, now on display at the Museum of Science and Industry. Victory had come in 1945. This was a step beyond that. This was peace.

LAKE VIEW CITIZENS COUNCIL

Despite the eventual easing of wartime restrictions,



AN ALL ELECTRIC HOUSE. In 1939 one of the outstanding building projects in the Lake View area was an all-electric house. Pictured here is a crowd of

curious visitors to the house at Marshfield and Lincoln Avenues. Can you identify anyone?

the community's civilian defense efforts continued in other forms, evolving into the Lake View Citizens' Council in the early 1950s when representatives of 10 service agencies, schools and churches met at Temple Sholom to deal with problem taverns on Broadway, and illegal building conversions into rooming houses during an acute postwar housing shortage. Mrs. Martin Gordon, chairman of the Temple Sholom Sisterhood's public affairs committee, became the LVCC's first president in a May 26, 1952 election. George Snow of Saint Paul Church, Reverend Heyworth, and Edwin Weig of the Belmont/Clark Business Association were elected vice presidents. Ralph Bose of the Lake View Council on Religious Action was appointed treasurer; and Mrs. Douglas Brushness of the Wellington Avenue Congregational Church became secretary.

The council moved into its first office at 3179 North Clark with a budget of \$300 and a mandate to save the neighborhood any way it could. There were few places to learn how that's done. The only remotely similar organizations in the entire city were the Back of the Yards Council and the Hyde Park/Kenwood Organization. Mrs. Gordon retired as president three years later, and was succeeded by Reverend William Roberts of the Lake View Methodist Church, who served until 1957, when former State Senator Edward Saltiel took over and served until 1960. He was succeeded by Monsignor

Vincent Moran of Saint Bonaventure Church, who resigned in 1961 when he was assigned to Saint Philip Neri Church on the South Side, and was replaced by real estate agent Herbert Lustig, followed in 1962 by Harold Wade of People's Gas. Two years later, David Taylor of WGN took over. The LVCC hired its first full-time executive director, John Kahlert, in 1956; reorganized itself into a 30-member policy making board; and started home improvement, garden and Christmas decoration contests, tours of Lake View, and cleanup drives. The first branches weren't successfully organized until 1959 when residents around the Hawthorne School, 3319 North Clifton Avenue, created the Hawthorne Neighbors. Soon afterward, William Duckett, Ann Konewako, Bernard Eisenbach, and Robert Parrish organized the East Lake View Neighbors. The South East Lake View Neighbors followed, led by Sam King, James Chapman, Mrs. Philip Stein, and Miles Berger, who later became one of the biggest developers and leading members of the Chicago Landmarks Commission. William Eithel, Mrs. Elsie Rau and Robert Iverson formed the North Center Citizens Council. By January, 1963, the Belmont Harbor Neighbors and the Central Lake View Neighbors had joined the LVCC. The North Lake View Neighbors joined in February, 1964, followed in June by the Lake View Triangle Association (now Triangle Neighbors).

By the late 1960s, however, the North Lake View Neighbors withdrew from the council, claiming the LVCC was paying too much attention to the neighborhoods east of Halsted, and not enough to the blue collar enclaves to the west. Real estate agent Richard Rush had been the group's president almost since it was founded. The late 1960s were marked not only by friction between east and west side branch organizations, but between individual residents and institutions which held virtually automatic membership on the board. Dissenters like the Reverend Karl Lezak, then associate pastor of Saint Sebastian's Church, charged that the businesses and agencies were exercising a disproportionate influence on LVCC policy. Changes in the bylaws followed. Early members like David Taylor quit in disgust, and the LVCC got the image — for a time at least — of being a “radical” organization.

Efforts to change that perception weren't helped when a number of LVCC officers protested the selection of Town Hall police Commander John Fahey as one of three 1969 Brotherhood Award recipients. The anti-police attitude voiced by a vocal minority in the months after the 1968 Democratic convention disorders in Lincoln Park, together with Fahey's own sometimes abrasive manner, prompted many to question the award's timing, if nothing else. Fahey was honored, without incident, however, and by the following year, most of the group that had threatened to boycott future brotherhood dinners were back as if nothing had happened.

THE LANE FAMILY

By far the biggest postwar success story here was that of William Lane, who, with his brother John and college buddy Edward Ehlein, bought General Binding Company, 810 West Belmont Avenue, back in 1947, never dreaming he was laying the foundation for a multi-million dollar banking empire. A native of Milwaukee, he'd briefly worked for an advertising agency he'd helped found after graduation from Princeton and before joining the Navy in 1942. On his return home, after serving as an aviator at Glenview Air Station, Lane joined a management consulting firm to begin searching for a company he could run. Two years later, he found General Binding, which sold plastic binding machines and materials almost as a sideline. Lane immediately converted General Binding into a major manufacturer that now has 19 plants and 2,400 employees, operates in every large world market, and is still considered the cornerstone of the Lane empire. One of General Binding's hottest items is reportedly a paper shredder. Their biggest single shredder order, in fact, reportedly came from Special Prosecutor Archibald Cox during the Watergate investigation.

Not everything Lane touched turned to gold, of course. Rumor has it he once bought a pickled pigs' feet processing plant. “And it's fortunate he didn't get the first company he went after. They made conveyor belts, and they're now defunct. That would

have been the end of the Lane story right there,” says son William N. Lane, III, who took over the company after his father was killed in 1978 at age 61 in a freak auto accident on his New Mexico ranch.

The younger Lane's responsibilities include General Binding, now headquartered in Northbrook, IL; four Chicago area banks, including Lake View Bank; a financial services operation; a data processing company; cattle ranches and farms in Virginia and New Mexico; four Holiday Inns, and a Hilton Hotel. Then there's the William Lane Foundation, created by the elder Lane to work with Presbyterian-St. Luke's Hospital in the search for a cancer cure.

It was the younger Lane, however, who spearheaded the family's involvement in banking and in 1976 bought Lake View Bank from NL Industries. Lane Industries owns four banks having combined assets of \$1.6 billion as of December 31, 1984. Lane feels a strong commitment to community and neighborhood. He also believes in keeping an open mind, both in his dealings with the community and in future corporate planning. “Just because we haven't done something in other fields doesn't mean we're not interested,” he said. “It just means we haven't gotten there yet”.

It was well that Lane had a positive attitude toward changing neighborhoods. Since World War II, Lake View had changed several times.

CHANGES IN THE 1960s

The Christian Fellowship Church, 912 Wet Sheridan Road, for example, had been founded in 1944 by Japanese Americans coming here from West Coast detention camps. By the late 1960s, the church was holding Spanish, English and Japanese language services.

The once-exclusive community east of Halsted by then reportedly had the largest concentration of young single people of any neighborhood in the country. So on Palm Sunday, 1963, 26 local churches and social service agencies formed the North Side Cooperative Ministry, which ran a coffeehouse apostolate for young adults at the Door, 3124 North Broadway; six reading and tutoring centers; three literacy programs; a visitation service for shut-ins; outreach for the Spanish-speaking; and annual festivals at McCormick Theological Seminary. The NSCM was often accused by more conservative churchmen of being a haven for “radicals,” although most regulars at the Door would have had a hard time agreeing on lunch, let alone a revolutionary agenda.

The real work of social change was being done elsewhere. In the fall of 1968, lakefront political activists, furious at the Daley “machine's” handling of the Democratic convention, organized the Independent Precinct Organization to endorse and campaign for “alternative” candidates. The movement's first success came the following year with the election of William Singer as 44th ward alderman. Singer beat the regular candidate by only 427 votes. The next year, Dr. Bruce Douglas, a dentist and public health

expert, was elected state representative from what was then the 11th district. Reapportionment in 1970 shifted Singer to the 43rd ward, and in 1971, the independents ran Dick Simpson, a political science teacher at the University of Illinois, in the 44th ward. Simpson got 54 percent of the vote, served two terms, and was succeeded by Bruce Young, a former minister who'd been both Lake View Citizens Council president and director of the Jane Addams Center. Young quit after a year and half in office, and was replaced by former State Senator John Merlo, and finally, Bernie Hansen, a traditional Democrat considered more independent than many "independents." The political distinctions were blurring almost as soon as they were drawn.

THE 1970s

The 1970s began somewhere with pleas for peace in Vietnam and ended with cries for war with Iran. In 1970, leftist bookstores like the Guild, then located on the 2100 block of North Halsted Street, were being harassed by the ultraconservative Legion of Justice. On the other extreme, self-styled "revolutionaries" like Rising up Angry, 1215 West Belmont Avenue, took to the streets in a singularly unsuccessful effort to get the working-class Lake View youngsters to "serve the people, smash the state". In the meantime, armchair activists met at the Door Coffeehouse at least once a week to debate the merits of schemes like disarming the police and abolishing the courts.

The 1970s began as a handful of Chicago Indians staged their first local "uprising" in 150 years. In the spring of 1971, several dozen Indians began camping in front of Wrigley Field at Clark and Addison, then seized an abandoned army missile site near Belmont Harbor. Chosa, leader of the insurgents, vowed to resist the "bluecoats" by force if necessary. "Any day is a good day to die," he told whoever would listen. One night, the police walked in and evicted Chosa and his followers with virtually no resistance other than the protests from the Lake View Citizens Council and other groups who felt the city should have first tried to negotiate with the Indians.

The 44th Ward Assembly was created in 1971 by Alderman Dick Simpson, who went on to serve three terms in the City Council before leaving politics to enter the ministry. Later that year, John Hoellen, 47th Ward alderman and Republican committeeman, made a second unsuccessful try for Congress; a group called the "On Broadway Committee" demanded a moratorium on tavern licenses in "New Town," as the neighborhood was being called by outsiders; and 750 North Siders filled the Ivanhoe Theater at Clark and Wellington to pay homage to 86-year-old Joseph Gill, then vice president of the Chicago Park District. Karl Lezak, who'd left his post at Saint Sebastian's Church, became the director of the Chicago chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union, and was appointed executive director of the LVCC the following year.

By 1973, the North Side Cooperative Ministry, created just 10 years earlier to promote ecumenism, social justice, racial equality, and outreach to "un-churched" youth, was officially dissolved during a special prayer service at Bethlehem United Church of Christ. A spokesman for the group said NSCM was disbanded because some local ministers feared its activities were interfering with the churches' main mission and had been too "confrontational" in its approach. But while lawsuits, voter registration drives and meetings with the city officials gradually replaced the marches of the '60s, "confrontation politics" still had its avid practitioners in the '70s.

In 1974, for example, hundreds of screaming Greeks mobbed WGN Studios, 2501 West Bradley Place, to protest what they considered "biased reporting" of the Turkish occupation of Cyprus. Jose (Cha-Cha) Jiminez, on the other hand, switched the tactics of his Young Lords Organization from bashing heads to hustling votes. Declaring he was no longer a street gang leader, Jiminez announced his candidacy for 46th Ward alderman and promised to fight alleged "police harassment" and "urban removal" of low income tenants from the Wrigleyville/Lake View area. Despite an apparently well-funded campaign, Jiminez lost and within weeks was being sought by police on a burglary charge.

In 1975, the 50-year-old Ivanhoe Restaurant closed; Sheil Park Fieldhouse, 3511 North Southport, was officially dedicated; and Lake View's police district was split into the Town Hall (33rd) and Belmont (19th) districts, with the 19th headquartered in a new \$6,150,000 facility at 2452 West Belmont, called "Aladdin's Castle" by some because it went up on the approximate site of the Riverview Park funhouse of that name.

Two former Lake View aldermen, Joseph Kerwin (45th) and Robert O'Rourke (48th), died within a day of each other; and 44th Ward Democratic Committeeman John Merlo decided not to seek a seventh term in the legislature, but to go instead for the 12th district state senate seat soon to be vacated by Ben Palmer. But perhaps the biggest political event of the year was the defeat of Alderman Hoellen by Eugene Schulter, a 27-year-old Democrat just out of law school who studied for his bar exam between campaign appearances. Hoellen, who'd been alderman for 27 years, reluctantly agreed to be the GOPs mayoral candidate that year. Another mayoral hopeful, William Singer, also left the City Council and was succeeded as 43rd Ward alderman by fellow independent Martin Oberman, a recent arrival from Madison, Wisconsin.

But even bigger changes came the following year with the sudden death of Mayor Richard Daley and the beginning of the breakup of the Democratic "machine". On August 27, Andrew Moore retired as principal of Lake View High School and another well-known educator, District 8 Superintendent, Gerard Heing, became head of combined Districts 2 and 24. Anabel McCutcheon, principal of Audubon School, 3500 North Hoyne, for 10 years, was

suspended pending an investigation of charges of "conduct unbecoming a principal" and fired the next year. Complaints against McCutcheon included allegations that she hit a janitor, and threatened a boiler room worker. The Reverend Thomas Byrne, then 70, announced plans to retire as pastor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church at the end of the year; Patrick Gorman, secretary-treasurer of the Amalgamated Meatcutters and Butcher Workmen's Union, 2800 North Sheridan Road, stepped down after more than 30 years on the job. And on August 18, school activist Joan Arai died of cancer. A week later, the Board of Education named the new middle school at 900 West Wilson in her honor. Less than a month later, Dr. Sol Kositchek, past president of the Lake View Kiwanis Club and a founder of the Lake View Council on Religious Action, died at 90 in Wichita, Kansas. Martin Tonne retired after 10 years as director of the Lincoln-Belmont-Ashland Business Association; and the Rev. Finees Flores ended a decade as pastor of Christian Fellowship Church to become editor of a Spanish language church journal and head of his denomination's human relations program. And 1976 was a time for

marking anniversaries other than just the Bicentennial.

On April 13, the Chicago Cubs officially began their 100th season, with the distinction of being the only major league club in the country located in one city for an entire century.

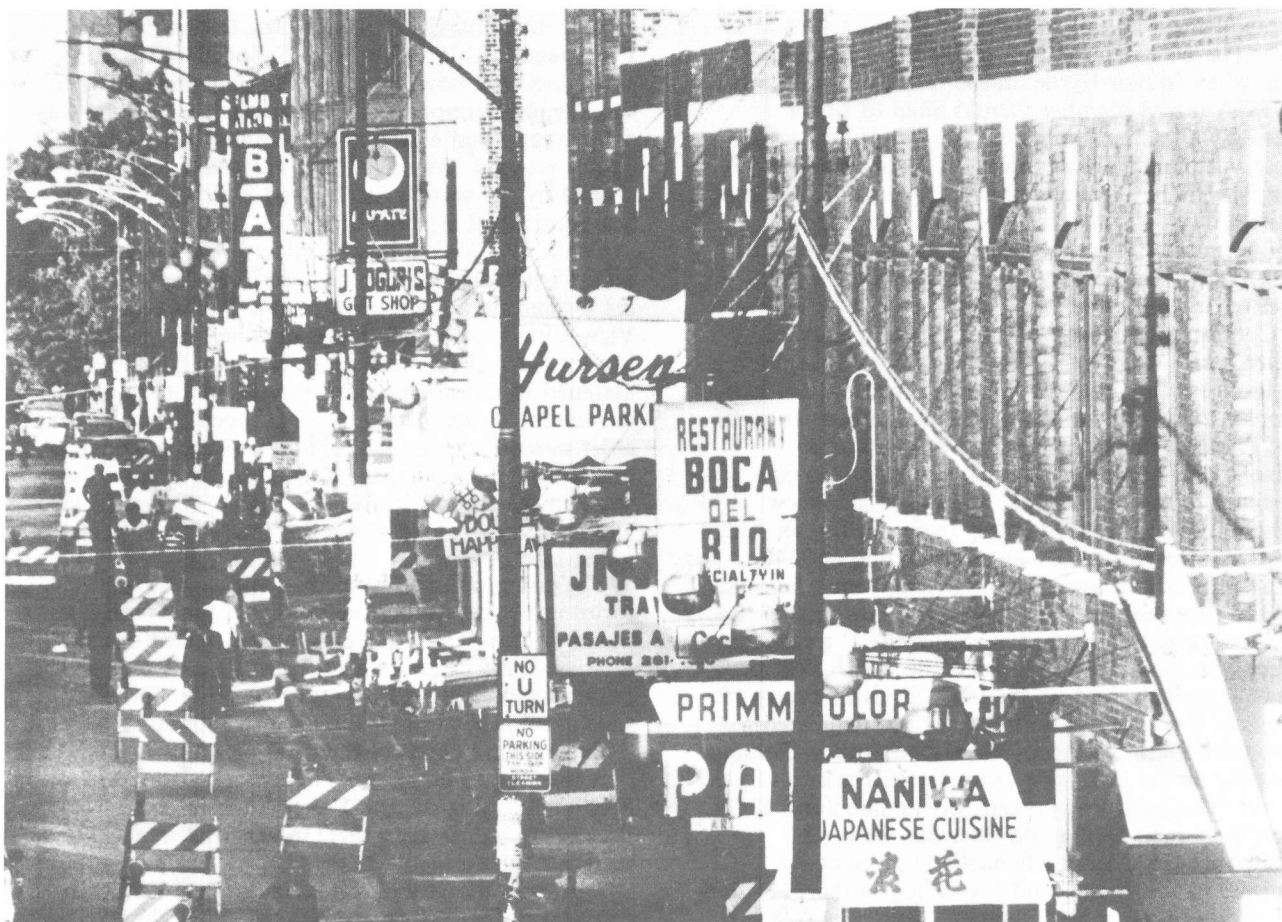
The Waveland Avenue Congregational Church marked its centennial, while Mount Carmel and Saint Luke's Lutheran Church celebrated their 90th years. Saint Benedict's Parish observed its 75th anniversary, while Gordon Tech High School, 3633 North California Avenue, celebrated its first 25 years. The following year, the Reverend Adalbert Kretzmann marked his 50th anniversary at Saint Luke's. A descendant of Lutheran ministers as far back as the Reformation, Reverend Kretzmann had been married, ordained and installed as associate pastor all on the same day.

And in one of his last official acts, President Gerald Ford pardoned Lake View's Iva Toguri D'Aquino, better known during World War II as "Tokyo Rose". Toguri was convicted of treason after the war for willingly collaborating with the enemy, a charge she's always denied. The American-



MAYOR JANE BYRNE and Committeeman John Merlo at a ceremony on Wilton Avenue marking the

sidewalk renovation along Belmont Avenue in 1982.—Courtesy, Chicago Sun-Times.



ORIENTAL IMPORT SHOPS and restaurants on Belmont Avenue looking east during sidewalk construction in 1982.—Courtesy, Chicago Sun-Times.

born Toguri was in Japan visiting relatives at the time Pearl Harbor was bombed, and said she was forced to make the wartime broadcasts to Allied GIs.

In 1978, workmen started a building addition at the previously all-male Lane Tech High School to house girls' locker room facilities to comply with federal laws requiring equal treatment of both sexes. And the Salvation Army announced that while it was "still completely committed to Lake View," it was taking a second look at earlier plans to build a new service center at 3252 North Clark Street. A year later, the army's Wilton Avenue Corps was closed after 76 years and merged with the Belmont Corps, which expanded its facilities in 1985.

Also in 1978, Principal Ronald Cester led his staff and 640 pupils from the 85-year-old Greeley School building at 3805 North Sheffield avenue to new quarters at 825 West Sheridan Road.

THE 1980s

By 1980, bitter strikes, landmark legal battles, dismal economic news, and growing tension between the community and Mayor Jane Byrne threatened at times to bring ordinary government business to a near-halt. The CTA workers had barely returned

from their walkout when both the firemen and public school teachers went on strikes of their own. High school students and adults helped run 13 emergency classrooms sponsored by the Education Resource Center, 785 West Sheridan Road. An ERC spokesman estimated that at least 400 kindergarten through eighth-graders met for lessons in various church basements, community centers and park facilities during the crisis. It was impossible, however, to even begin filling the void created when many of the city's firemen walked out for the first time in their department's 125-year history. The economic news wasn't much better. In early December, 1980, a long-awaited market study ordered by the city showed the Lincoln-Belmont-Ashland shopping district had declined in 30 years from a vibrant retail area to a marginal convenience center with a "confused identity". The 172-page report concluded that local businesses had lost touch with major population shifts, and underestimated their market by not putting enough emphasis on quality goods. The same concerns were foremost on the minds of business leaders in the Lincoln-Damen-Irving shopping strip a few miles north.

But perhaps the biggest jolt came with the surprise resignation of Alderman Bruce Young (44th) in

September, 1980, after only a year and a half in office. The ward was getting ready for a special election when Mayor Byrne announced the appointment of RTA board member Gerald Shea to finish Young's unexpired term. Civic and political groups were outraged to learn Shea had been moved from the West Side to an apartment on the 3100 block of North Sheridan only a few days before the announcement. The mayor and Shea quickly backed down, clearing the way for retiring Senator John Merlo to be elected.

Community groups, of course, had plenty of other battles that year. The South East Lake View Neighbors and the Park West Association, for example, tried unsuccessfully to block construction of the 17-story Rienzi apartments at Clark and Diversey, charging the area was already too congested. On the other hand, the East Lake View Neighbors stopped the mayor from putting an Aldi's Supermarket into a city-owned building at 3646 North Broadway instead of the Walgreen's favored by the community. "We ran smack into one of the best-organized communities in the city," a mayoral aide confided after announcing the Aldi's deal had been cancelled. And on October 25, after nearly 10 years of trying, neighborhood groups dedicated a new park along a strip of abandoned railroad track running about 1200 west from Irving Park to Grace Street. The park was named for the late John Kelly, who lived near Irving and Sheridan before he graduated from Saint Michael's High School, enlisted in the Army, and was killed in the 1944 Battle of the Bulge.

On November 2, ecumenical history was made here when a Catholic cardinal and a leading Lutheran churchman jointly officiated at services marking the 450th anniversary of the Reformation. John Cardinal Cody and Bishop Paul Rickson of the Lutheran Church in America led the unprecedented rites at Saint Luke's Church marking the 1530 Augsburg Confession.

Throughout 1981, continued hard times forced perhaps the most serious belt-tightening since the Depression. Goldblatt's Lincoln-Belmont store held a going-out-of-business sale, and Immaculata High School was converted into America's first Islamic college. Even the award-winning Saint Nicholas Theater, 2851 North Halsted Street, shut down in the face of a \$157,000 deficit.

Community pressure, however, forced the cost-conscious Board of Education to reconsider its earlier decision to close Agassiz School, 2851 North Seminary Avenue. The 90-year-old elementary school was one of more than 30 facilities targeted for closing that year. Neighbors argued that Agassiz had just been renovated, and that it was one of the few schools anywhere in the city that already met federal desegregation guidelines. On the other hand, for the first time in more than 50 years, the Old Vic Theater, 3115 North Sheffield, hosted a live stage production. Unfortunately, the play "April Before You Know It", written by the wife of the building's owner, bombed out after only one night. In 1982, John Merlo announced he wouldn't seek another

term in the City Council, deciding to "quit while I'm ahead". Lake View High School Principal Ursula Maethner bowed out in a similar fashion when she abruptly announced plans to leave while she was still "happy and effective". Maethner was replaced by 40-year old Donna Macey, and Merlo was succeeded by the ward's Streets and Sanitation Superintendent Bernie Hansen.

Death also took a heavy toll in 1982. Judge Kenneth Wendt died in Saint Joseph Hospital after being stricken on a Caribbean cruise. The veteran Lake View Citizens Council board member and usher at Mount Carmel for more than 50 years had been assigned to Criminal Court duty from 1970 until his retirement 10 years later. He had been the city's chief narcotics court judge, and was instrumental in rewriting the state's drug laws. He represented Lake View in the Illinois legislature from 1952 until 1962, and was in private law practice for 16 years before going into politics.

The community continued to win significant victories in 1983, notably the saving of the Town Hall police station. Civic leaders, in fact, rolled out their heaviest artillery hours after learning of a city proposal to close Town Hall and two other stations to save money. Within two weeks, an estimated 5,000 signatures had been collected on petitions urging that the station be saved. Three weeks later, Mayor Harold Washington and Police Superintendent Fred Rice promised to keep the 23rd District intact, at least for the moment.

Earlier in the year, local residents had similar success saving the Nettelhorst School, 3252 North Broadway. The Board of Education had originally included Nettelhorst in a list of schools to be closed that coming fall to help balance the budget. School officials said Nettelhorst was under-used and in a dangerous state of disrepair. But the more than 300 angry parents and teachers who turned out for a public hearing all but ordered the board to make the necessary repairs, noting that some pupils would otherwise have to walk more than a mile to get to the next nearest school.

Still another victory came when Fire Commissioner Louis Galante promised not to close the stations at 1052 West Waveland Avenue and 2214 West Barry Street. Concern about the future of the two firehouses started when community groups learned of a purported plan to eliminate some smaller stations. Galante, however, not only vowed there would be no firehouse closings here, but said he planned no layoffs of firemen or paramedics.

The community, however, failed to save the three Kellogg mansions at 2946-60 North Lake Shore Drive. The four-year battle to save the homes began shortly after the 1979 death of Mrs. Helen Kellogg, daughter-in-law of the cereal company's founder. Her heirs promptly announced plans to sell the property to a developer and donate the proceeds to charity, noting that the mansions were becoming more of a burden than an asset. Before it was over, the battle had been fought in the City Council, the Chicago Landmarks Commission, and several courtrooms. By the end of the second year, Kellogg

lawyers were demanding the city either buy the property or issue demolition permits. "Preservationists" (and residents of a nearby co-op at 322 West Oakdale Avenue) said the Kellogg buildings deserved landmark status, and warned that another high-rise would aggravate the neighborhood's already serious traffic and congestion problems. The Illinois State Supreme Court disagreed twice, and not a single protestor was on hand when the wreckers set to work on the morning of July 12, 1982.

Continued debate also raged in 1984 over CTA plans to build a new Addison Street L station as part of a program to link the north end of the Howard line directly to the South Side's Dan Ryan route by 1989. The scheme was hailed by some as an important step in the resurgence of the Addison business strip. Others, however, argued that the expected two years of work would seriously disrupt the neighborhood. A few Wrigleyville residents even proposed a subway line between Belmont and Addison as an alternative. CTA officials, however, noted that subway construction would virtually shut

down Clark Street for several years and cost at least \$200 million.

Wrigleyville, however, wasn't the only Lake View neighborhood getting a facelift in 1984. Developers unveiled plans to build a 58-unit residential/commercial complex on a long-vacant lot at 2800 North Orchard. A shabby apartment hotel at 712 West Diversey immediately adjoining that lot was also upgraded. And still more renovation was planned for a string of storefronts on the northwest corner of Clark and Diversey.

Further west, the Postal Service was finally able to get a site for the Graceland station that had been promised for more than 20 years. Officials of First National Realty and Development Company, builders of a shopping center at Ashland and Wellington, leased 40,000 square feet to the Post Office for 50 years, with an option to buy after 20. Construction is expected to be finished by the spring of 1986. Even postal officials agreed that won't be a moment too soon, considering the area's continuing growth.



A VIEW FROM INSIDE Wrigley Field of some rehabbed Wrigleyville residences in 1979. Despite the noise and parking congestion near the home of the Cubs, apartment owners and renovators have seen

increased rents and a movement of younger, professional residents into the area.—Courtesy, Chicago Sun-Times.

The neighborhood, it seemed, completely changed every few years. In the early 1970s, for example, the onetime Swedish colony on the 3300 to 3600 blocks of North Clark Street gave way to "Koreatown". A "Korean Yellow Pages" was even circulated among the 15,000 Koreans here. The first Korean business to appear on the strip was the Sam Mee Restaurant, 3370 North Clark Street, followed by the Arriang Food Mart, the Seoul Travel Agency, and the Korea Times. The Korean-American Community Service Center, opened at 3345 North Sheffield a short time later. Because of an apparent Korean tendency to separate their business from their home lives, however, few Koreans actually live in "Koreatown". They may be the first of Lake View's many ethnic groups who haven't made themselves entirely at home here.

Neither, fortunately, did the criminal elements who infested the Belmont-Sheffield area not far away. The once-solid Swedish settlement had become seedy by the early 1970s, wedged in between "New Town" (locals prefer to call it Lake View East) and the Lincoln-Belmont shopping strip, with no identity of its own. A handful of local businessmen organized the Lake View Central Business Association in 1980, and hired Tim Sullivan as its executive director. A long-vacant bank building at Belmont and Sheffield has been redeveloped into stores, offices and 94 apartments; at least two transient hotels have cleaned up their acts; and a number of new attractions, such as Crosscurrents, an old Swedish Club, and the Old Vic Theater are again coming to life. Indeed, the Lake View Central area's 12 theaters now represent the largest concentration of off-Loop entertainment anywhere in the city.

And in the summer of 1985, the Lake View Chamber of Commerce met to work out its own development plan. "It's a case of development or

disaster," Chamber President Donald Haderlein warned. "We're either going to become one of the city's great shopping centers once again, or we're going the way of the Dodo bird." Haderlein added that the area is overripe for development, and that the only real question is whether decisions are going to be made by the community or by outsiders. "But change will come," Haderlein said, noting that the area has become too valuable to be left alone much longer.

Things really hadn't changed much in the past century after all. In 1885, a directory published by the R.R. Donnelly Company outlined the advantages of living in Lake View.

"First: Accessible by no less than 10 trains each way daily over the Chicago and North Western Railway and an equal number by the Chicago and Evanston Railway. In addition to this, we have the North Chicago City Railway to Fullerton Avenue and the terminus to Graceland every half hour.

"Second: The educational system in Lake View is one of the best in the state. The primary schools are of a higher grade than those of our neighbors.

"Third: The police and fire departments are well-equipped and efficient, and can always be relied on in case of emergency. The health department is well in hand, and all the ordinances relating to it are rigidly enforced.

"Fourth: Pure lake water is distributed in abundance to every portion of the town, and for all purposes.

"Fifth: These advantages, together with the pure bracing air from the lake, make it one of the most desirable locations for businessmen and strangers seeking comfortable homes.

"With so many requisites for comfort, health and easy access to business we predict a continued increase in population and wealth."

The brochure might have been written yesterday.

LAKE VIEW BANK—80 YEARS STRONG

The turn of the century was of particular significance to the banking fraternity in Chicago as it marked a definable expansion of the Chicago money market. It also witnessed a final rejection of the uproar for making silver legal tender, which, in turn, helped passage of the Gold Standard Act, passed by Congress March 14, 1900. Many bankers regarded this as the sign of a new era of prosperity. It was also an era of contrary opinions. Bank failures were all too frequent for comfort. Public confidence in bank management suffered a severe setback. However, in spite of the difficulties, business prosperity moved forward as if unaware of the problems being faced by the financial community in trying to assure a stable financial environment.

Sustained by a surge of development in commerce and industry, the stronger inner-city banks expanded rapidly both in resources and the services being offered to keep pace with the growing demand for financial accommodation. There was also a marked increase in the importance of state banks and trust companies. At the same time, there was developing a fear in the outlying communities—such as Lake View—that the downtown banks were becoming so completely occupied in capitalizing on the business upsurge that the man on the street would become the forgotten man and his financial needs of no concern to them.

Until 1905, there was little push for banking services in the Lake View community. Then, as that year drew to a close, the people of Chicago were shocked to learn that three big banks had closed their doors in failure.

So it was then that the people of the Lake View community were convinced they should have a bank of their own. A group of financial backers in the inner city was recruited, and an organization committee was formed; a state bank charter applied for and granted, and on November 20, 1905, the promise of a local bank became a reality. Called the Lake View Trust and Savings Bank, it was the first to be organized on the north side.

It seemed wise to the organizers to open with a stated capital of \$200,000 and a surplus of \$10,000. The stock was quickly subscribed by a group of 100 stockholders, including many prominent leaders in Chicago banking and industry; names such as Armour, Swift, Potter Palmer, and many others.

As a proof of the fact that the Lake View Bank was well conceived and strongly supported, it is interesting to note that in 1905, of fifteen new banks organized in Chicago, only the Lake View Bank has not been absorbed by other banks or dissolved.

The place of business was a two story brick commercial and office building at 1742 North Ashland Avenue (later renumbered 3211). The first floor had

been remodeled to provide a bank of four tellers' cages surmounted by an ornamental grille along the north wall. At the rear was a small officer and clerical area beyond which was the grilled entrance to a small vault section.

Double bracketed lighting fixtures with gas candles and rosetted electric outlets hung from the ceiling. The lower section of the front windows on either side of the entrance were decorated with painted panels, informing the public that behind this new front was the Lake View Trust and Savings Bank with a Capital and Surplus of \$210,000. Hanging over the sidewalk at the entrance was an illuminated sign simply reading "Bank".

The first officers of the bank elected by the Board of Directors, were H.E. Otte, president; W.F. Hayes, vice-president; Otto Gondolf, cashier. Mr. Otte was already well known in banking circles in and about Chicago.

Without newspaper headlines or commercial promotion, the morning of November 20, 1905, marked an important date for the families and merchants in and about the Lincoln, Belmont area. It was on this Monday morning, the Lake View Trust and Savings Bank first opened its doors to the eager, expectant community.

Although at the end of the year on December 31, 1905, the deposits had totaled only \$80,713.81, there was no question in the minds of the officers and directors that the new bank would provide an important way of stimulating and carrying forward the onward progress of the Lake View community.

Evidence of this contagious optimism was indicated in the mid-year of 1906, when plans were discussed looking to the erection of a new building. Present facilities were proving inadequate.

The Panic of 1907 was a chain reaction of mounting fear and distrust when a New York brokerage firm failed, and America experienced a financial tailspin.

Here was the first real test for the young bank, scarcely two years old. By the end of the panic, in July 1909, deposits had crossed the million dollar mark!

In the face of the general panic, the Board of Directors had, on March 25, 1908, appointed the bank president and three directors to act as a committee to explore the possibility of purchasing a suitable site for a new bank building.

On January 27, 1909, a property at 3205 Ashland Avenue was purchased from William Oesterrich, who had owned and operated a boot and shoe store at this location for 25 years or more. On the property at the time stood a 2½ story frame store and flat building housing The Daily Cleaners and Dyers. On December 28, two more adjacent lots were purchased. The Lincoln Lunch Room occupied the store on the street level of the 2½ story frame commercial and flat building at 3203 North Ashland. Next door on the corner at 3201 was a similar frame

Banking Department

DEPOSITS *subject to check* are invited from Individuals, Corporations and firms.

Savings Department

ACCOUNTS for savings may be opened by anyone in this Bank by depositing \$1.00 and upwards. Interest paid on such deposits at the rate of

3%
per Annum

and is compounded semi-annually.

Foreign Exchange and Credits

In the Foreign Department of this Bank, Money can be sent to foreign countries by Draft and Bank Post remittances.

Letters of Credit are issued to Travelers, by means of which money can be obtained in all parts of the world.

Foreign Money Bought
and Sold

Real Estate and Loans

LOANS are made by this Bank on Approved Collateral Securities and on First Mortgages on Improved Real Estate in Chicago.

REAL ESTATE MORTGAGES for sale, also high class Bonds and Securities bought and sold.

FIRE and PLATE GLASS INSURANCE placed in reliable Companies.

Safety Deposit Vaults

The use of Private Safes for the safe keeping of Insurance Policies, Securities, Abstracts, Wills, Important Papers, Jewelry and other valuables can be had in our Vaults for \$3.00 per annum and upwards.

Our Vaults are of modern construction and are provided with all possible safeguards, under careful management which provides absolute and complete protection from loss by Fire or Burglary.



Stockholders

Deering, Charles	McCormick, Cyrus H.
Armour, J. Ogden	Higley, Glas. W.
Swift, Louis F.	Judkins, Putnam R.
Swift, Edward F.	Schlesinger, R. J.
Palmer, Honore	Tilden, Edward
Spaulding, Chas. F.	Van Vechten, Ralph
Laycock, H. C.	Meeker, Arthur
Brinton, Bradford	Evans, Arthur F.
Collins, A. M.	Strawn, Silas H.
Smith, G. B.	Butters, A. E.
Bailey, James B.	Schoch, Al. F.
Vernon, David	Clark Mrs. M. J.
Breed, J. E.	Jackson, Edward F.
Tucker, F. I.	Hartwell, D. E.
Losch, N. R.	Johnson, Edward V.
Stacey, Benj. John	Chetman, H. A.
Cox, Leo	Stimson, Oscar M.
Hughes, James	Budgell, H. S.
Norman, Dan'l	Fay, A. R.
Adams, Wm. K.	Jones, Griffith M.
Soffel, John	Hopkins, R. J.
Holdeman, W. G.	Hawkinson, John A.
Allen, John J.	Hollman, Gilbert J.
Clark, Walter I.	Phillips, H. J.
Elias, Joseph J.	Hubbard, Fred A.
Smith, H. E.	Bruckner, Wm. F.
Rothschild, Leo	Burdick, Arch. O.
Bennett, Robert M.	Cruver, Curtis L.
Bell, Herbert E.	Dapples, E. C.
Zoller, Walter G.	Donnelly, Frank
Kohn, Frank J.	Gardner, H. C.
King & Co., John C.	Gasser, Emil F.
Harris, Sam'l H.	Higley, Nathan H.
Oppenheimer, Julius	Logeman, John H.
Jenkins, Geo. R.	Otto, H. E.
Chapman, Chas. F.	Maurer, J. E.
McManus, Robt. C.	Gondolf, Otto J.
Lemke, L. A.	Hilbert, Harry H.
Reintz, Fred	Hinterman, Wm. C.
Steiner, John F.	Ord, M. E.
Anderson, Alex.	Peacock, C. A.
Houghton, E. W.	Patterson, L. B.
Hayward, Frank S.	Strong, C. C.
Fowler, F. A.	Upham, Fred. W.
Dickinson, Edw.	Russell, Edw. P.
Puttkammer, E.	Becker, A. G.
Heinemann, Oscar	Budlong, Joseph J.
Kuehl, Geo. C. J.	Peabody, F. S.
Hayes, W. F.	Morris, Edward M.
Eckels, James H.	Palmer, Potter Jr.

Lake View Trust and Savings Bank

(UNDER STATE SUPERVISION AND CONTROL)

1742 N. Ashland Ave.
Near Lincoln and Belmont Aves.

Capital \$200,000 Surplus \$10,000



Officers

H. E. OTTE . . . PRESIDENT
W. F. HAYES VICE PRESIDENT
OTTO J. GONDOLF CASHIER

Directors

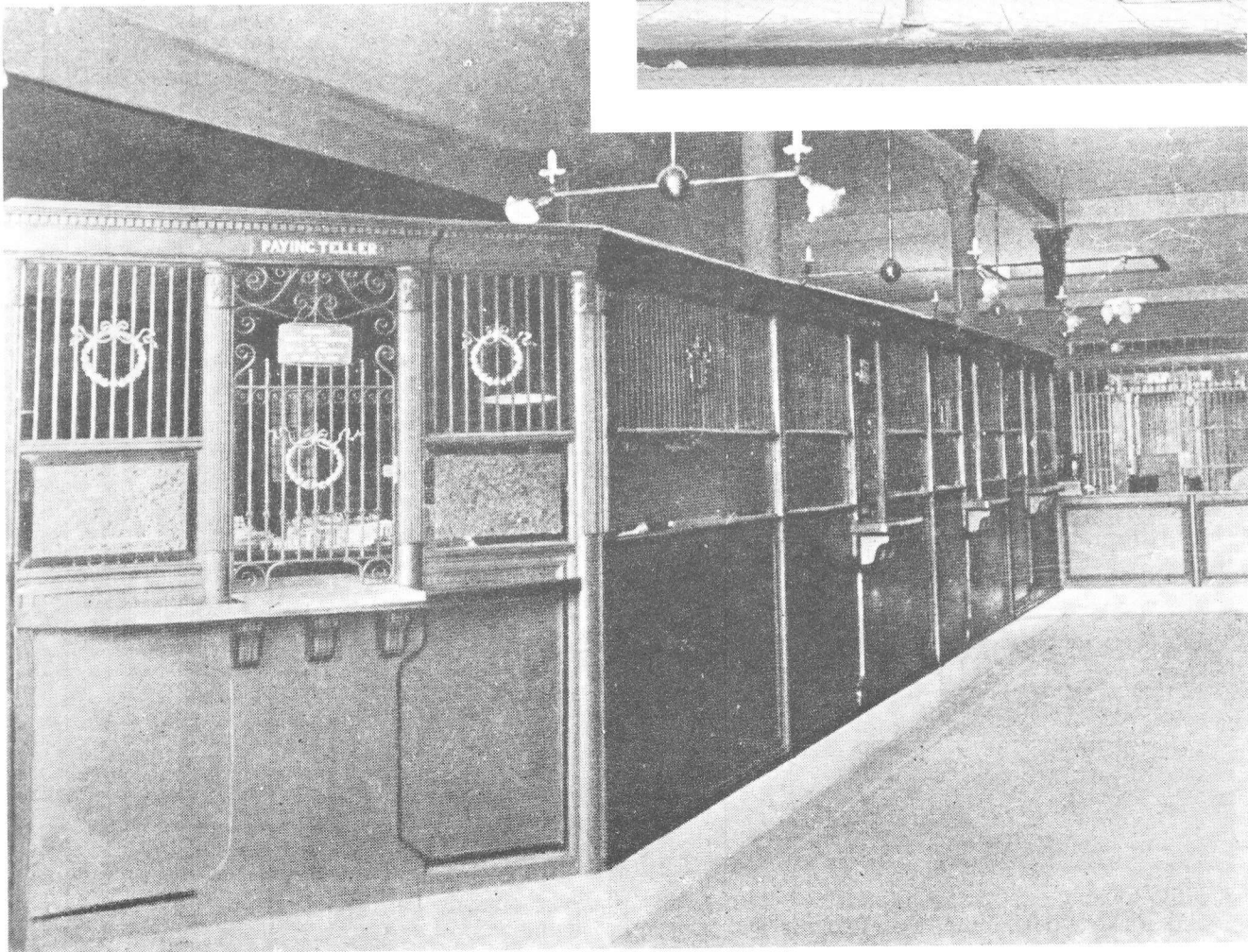
JAMES H. ECKELS, PRES. COMMERCIAL NATL. BANK, CHICAGO
ROXANE PALMER, CAPITALIST
HARTLEY C. LAYCOCK, SWIFT & CO.
W. F. HAYES, SECT. SPALDING-LUMBER CO.
JNO. H. LOHEMAN, CHICAGO POST OFFICE
CHAS. W. HIGLEY, GENL. WESTERN MGR.
E. PUTTKAMMER, COAL RANOVER FIRE INS.
PUTNAM R. JUDKINS, CAPITALIST
JOSEPH J. BUDLONG, VICE PRES. & TREAS. L. A. HOLDING CO.
H. J. SCHLESINGER, PRES. UNION STOCK YARDS STATE BANK
FRANCIS S. PEABODY, PRES. PEABODY COAL CO.
H. E. OTTE, PRESIDENT

LAKE VIEW BANK BROCHURE in 1905 shows the variety of services available even then. Some prominent Chicago leaders were among the first stockholders—Ogden Armour, Louis and Edward Swift, Cyrus McCormick, Potter Palmer, Jr.

AN UNUSUAL BIRTHPLACE. When the Lake View Trust & Savings Bank customer enters the magnificent structure on the corner of Belmont and Lincoln, little would he or she imagine the institution got its start in a simple store. The first bank was located at 3211 North Ashland Avenue.—Courtesy, Ravenswood-Lake View Historical Society.



...AND ON THE INSIDE. The frontage of the building was less than 25 feet. In this picture, one can see the four tellers' cages. At the rear was the small vault section. Located here was, in addition to the vault space, a small office and clerical area.—Courtesy, Ravenswood-Lake View Historical Society.



building. The Lincoln Cloak Suit and Fur Company occupied the first floor, and Dr. Huhn and Yale, Dentists, had their offices on the second floor.

When it was announced at the annual stockholder's meeting, January 11, 1910, that total deposits at year end had passed the one million dollar mark, and this in spite of attempts at nationwide banking reforms, it was abundantly clear that the officers had been justified in pressing for more adequate working space.

The population of Lake View was also forging ahead. During the decade from 1910 to 1920 it increased from 60,535 to 96,462. In keeping with this population growth, it should be noted that the savings' pass books had the By Laws, Rules and Regulations printed in English, German, and Swedish.

The year 1911 also marked the entry of a new bank in the Lake View area, titled Lake View State Bank, founded as a successor to the North Shore Exchange Bank. Subsequent revisions of the capital structure increased the capital from \$200,000 (1911) to \$700,000 by 1928. Two years later, on August 16, 1930 the bank was forced to suspend operations resulting in a large financial loss to its depositors.

The year 1912 closed on a happy note for the Lake View Bank. In the few short years of its existence, the bank had established a record of such

success, that by the year's end, total deposits stood at over \$2 million.

Not less than 18 new banks, one third on the north side of Chicago, had been organized in 1912. The Lake View Bank's persistent growth, however, encouraged its officers to carry forward their plans to provide even more adequate working space by the erection of new and expansive banking quarters.

In 1913, the man on the street was little concerned with Congressional legislation to reform banking operations, provided his own bank was strong and healthy. It was along these lines that the Lake View Bank had come of age, dominated in its thinking and actions that the depositor must always have utmost protection, and yet blended into such conservative policy must be recognition of the community's financial needs.

Holabird & Roche, who had been commissioned to prepare plans for new banking quarters, presented architectural drawings for the new building. With minor changes, these were approved on September 29. To round out the building site, the property at 3207 North Ashland Avenue, owned by Mrs. Wilhelmina Gunther, was purchased. It was at one time a part of the Guenther Grocery, for many years a fixture at this location. The entrance to the store was approached by five steps up to a wooden platform extending the full length of the property.



A VIEW looking east on Belmont. The tall tower is St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church. The brick

pavement and car tracks are visible.—Courtesy, Ravenswood-Lake View Historical Society.



BELIEVE IT OR NOT! This is a picture of the corner of Belmont and Ashland where the Lake View Trust & Savings Bank now stands. Just to the left, but out of the picture, is the store front building where the bank got its start. The date of this picture was about 1913.—Courtesy, Ravenswood-Lake View Historical Society.

A BETTER VIEW. If one was standing south of the Belmont-Ashland corner, this is what he would have seen looking north.—Courtesy, Ravenswood-Lake View Historical Society.



In the fall of 1913, a group of four officers withdrew from the Lake View Trust and Savings Bank, impatient with the conservative policies followed by the management, and decided to organize a bank of their own. Spearheaded by J.G. Squires, Otto Gondolf, Charles Johnson, and E. Tessmer, they selected a location at the southwest corner of Lincoln and Melrose. They remodeled an existing building and opened the Citizen's State Bank of Lake View. Later, the title was changed to Citizen's State Bank of Chicago. A program of expansion was started in 1929 when they absorbed the Addison National Bank, followed with the absorption of the Marshfield Trust and Savings. The North Center trust was also obtained. The "Sunshine Bank," as they called themselves, apparently unable to assimilate these acquisitions without insurmountable growing pains, was forced to suspend operations on May 25, 1932. Signs of a gathering storm appearing on the banking horizon for some weeks before the closing, had caused many depositors to draw down their balances so that the financial loss to the bank's depositors was not as large and widespread as might have otherwise been the case.

On Lake View's southern border at Fullerton and Halsted, a new bank was opened December 31, 1913, known as the Aetna State Bank. The bank had been organized by Alexander Maltman who was elected its first president. Although just over the Lake View city line as it existed when annexed by Chicago, the Aetna State Bank has always been regarded as a Lake View landmark. Mr. Maltman had settled in Lake View after the close of the Civil War in 1868 at Halsted and Wrightwood. Shortly afterwards, he became actively identified with Lake View's municipal affairs, becoming a member of the Board of trustees for Lake View schools.

The management of the bank remained in the Maltman family for three generations. Like all banks in Illinois, the Aetna State Bank was closed by Governor Horner's moratorium, but reopened January 12, 1934.

Nationwide, the 1914 outlook was not good, but in the Lake View community there remained a ground swell of confidence making for business as usual.

So it was that at the annual meeting, the officers were concerned primarily in making final plans for the erection of the new bank building.

It was reported at this meeting, that the bank now held title to four lots with a combined frontage of 100 feet on Ashland Avenue, but that for the present, only the rear half of the fourth lot, in addition to the other three in their entirety, would be built on. The approved plans were drawn to accommodate 25,000 depositors and 5,000 safe deposit boxes. Provision was also made for 25 offices for rental on the second floor.

Two of the frame buildings on the property were sold to J. Hebel on May 8 for demolition. Previously a large sign had been erected spanning the upper floors of the three buildings announcing a new bank building would be built on the site the following spring.

The mid-year proved to be of particular significance for the bank and the Lake View community. On July 28, E.C. Burmeister became associated with the bank he would serve for over 70 years. Fresh out of high school, Mr. Burmeister, a native of the community, joined the bank July 28, 1914, as a messenger in the original dimly lighted store pressed into use as bank quarters. In due course, he became auditor, assistant cashier, vice-president, and in 1948, he became the bank's fifth president, in which capacity he served until 1964. During his fifty years of service, he had watched the Bank grow from deposits of scarcely more than \$2 million to over \$240 million, to become the largest bank outside the Loop and the 164th in the nation. He was honored at a community-wide dinner in July of 1964. The Illinois Bankers Association presented him with their 50 year service pin which carried special significance in that all these years had been spent with the Lake View Bank and in service to a grateful community.

Before the end of 1914, the move was made to the new building containing 10,000 square feet of bank operating space. A polished granite base supported the gleaming white terra cotta front from the local Northwest Terra Cotta Company, founded in 1878, reaching up through the two floors to the parapet which was surmounted by a row of decorative spindles fashioned of the same material. To the north of the main entrance, facing Ashland Avenue, were three stories for commercial rental. At the east end of Belmont Avenue was a separate entrance and stairway leading to the 25 offices located on the second floor. The Safe Deposit Vault, with 5,000 boxes, was protected by the most modern vault construction. With its massive 12 ton steel door and sensitive time locks, the vault incorporated the utmost in vault safety.



THE 1914 BANK STRUCTURE. When the grand plans for the new Lake View Trust & Savings Bank were released to the public, this picture showed what a great improvement had been made at the Belmont-Ashland corner. Note the terra cotta facings, from the local area's terra cotta manufacturing works.—Courtesy, Ravenswood-Lake View Historical Society.

Born in the aftermath of the 1903 panic and hardly off the ground when another shock took the financial community in 1907, smooth sailing was far from being assured for the Lake View Bank, but this early baptism of fire proved both a test of its soundness and its basic need in the community.

In spite of the rumblings of war abroad in 1914, business reacted to an increased tempo and demand for goods and services. Retail sales volume gave promise of prosperity.

Perhaps there was no need at the time to build a large and imposing edifice, one which would dominate the area it was to serve. The bank's consistent record of growth in deposits reinforced the officers in their reasoned conviction that in spite of the faltering national economy, Lake View would need and could support a bank which would symbolize strength and permanence.

Because of the accelerated tempo of World War I preparations, there were persistent demands made on all banks for credit expansion by business and the government. The amount of commercial paper flowing into the banks for rediscount increased rapidly from 1916. To meet this demand, member banks of the Federal Reserve System were authorized for the first time to borrow on their own 15 day notes secured by government bonds as well as paper arising from commercial transactions. This move gave support to the member banks in financing the war efforts through the purchase and sale of government bonds on a broader scale.

Throughout the war and beyond, the Lake View Bank was outstanding among the outlying banks in the volume of government bonds sold.

In the spring of 1916, after war with Germany was declared, the war effort was pushed into high

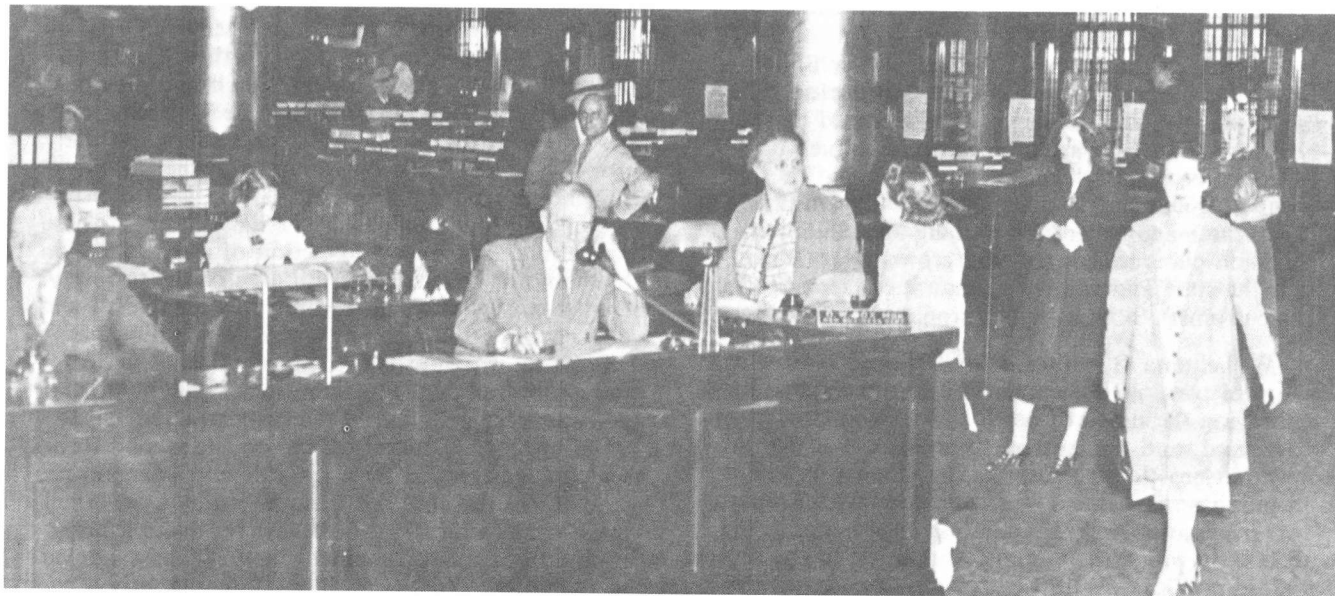
gear. As with all banks, the Lake View Bank's operations were necessarily modified in the months which lay ahead, to allow full co-operation with the government in raising funds to prosecute the war, yet mindful of its responsibility to provide the services necessary to assist the local business and private sector it served in adjusting to the war economy.

When the conflict was over, the time that followed was one of reconstruction. The Lake View Bank's deposits, however, which had remained relatively static during the war years, by the end of 1919 had doubled, from over three million dollars to over six million. Now that the war was over, the local bankers turned their attention to the many changes which had been introduced into the financial community, some of which had been under discussion before the war or ushered in as a consequence.

The nation awaited with eagerness what was expected to be the postwar "normalcy," but the extravagances which had been building up in all aspects of daily living for the past several years, ushered in the depression of 1920-1921.

Undisturbed by the financial difficulties which existed, the Lake View Bank increased its capital, and enlarged its staff.

From 1921-1923, change was the order of the day. At the Lake View Bank, deposits began moving upward, and additions were made to the staff. To meet the developing need for additional boxes, the officers of 1924 decided to lower the main vault from the mezzanine, where it was located, through the first floor, to a position in the basement. This would make possible the expansion of vault facilities by increasing the number of boxes



THIS INTERIOR VIEW of the Lake View Bank may be familiar to many residents of the area if they were around in 1924. In the far left corner of the picture is E.C. Burmeister, presently a Director,

then an assistant cashier. O.W. Cox, new business department, is also recognizable.

available, and provide enlarged customer space outside the vault itself. By this move, 1200 square feet were also added to the main banking floor area.

When it became assured in 1924 that the ordinance for the widening of Ashland Avenue would be carried through, the bank officers took steps to compensate for the banking area which would be sacrificed by entering into a contract for the purchase of a lot facing Melrose and Belmont Avenues, just east of the existing alley. The bank deeded the east 16 feet to the City of Chicago for a new alley, and in exchange acquired the old 16 foot alley. This provided for the erection of a 25 foot addition to the bank building on the east, which would add 2,500 square feet to the bank floor to counter-balance the 17 feet to be cut off the Ashland Avenue frontage as a result of the street widening ordinance.

Authorization was granted to A. August on February 28, 1925, for the wrecking of the two frame buildings on the two lots just acquired. Final plans for the additions were shortly approved, and in June, a contract was awarded to Warner Construction Company, through the office of Holabird & Roche, Architects.

The year 1926 marked further developments at the Lake View Bank. To meet the continuing need for additional safety deposit boxes, an auxiliary vault was built on the lower level of the bank adjacent to the main vault, and new teller cages installed on the main floor.

There appears to have been relatively little activity during 1927. Plans for a new addition to the bank were on the drawing board.

A development in the area banking field was the formation and opening of the Addison National Bank at Addison and Southport on September 27, with capital of \$120,000.

In spite of the fact that the Lake View Bank's rate of growth had slowed somewhat during 1928, and total deposits at the year's end would be slightly lower than 1927 as the country continued its speculative binge, the bank's management by this time accepted such radical changes. They did not keep the management from going ahead with expansion plans to assure a less crowded work area for the staff and greater operating convenience for its customers, both of which would be needed later.

Wilhelmina Guenther, who had acquired ownership of two lots adjoining the bank property to the north on the death of her husband, was now deceased, and the trustees were anxious to sell the property to close the estate. On January 10, 1928, a purchase agreement was concluded with Richard Werneck and Emily L. Guenther as trustees of the estate by which the bank acquired title to the two additional lots. With the property already owned, this purchase gave the bank a frontage of approximately 150 feet on Ashland Avenue, which made possible the carrying forward of plans for building an addition to the north the following year.

Despite the stock market crash and the terrible depression in 1929-1930, the Lake View communi-

ty, while necessarily involved in the backwash, was far from dying.

The loss which the Lake View Bank had experienced sometime previously in a robbery was compensated by a check from the insurance company on November 12, 1929. Also, Oliver W. Cox who had joined the bank in 1920, was appointed Manager of the New Business Department in 1929, although this was only one activity he engaged in.

On September 1, the Citizen's State Bank of Chicago absorbed the Addison National Bank which had been opened at Southport and Addison in 1927.

The widening of Ashland Avenue was a long drawn-out procedure. So far as the bank was concerned since it had already planned to build an extension to the north, it was decided this could be done at the same time 17 feet would be cut off the Ashland Avenue frontage to provide for the street widening.

By the middle of May 1930, the buildings owned by the bank had been demolished and the west wall of the bank cut back the required depth. Working behind tarpaulin and plywood temporary walls north and west, the bank managed to carry on its normal functions as the rebuilding progressed. Finally in December, the changeover was completed.

With 17 feet shorn from the Ashland Avenue frontage of the bank building, a further expansion was demanded. With the advent of spring, the officers made plans for what almost amounted to a rebuilding program.

The bank held title to three lots, but had only built on the rear half of one lot. A two story brick and frame structure occupied by a National Tea Company store stood on the front half at 3207 Ashland. Formerly it had housed Meyers Drug and Truss before moving one door north to the three story front building. Landers Lunch had previously occupied this location until they decided to relocate across the street. At 3211 Ashland still stood the two story brick building which had been the bank's first home from 1905 to 1914.

Building plans called for the demolition of these three buildings, and the erection of a new addition to the north covering the full area of the property. By the end of May, demolition was completed and new construction was underway. When the rebuilding was finished, the bank did not occupy the entire building. Five stores facing Ashland Avenue were included in the reconstructed building, and 25 rental offices on the second floor which were reached by a separate entrance and stairway at the east end from Belmont Avenue. The main vault, which had been lowered from a mezzanine floor to the basement in 1924 was extended to the north, expanding the safe deposit box capacity approximately 200 per cent.

Almost at the close of the year, after months of tearing down and building up, the bank was ready to unveil to the public its revamped banking quarters where decorative beauty and functional efficiency were joined to provide a helpful, neighbor-

ly atmosphere. A formal opening was held on Saturday, December 27, 1930, which also served to highlight the bank's 25th anniversary.

August 16 proved to be an unhappy day for many families and businesses in the Belmont-Clark section, when it was learned that the Lake View State Bank of Chicago had, as was noted, been forced to suspend operations. Six years later, in 1936, the State Auditor of Public Accounts returned 35 per cent of the deposits to the customers of the defunct bank.

The years 1931 and 1932 might be characterized as a period of suspended animation for the people in Lake View as depression cut deeper and deeper into all areas of the economy. Fear and uncertainty were common as danger signals appeared wherever one turned.

Through doubt or necessity, Lake View Bank deposits suffered some erosion, but withdrawals were free of hysteria during the period notwithstanding the closing of 522 banks in Chicago during the month of October 1931. The Lincoln Trust and Savings Bank had suspended operations on April 16, 1931, and the following year the Citizens State Bank on May 25, and the Bowmanville National Bank on June 20.

The collapse of the Insull Empire reached into many Lake View homes not so much for the dollars lost for a single individual, but because of the wide distribution of the utility stock among families who had no experience with the securities market, and were unable to understand what had happened.

The Lake View Bank, in the face of the national financial paralysis, made a bold move to put its own house in order. On January 1, 1933, it reduced the interest paid on savings accounts from 3 per cent to 2½ per cent, marking the first reduction in interest since the bank opened.

The statewide moratorium on banking operations, declared March 3, by Governor Horner, followed by a temporary national memorandum effective March 5 to March 9, was followed on March 11 by a breakthrough in the financial trouble, when the Federal Reserve Banks were authorized to reopen for regular business. The Lake View Bank applied for and was admitted to membership in the Federal Reserve System on March 13. This made possible the reopening of the bank on that date by reason of the authority granted to member banks located in Federal Reserve cities.

Meanwhile, a strong groundswell for reforms in bank supervision was developing. Congress assigned top priority to the problem. On June 16, the Banking Act of 1933 was approved, giving government stronger supervisory powers. The legislation came too late to prevent the closing of the Belmont Sheffield Trust and Savings Bank on July 6, 1933, after less than six years of operation.

With the advent of fall came multiplying signs that the country's business was again moving forward, though haltingly. Between 1932 and 1933, deposits in the Lake View Bank had more than doubled. It would be another year, however, before

they would reach their pre-depression level.

The revamping of the country's financial structure was continued.

For the next five years the local scene was largely preempted by a succession of legislative enactments from Washington. Hardly any aspect of American life was sacred in the halls of Congress.

During this period the bank increased its staff. It also authorized an interior remodeling of the Walgreen Drug Store who were tenants of the building.

Lake View, as every other section of the country, was deeply involved in World War II, perhaps more so than many others. Artisans skilled in the metal trades comprised a large segment of the community's work force. They were immediately available for manufacturing munition parts and related products needed in modern warfare.

Notwithstanding the shortages and dislocations incident to war conditions, there were areas of life which must continue to function as best they could. Involved as the bank was in the many activities of war financing, bank management still had a job to do in serving the day-to-day financial needs of its many customers for the safekeeping of whose funds the bank had long been committed.

More people now had more money to spend or saved with the advent of higher wages and social security, and the general New Deal philosophy of "spread the wealth." Bank management was obliged to face up to many changes during the upcoming decade, but the conservative policies the bank had always pursued proved equal to the task and its after effects.

In many wartime activities, the bank became the focal point for the Lake View community, contributing space and manpower. For example, Oliver W. Cox, who headed the New Business Department of the Bank, was appointed a Chairman of the local draft board where he spent many long hours.

The year 1942 was an unhappy one for the bank. Joseph J. Budlong, President since October 1, 1913, and a director for more than 36 years, died on March 3. He was an astute banker and community leader whose guidance and honesty went far to shape the bank's future development.

Following Mr. Budlong's death, Benjamin J. Steacy, Vice President, was elected to succeed as President. At the same time, E.C. Burmeister was moved up from Assistant Cashier to Vice President. Together these two men represented almost 60 years of service in the bank. H.C. Weichert was elected to Assistant Cashier.

The new management team carried forward the work of the bank apportioning their time and energy between the day-to-day normal operations and the adjustments made necessary by war time restrictions and regulations.

Few incidents having local historical significance appear to have been recorded.

With the cessation of hostilities proclaimed by President Harry S. Truman on December 31, 1946, Lake View shopkeepers were less harried and met their customers with greater attentiveness.

Restaurants, theaters, and the neighborhood taverns were already reflecting an easing of war-time tensions and restraints.

During the war years, deposits in the Lake View Bank rose from over \$36 million at the end of 1941 to more than \$100 million on December 31, 1946, a milestone in the growth of the bank.

In the spring of 1947, on May 26, Stephen B. Clark, the author of this booklet, was added to the bank's staff as a new business solicitor.

In July 1949, a significant change in the bank's ownership occurred. Charles Stewart Mott of Flint, Michigan, probably the largest single stockholder in General Motors Corporation, of which he was a long time officer and director, purchased 1,500 shares of Lake View Trust and Savings Bank stock at prices said to be between \$650.00 and \$700.00 a share. The stock came largely from former directors or their estates, representing an investment by Mr. Mott of over \$1 million.

There was also a new leader of the bank. E.C. Burmeister was named to succeed B.J. Steacy, retired, but still a bank director. There could be little doubt that the new president was the man of the hour. The condition of the Lake View Bank was remarkably strong. Lake View was quick to give him an unqualified vote of confidence. After all, wasn't he a native son?

To close out the year 1950, the bank in December did some further modernization. New oil tanks were installed underground in the basement, as well as a ventilating system. Asphalt tile was laid over the terrazzo flooring on the first floor and in the vault area.

In the spring of 1951, it was found the severe winter had loosened parts of the terra cotta cornice as well as the spindles mounted on top. Rather than try to reset the terra cotta by tuckpointing, it was decided to eliminate the spindles entirely, and reconstruct the whole cornice as a safety factor.

July 1 marked a reversal to the downward trend in interest rates on savings accounts, when the Lake View Bank announced an increase from 1 per cent to 1½ per cent.

In 1952, both to give the Belmont Avenue frontage a more expansive look and to increase the natural light inside the bank, the mullions in the windows were removed. The three narrow windows were replaced by a single large plate glass window in each bay encased by stainless steel mouldings.

This improvement completed in November 1952, was followed in the spring by the first move to take over the whole second floor for their own use. Notices to vacate were given tenants on April 1, 1953. Most of the summer and fall were spent in tearing out walls, plumbing facilities and electric conduits preparatory to remodeling for bank use.

The year, however, had opened on a note of sadness, for on January 30, 1953, William F. Hayes died. A Vice President and Director of the bank for close to half a century, he had contributed a large measure to the strength and stability which characterized the bank during his many years of association and active guidance.

Between 1905, when the Bank was organized, and 1920, it had increased its capital from \$200,000 to \$500,000. On August 19, 1954, the capital was doubled to \$1 million by a 100 per cent stock dividend payable to stock of record on that date. At the same time it was voted to transfer \$1 million from Undivided Profits to Surplus, increasing Surplus to \$3 million.

After several months of illness, Oliver W. Cox was forced to leave his duties as Manager of New Business for the bank, a position he had held with distinction since 1929. His retirement became effective December 31, 1954.

As a forerunner of Lake View Bank's Golden Anniversary celebration, it was announced at the start of the year, an Employee's Profit Sharing plan had been established by the bank's management, retroactive to January 1, 1954. It was also announced that Stephen B. Clark had been named manager of New Business Department to succeed Oliver W. Cox, effective as of January 1, 1955.

In recognition of the bank's 50th Anniversary, the Lincoln-Belmont-Ashland Business Association sponsored a luncheon on November 17 to honor the bank for the part it had played over the years in the solid growth and development of the Lake View community. Seated around the tables at the Lincoln-Belmont Y.M.C.A. were more than 100 community leaders. A brilliantly illuminated "Citation of Appreciation" was presented to President Burmeister in addition to many congratulatory letters and messages received from Illinois Governor William Stratton, Mayor Richard Daley and other political, religious, and financial leaders.

The luncheon was concluded with the comment by President Burmeister, "I am confident that the Lake View Bank, now in its fiftieth year, will continue in those basic attributes of soundness, friendliness, and fair dealing which are the sure foundation for solid growth."

The bank documented the anniversary with a brochure entitled, "It Has Been a Wonderful 50 Years-And We Thank You." The text, with numerous dated photographs, highlighted the history of the bank and its progress during a half century of banking service to the Lake View community.

Included were short sketches of the four senior officers who were chiefly responsible for piloting the bank through fair weather and foul. The brochure also carried the first official Statement of Condition submitted to the Auditor of Public Accounts, as of January 31, 1906. The report showed total resources of \$315,943.11 in contrast to the statement of September 30, 1955, with total resources of \$159,588,265.32. The theme of the brochure was carried out in historical displays in the bank windows and on the lobby floor.

To the north of the bank on the three lots purchased in 1913, the Wieboldt Foundation started the erection of a two story combination store and office building, the ground floor of which had been rented to the Walgreen Drug Company for occupancy after moving from the bank building.

The bank was now prepared to take another step forward. At the annual meeting held January 10, 1956, Elmer E. Burge was elected Trust Officer to assist in handling an increased volume of trust business. It was also voted to increase the capital to \$1,500,000 by declaring a 50 per cent stock dividend.

On May 14 the Wieboldt Foundation had completed the erection of their building adjoining the bank to the north on Ashland Avenue which had been under construction since September of 1955. The space previously occupied in the bank building was vacated by Walgreen when they moved into their new location next door on May 14. The lease to the Kingslet Store had already been terminated and the space vacated, giving the bank full occupancy of their own building. This enabled the bank management to proceed in carrying out plans for a complete modernization of the bank's quarters.

At mid-year on July 1, the interest on saving passbooks was increased from 1½ per cent to 2 per cent.

Oliver W. Cox died in Columbus Hospital on July 15. He had been associated with the Lake View Bank for 35 years, and lived most of his adult life at 3622 North Greenview.

By April 1957, the wooden barricade enclosing the building on Ashland and Belmont Avenue were down. This marked the completion of the first phase of the rebuilding program. The terra cotta facing on the exposed street walls had been removed and replaced with a new facing of Indiana limestone. Below the window sills, a horizontal slab of dark polished granite gave the bays an attractive contrast with the light colored stone surrounding them.

An imposing entrance framed in dark granite extending the full two floors set off the classic beauty of the entire building. Half way up the granite face, above the doors, a modernistic clock was set. A double set of swinging doors provided easy access for young mothers with small children in tow, or handicapped senior citizens. To the right of the entrance, a drum type tumbler, giving access to a chute terminating in a safe on the lower level of the bank, was installed for after-hour deposits.

Benjamin J. Steacy, who had served as the bank's fourth president from April 15, 1942, to December 31, 1947, had occasion to witness many architectural changes in the bank's quarters during his 34 years of active association, but the final stages of its most ambitious change, an outlay costing some \$400,000, was denied him. His death occurred September 11, 1957.

The year 1958 brought many changes in title for the officer personnel in the bank, starting with the annual meeting on January 7, when A.W. Weiss, Vice President, was elected to the Board of Directors followed two months later by the retirement of William H. Bieschke, Vice President, who at the time was the oldest employee of the bank in point of service. He joined the bank on January 20, 1911, as a teller and served in successive capacities

until becoming a Vice President in 1947, a 47 years' service. On August 19, the capital of the bank was again increased with a stock dividend of 66 2/3 per cent from \$1,500,000 to \$2,500,000.

With the arrival of the new year in 1959, the culmination of the bank's rebuilding program was in sight. Plans for an Open House celebration were thrown into high gear, but in the meanwhile, on March 24, Stephen B. Clark was elected a Vice President; Kenneth J. Bieschke and Robert E. Herbst, Assistant Cashiers. The date for the Open House was set for May 27, 28, and 29, 1959.

Officers of the other Chicago banks and financial institutions were invited to an Open House Preview from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 27, at the close of regular banking hours. Tours of the three floors were arranged for those wishing to view the new facilities. On the second floor, a reception with refreshments and souvenirs was held in the employees' lunchroom.

Bank customers and the public were invited to inspect the newly remodeled quarters from 4:00 to 9:00 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, May 28 and 29. Each registered guest was given an opportunity to participate in a drawing for one of 38 cash prizes totaling \$1,000. Refreshments were served and souvenirs distributed on the second floor foyer. A program of organ music was carried over loudspeakers.

Throughout the remodeling, stress had been laid on providing the utmost in convenience for customers in transacting their banking business, and in making its contact officers easily available. Enlarged work areas made it possible for employees to handle customers more rapidly.

Reached by a widened stairway, the safe deposit section on the lower level was made more inviting with recessed lighting and a generous use of color to liven up the record and customer areas. On this level also was a new directors' room paneled in walnut, complemented by a room length table of the same wood and leather upholstered chairs. A lighted mural of Belmont Harbor was at the far end.

The main lobby on the street level had a new floor covering of light colored vinyl tile. The high mahogany cages with their metal grills had given way to less formal, low continuous counters and open teller stations. The rear island, formerly occupied by the senior officers, was eliminated. The front island was extended to the rear of the bank floor and widened to a stairwell leading to the safe deposit vaults to make more contact officers available to customers.

To provide more privacy for customers in consultation with senior officers, a spacious carpeted section was provided to the north of the tellers' cages on the Ashland Avenue side and enclosed by a decorative railing of wood and metal. Private offices for the President and Vice-President were also available for use when desired.

At the southeast corner, the stairway to the second floor was rebuilt around an automatic elevator making access to the safe deposit vaults on

the lower level and the Trust Department on the second floor more convenient. The whole second floor work areas were restructured for greater efficiency in handling an increased load. The air space between the east and west wings of the building on the second floor was floored and roofed over to enclose a spacious and attractive lunchroom for employees. A floor to ceiling glass enclosure opened on an open patio with flower boxes. Here and at the other window openings, the outside glare was countered by double glass curtains and colored drapes. To assure the comfort of employees and patrons, air conditioning was installed throughout the building.

Later in the year, the Lake View Bank had the distinction among Chicago banks of being the first to announce an increase in the interest rate paid on savings accounts, from 2 per cent to 3 per cent, effective July 1.

On December 31, J.H. Bruns, Cashier since June 1950, retired from the bank because of ill health after 35 years of service.

At the annual meeting on January 12, the stockholders voted to reduce the par value of the stock from \$100 to \$20, and split the stock 5 for 1.

Walter A. Beckman was elected Cashier to replace J.H. Bruns. Other elections were T.H. Budlong to Assistant Vice President, R.J. Haselsteiner to Assistant Cashier, and J.P. Feeley to Management of the Real Estate Loan Department.

After a long study and detailed analysis, the Bank decided to introduce electronic data processing in 1962. A start was made by completing punch cards for each of the savings accounts, but the hand posting of ledgers was not immediately discontinued so that mechanical errors or machine failures could be more easily checked back by reference to the dual posting.

With computer operation installed, the Bank took another step forward by increasing the annual interest rate paid on savings accounts to 3½ per cent computed daily and compounded quarterly, starting January 1, 1962. Also, the annual interest rate on Certificates of Deposit was established at 4 per cent, the maximum rate permitted by the recent Federal Reserve Board regulation. This rate change was particularly significant at this time in that the large Loop banks did not move to the new permissible rate until after the first of the year. As a consequence, Lake View was the first of the larger banks in the city to adopt the 3½ per cent rate on January 1.

The completing of the Bank's rebuilding program in 1962 was chosen as the appropriate occasion for adopting a bank trade mark; one which would be modern in appeal, and at the same time identify the Bank with a profession dating far back into nearly recorded history.

To accomplish this, an overall design was devised from the clay tablets found in ancient Babylon for recording financial transactions such as due bills, mortgages, transfers of property real and personal, safe keeping receipts and the like, much as banking records to be found in modern use. In so small a

design, it was not practical to include the Bank's full title, and so the growing practice among well known business firms of using initials in place of the corporate title was adopted to create an overall distinctive identity. The use of modern type faces would not serve the purpose if a semblance of antiquity was to be preserved.

Sometime between the seventh-sixth century B.C., the cursive alphabet had been introduced. From these writings, it was found possible to devise the two initials "L" and "V" which would be suggestive of an ancient alphabet and yet readily recognizable in modern adaptation.

With the arrival of new data processing equipment, this department of the Bank was greatly expanded to handle a growing work load for both the Bank's internal operation and payroll computation for some of its larger customers. This, in turn, required an expansion of the operating area. A realignment of the bookkeeping section made it possible to double the computer area.

At the end of 1966, net operating earnings were reported at a record high. Total deposits had also reached a record high of over \$268 million.

In view of the progress made by the Bank during 1966, the directors at their annual meeting January 1967, voted to increase the Bank's capital from \$2,500,000 to \$5,000,000. Profits were voted to provide for this Capital increase. The directors then declared a 100 per cent stock dividend to holders of record January 24.

The continued growth of the Bank made it apparent that additional operating space would be required. The Wieboldt Foundation, owners of the two story frame building adjacent to the Bank on the north at 3213 North Ashland Avenue, made it known they were planning to dispose of their real estate holdings in Lake View to put the Foundation in a stronger cash position, and were willing to sell the property to the Bank. Satisfactory terms were negotiated, and the bank purchased the property for \$390,000, subject to existing leases, on May 29.

After a considerable delay which ran into the fall, largely because of a telephone strike, a passageway was cut through linking the two buildings on the second floor. At the time because of existing leases, only the rear half of the second floor could be remodeled for Bank occupancy.

In recognition of the fact that growth is synonymous with change, the directors at the Bank's annual meeting January 16, 1968, voted a further change in the Bank's capital structure by increasing the capital to \$7,500,000. To accomplish this, \$1 million was transferred from Surplus and \$1,500,000 from Undivided Profits. Subsequently a 50 per cent stock dividend was declared payable.

The National Lead Company of New York on January 15, 1969, completed the purchase for cash of 360,095 shares of Lake View Trust and Savings Bank stock, or somewhat more than 95 per cent of the outstanding shares. In announcing this purchase, E.R. Rowley, Chairman of National Lead Company, stated that the Bank would be operated as a separate unit with its present officers and staff.

Year end figures for 1968 listed deposits at \$295,861,072.98, and total resources at \$345,320,669.18.

At the annual meeting on January 21, 1969, Robert W. Carter, President of Carter Motor Company, and Edward F. O'Toole, attorney of the firm of O'Toole, Westrick and Harrison, were added to the Board of Directors. Another director elected was Wallace B. Behnke, Jr., Vice-President of Commonwealth Edison Company.

A special meeting of the stockholders was held on July 14 at which Don Kreider was made a director. At the directors' meeting which followed, E.C. Burmeister was made Chairman of the Board and Mr. Kreider was elected President.

Lake View Bank continued its growth and development and in the early 70s ranked as the 9th largest bank in Illinois. It was in 1970 that the Lane organization, headed by William N. Lane, was becoming involved in banking.

Looking for a bank in need of "inspired leadership," they considered acquiring Northwest National Bank but rejected the idea, deciding it was already too well run to need them. Six months later, however, the Lanes bought it hoping to learn from Northwest National instead. Two years later they bought Northbrook Trust and Savings and in 1974 acquired Pioneer Bank.

During this time, Lake View Bank was expanding and remodeling its loan departments on the second floor. In 1973, the Federal Reserve increased the interest paid on passbook savings accounts from 4½ per cent to 5 per cent. Interest paid on savings deposits and certificates of deposits totaled \$13.5 million. Meanwhile, the prime rate charged on commercial loans rose from 6 per cent to 10 per cent in 1973. Assets were up to \$359,152,927 at December 31, 1973.

In 1976, the Lane organization bought Lake View Bank from National Lead Company (NL Industries). The bank's assets at the time were \$384,657,384. Joseph D. Barnette became president and three new directors were added that year: William N. Lane, William N. Lane III and Victor L. Lewis.

Warren R. Rothwell, Vice Chairman of General Binding Corporation, joined as a director the following year. Total assets were up \$31 million at year-end 1977 to \$416,173,140. In 1978, Lake View opened a Lincoln Park office at 538 West Diversey to better reach the "yuppie" set and at the end of that year total assets were up another \$31 million to \$447,066,679.

The year 1980 ended with the first expansion of the Lincoln Park office; Louis A. Lerner, Editor and Publisher of Lerner Newspapers, joined as a director; and total assets were \$457,944,785. Over the next year the bank grew substantially and assets exceeded \$520 million. During 1981, the bank's growth continued with the opening of a drive-in facility at 3301 North Ashland and in 1982 John M. Sevcik became president.

In 1984, the bank completed another remodeling of the entire main floor and the commercial loan, trust and executive departments on the second floor. In December of 1985 the bank will have completed the second remodeling and expansion of its Lincoln Park office at a total cost of approximately \$750,000.

The bank's size wasn't the only reason Lane was interested in acquiring Lake View. "We specifically went after banks with a strong retail flavor that were the dominant institutions in their communities," Lane explained. And three of those banks were in "mature" neighborhoods going through some changes. But that hardly put Lane off. "We have a lot of faith in neighborhoods," he explained shortly after the acquisition. "Even if some of them are changing, we just don't perceive change as necessarily bad. We make sure that if there is change coming, it's a metamorphosis rather than a catastrophe."

In June, 1983, Richard Walker was brought in as president. Walker's personal credo has consistently been to help communities help themselves, rather than come in and tell them what's good for them.

History is a glance backward in an attempt to better understand the necessities of the future. For this reason, it is helpful to be mindful of the past in order to perceive more clearly how to chart a meaningful course for the future.

Following is a list of the men who have served as president of Lake View Bank over the past 80 years.

H.E. Otte	1905-1907
Charles Johnson	1907-1913
Joseph J. Budlong	1913-1942
Benjamin J. Steacy	1942-1947
E.C. Burmeister	1948-1969
Don Kreider	1970-1974
Robert Kline	1974-1976
Joseph D. Barnette	1976-1981
John M. Sevcik	1982-1983
Richard G. Walker	1983-

A.

Abrams, Sanford: 43
 Addison Nat'l Bank: 76, 78
 Aetna State Bank: 20, 76
 Allen, Martin Van: 20, 25
 Allouz, Father: 4
 All Saints' Episcopal Church: 22
 Altgeld, Gov. John P.: 35, 48
 Anderson, A.B.: 37
 Anderson, H.H.: 37
 Anderson, John: 9
 Andreas, A.T.: 21
 Andrews, R.S.: 29, 31
 Annexation (1889): 39
 Anshe Mayriv: 15
 Appleburg, Mme. Louise: 27
 Arnold, Issac N.: 17
 Ashland Avenue: 55
 August, A.: 78
 Augustana College: 28
 Augustana Hospital: 36

B.

Baby Parade, Elks: 54
 Bach & Sons: 18
 Baer, Franz: 15
 "Ballad of Walter Lot": 19
 Banking facilities: 71-83
 Banks Chicago: 44
 Barbour, Sen. James: 48
 Baumann, Chas. & Co.: 39
 Beaubien, Mark: 6
 Becker & Lebahn: 18
 Beckman, Walter A.: 82
 Beery, Wallace: 47
 Belden Ave. Presbyterians: 32
 Beligan Families: 33
 Belmont Trust & Savings: 79
 Belmont Theater: 54
 Bergen, Edgar: 47
 Bernstein, A.D.: 53
 Best, Jacob: 29
 Bethlehem United Church: 32
 Bieschke, Kenneth: 81
 Bieschke, William: 81
 Binstock, Rabbi: 49
 Birk, Carrie: 29
 Birk, Jacob: 28
 Birren Family: 13
 Bismark Gardens: 18
 Black Hawk War: 7
 Blitsch, Peter: 9
 Blue Ribbon Laundry: 48
 Boege, Frank: 48
 Bohnsack, Lutter S.: 18
 Boldenweck Family: 37
 Booster, The: 53
 Borchers, Adolph: 38
 Bowen, C.T.: 21
 Bowen, Martha: 20
 Bowmanville State Bank: 79
 Bowmanville, Village of: 16
 Bradley, Dr. Preston: 49
 Brauckamnn, George: 19
 Brett, Michale: 9
 Brian, "Bunnie": 48
 Brickmaking: 18
 Brieske Family: 39
 Britten, Congressman Fred: 48
 Brown, Lewis A.: 15
 Brumbaugh, Owen: 43
 Brunkhorst, John: 33
 Bruns, J.H.: 82
 Budlong, Joseph J.: 15, 55, 79
 Budlong, Lyman A.: 15
 Budlong Pickle Farm: 15, 40
 Budlong, T.H.: 82
 Buena Park: 19
 Buehler, A.C.: 53

Buether, Anna: 22, 36
 Bugner, John: 15
 Bullock, H.E.: 33
 Burge, Elmer E.: 81
 Burmeister, E.C.: 53, 76, 79, 80, 83
 Bush Home, the: 30
 Byrne, Father Thomas: 50
 Byrne, Mayor Jane: 66, 67

C.

Caplan, A. Orrie: 53
 Car Barns, fire at: 42
 Carter, Robert W.: 83
 Cavaretta, Phil: 48
 Chase, S.B.: 11, 15, 26
 Chicago & Evanston R.R.: 70
 Chicago & Northwestern: 15, 70
 Chicago Assoc. of Commerce: 4
 Chicago Fire (1871): 25
 Chicago Historical Society: 4
 Chicago, St. Paul & Milwaukee: 28
 Chicago Title & Trust Co.: 12
 Chicago Whales, the: 45
 Church, Congressman Ralph: 48
 Churches, Lake View: 31
 Citizen's State Bank: 76, 78, 79
 Civil War, the: 19
 Clarendon Beach: 45
 Clark, John Kinzie: 7
 Clark, Miss Nellie M.: 50
 Clark, Stephen Bedell: 49, 80, 81
 Clark Street: 8, 56
 Clody, Laurent: 38
 Clybourn, Archibald: 7
 Cole, J.N.: 28
 Congdon, John: 40
 Corn Husk Industry: 15
 Cosgrove, T.A.: 21
 Coteleer, Philip: 33
 Cox, Oliver W.: 53, 54, 79, 81
 Cubs Park (Wrigley Field): 45-46
 Culver, Belden F.: 19, 26, 28

D.

Dahm, John: 43
 Daily Cleaners & Dryers: 71
 Dasso, Frank: 48
 Dearborn, Fort: 5
 Deering Family, the: 32
 Deering Factory: 32
 Dehmlow, Arthur C.: 48
 Derock, Lena: 33
 Derion, Gene: 49
 Dillinger, John: 54
 Diversey, Mike: 18, 35
 Donnelley, R.R. & Co.: 70
 Douglas, Senator Stephen: 12
 Downs, Hugh: 47
 Dummy Railroad, the: 21, 22
 Dunne, George W.: 48
 Dyer, Dr. Charles: 10

E.

Edison, Robert: 14
 Edson, Robert: 21
 Eitel Brothers: 18
 Elks Memorial, the: 54
 Ellison Storage Warehouse: 39
 Enander, John Alfred: 28
 Erie Canal, the: 6
 Esmond, Martha Freeman: 26
 Eustance, Alfred: 53
 Evangelical United Brethren: 32
 Evanston: 10

F.

Faber, Katherine: 13
 Fahey, Commander John P.: 49

Fallen Timbers Battle: 5
 Fanta, Joseph: 48
 Feeley, J.P.: 82
 Feigenbutz, William: 48
 Ferris Wheel: 30
 Field, Eugene: 19, 28
 Five Mile House, the: 18
 Fleck, Charles J.: 48
 Fleming, Joseph B.: 50
 Fortmann, Henry: 9
 Fortmann, Joseph: 14
 Fosse, Jacob: 47
 Fry, Camp: 17
 Fry, Gen. Jacob: 17
 Fuhrmann Flower Shop: 14

G.

Gall, John: 20
 Gammon, E.H.: 32
 "Gateway to the West": 3
 General Building Corporation: 64
 German Hospital: 34
 Gesangverein Harmonie: 38
 Gianini, Louis: 48
 Giese, William: 36
 Gill, Ambassador Joseph L.: 48
 Girsch, Nicholas: 9
 Goble, George: 47
 Goethe Monument: 29
 Gondolf, Otto: 71, 76
 Goodkins, James F.: 21
 Goodkins, Damuel B.: 21
 Goodwillie, David: 39
 Goodwin, Maj. Gen. Daniel: 25, 26
 Goudy, W.C.: 19
 Goverdacia, Bato: 48
 Graceland Cemetery: 8
 Grade Schools, Lake View: 29
 Grant Hospital: 34
 Green Bay Road: 7, 8
 Greenebaum Bank, the: 37
 Greenhouses, Lake View: 16
 Greenville Treaty: 5
 Griffin, The: 4
 Grossman Brothers: 38
 Gross Park: 25, 39
 Gross Park Hotel: 29
 Gross, Samuel Eberly: 25, 35, 37
 Guether, Emily: 78
 Guether, Mrs. Wilhelmina: 74, 78
 Gunthrie, Ossian: 4
 Gurner, A.S.: 28

H.

Haderlein, Donald: 70
 Haderlein, John Sr.: 48
 Hage, Otto: 18
 Hahne, William: 18
 Hamlin Park: 18
 Hamlin Park Hanks, the: 53
 Hansen Family Restaurant: 9
 Harlem Globetrotters, the: 48
 Harms C. & J.: 18
 Harris, C.: 21
 Hart, William S.: 41
 Haselsteiner, R.J.: 82
 Hayes, S.S.: 15
 Hayes, W.F.: 71, 80
 Haynes, P.J.: 37
 Hebel, J.: 76
 Hegerman, J.W.: 54
 Heim, John: 38, 44
 Heineman, Louis: 38
 Heineman, George & Stahlman: 18
 Hemlandet, The: 28
 Henning, Frank F.: 35
 Herbster, Robert E.: 81
 Heyworth, Rev. John P.: 49
 Hicks, Allen: 50

High School, Lake View: 26
 Hills, John N.: 25, 29
 Hill's Tavern: 25, 42
 Hirsch, Dr. Lawrence: 50
 Hirsch, Milt: 53
 Hodges, Leonard: 21
 Hodgson, M.W.: 37
 Hoellen, John Sr.: 48
 Hoellen, John Jr.: 48
 Hohner, Hans: 29
 Holabird & Roche: 74
 Hottinger, Gustav: 33
 Howard, Fay & Loren: 38
 Howard, Fay: 54
 Howard Theater: 38, 54
 Humboldt House, the: 18
 Hummel Ernst: 29
 Hundley, E.E.: 11, 15
 Hutch, J.A.: 22, 26

I.

Indian Raids: 5
 Illinois Bell Telephone Co. 29
 Illinois Malleable Iron Co.: 33
 Ingledew, L.: 21
 Insull Empire, the: 79

J.

Jaffee, Jacob: 43
 Jaffe, Sol. & William: 43
 James, D.A.: 21
 Jannsen & Bosworth: 37
 Jefferson, Pres. Thomas: 5
 Jewish Cemetery: 15
 Johnson, Charles: 76
 Jolliet, Louis: 3
 Jordan, Sister Teresa: 50
 Jorgens, Arndt: 48
 Jung, Martin: 9
 Jung, Math: 38, 54

K.

Kalms, William: 41
 Kedzie, J.H.: 21
 Keeney, J.F.: 21
 Keller, Dr. Christian: 42
 Kemnitz & Schneider: 18
 Kemnitz & Wolf: 36
 Kerfoot, S.H.: 10, 12
 Kingman, Rev. James: 49
 Kingslet Store, the: 81
 Kinzie, John: 5
 Kiwanis Club, the: 35, 52
 Klee Brothers Store: 44
 Klee, Herbert: 43, 44, 54
 Klee, Herman: 43
 Klee, Simon: 43, 44
 Klinke Family, the: 30, 37
 Kopke, Carl: 20
 Kopke, John W.: 20
 Koretz, Adolph: 40, 54
 Kositechek, Dr. Sol. B.: 35, 49, 66
 Kotz, Jack: 55
 Kranz, Nicholas: 9, 12
 Kranz, Peter: 12
 Krauspe, Christian F.: 34, 35, 40
 Kreider, Don: 83
 Krengle, Mrs. Ella: 40
 Krietgen, Ernest: 48
 Kunkle, M.: 29

L.

Labahn, C.J.: 18
 Leberge, Helene: 50
 Ladd, Merrill: 21
 Laine, Frankie: 47

Lake Park Evangelical
 United Brethren: 32
 Lake View Churches: 31
 Lake View Chamber of Commerce: 70
 Lake View Citizens Assoc.: 29
 Lake View Citizens' Council: 45, 62-64
 Lake View Congregational: 31
 Lake View Fire Department: 29
 Lake View Grade Schools: 29
 Lake View High School: 26
 Lake View Library, the: 50
 Lake View Mission Conventant: 32
 Lake View Police Station: 24
 Lake View Schools: 29
 Lake View State Bank: 74
 Lake View Telephone Co.: 42-43
 Lake View, Town of: 9, 19, 37
 Lake View Town Hall: 23-25
 Lake View Townsman, The: 31
 Lake View Trust & Savings: 2, 44, 53, 71-83
 Lake View Waterworks: 28
 Landers Lunch: 78
 Land Use Survey (1940): 29
 Lane Technical High School: 18, 55
 Lane, William: 64, 83
 Lane, William N., III: 64, 83
 LaSalle, Robert Chevalier: 4
 Lathrop Julia, Homes: 18
 LeCompte, Howard: 48
 Leland, C.P.: 21
 Lembke, H.: 18
 Lemoyne, J.B.: 26
 Leonard, Jack E.: 47
 Leonhardi, Frederick: 11
 Lerner, Leo: 49, 50, 53
 Lerner, Louis A.: 53, 83
 Lerner, Michael S.: 49, 53
 Levantino, Jerry & Jim: 48
 Lewis, Joe E.: 47
 Lewis, Lewis: 25
 Lewis, R.J.: 37
 Lill, George: 35, 37
 Lill, William: 18
 Lincoln, Abraham: 12, 17
 Lincoln Avenue: 8, 57
 Lincoln-Belmont-Ashland-
 Assoc.: 42, 80
 Lincoln-Belmont YMCA: 59
 Lincoln Cloak & Suit Co.: 74
 Lincoln Lunch Room: 71
 Lincoln Theater: 54
 Lincoln Trust & Saving Bank: 54, 79
 Lincoln Turners, The: 36
 Linke, Ed: 48
 Lippe, Cyrus: 40
 Little Fort Road: 8, 30
 Lohmiller, Ludwig: 38
 Lord, Julia, A.: 27
 Ludwig, John M.: 37
 Lueder, Arthur C.: 48
 Lutter, H.J.: 18
 Lutz, Sam: 48
 Luxemburgers: 8, 9

M.

McChesney, Walter W.: 17
 McConnell, Benjamin F.: 27
 McConnell, John: 37
 McCormick, Cyrus: 13
 McCormick Seminary: 18-19
 McGee, Fibber & Molly: 47
 Maloney, Ma & Pa: 62
 Maltman, Alexander: 20, 29
 Mandelbaum, Jacob: 42
 Marbach, Walter: 48
 Marine Hospital: 20

Marquette, Father: 3, 4
 Marquette, Jolliet Cross: 3
 Marshfield Trust & Savings: 76
 Martha Washington Home: 34
 Masonic Hall: 36
 Matthews, Herbert: 43
 Matthews, Max: 43
 Mauritzen, John: 15
 Maxwell, R.F.: 37
 Mears-Slayton Lumber Yard: 11
 Merrill, T.H.: 27
 Merryman, Bill: 48
 Merz, Lee N.: 43
 Merz, Peter: 43
 Methodist Church (Ravenswood): 21
 Metropolitan Business College: 38
 Meyer, Edwin F.: 48
 Meyers, John: 48
 Meyers Medic Bldg.: 55
 Michigan-Southern R.R.: 21
 Miken, George: 48
 Miller, Peter J.: 48
 Miller, William: 9
 Mittlacher, Max: 40
 Moderwell, Mable: 50
 Moeller, Charles: 25
 Monroe, Pres. James: 5
 Montrose Avenue: 8, 57
 Moore, Percy S.: 48
 Mott, Charles S.: 80
 Mt. Carmel, Our Lady of: 32
 Moulding, Thomas: 9, 18
 Movie Stars: 47
 Mueller, Charles: 18
 Muno, Peter: 9, 12
 Myers, Thomas: F. Jr.: 53

N.

National Lead Co.: 82, 83
 National Tea Co.: 40, 78
 Nelson, Jimmie: 47
 Nelson, Judge Oscar: 48
 Newberry, Walter L.: 12
 Nikon, W.K.: 26
 Niemetz, Frank: 48
 Nightingale, A.F.: 26, 27
 Norden Bomb Site: 53
 North Center Trust & Savings: 76
 North Chicago City R.R.: 36
 North Chicago
 Malleable Iron Works: 33
 North Chicago Township: 11
 North Shore Exchange Bank: 74
 Northwestern R.R.: 28
 North Terra Cotta Co.: 33, 76

O.

Oesterrich, William: 71
 Ogden, Mahlon: 25
 Ogden, Mayor Wm. B.: 18, 25, 35, 36
 Olbert, Mrs. Wilhelmine: 11
 Oleson, Jens: 27
 132nd Infantry, III. Volunteers: 17
 134th Infantry, III. Volunteers: 17
 Oppen, Henry Von: 38
 Osborne, James D.: 35
 O'Toole, Edward F.: 83
 Otte, .H.E.: 71, 83
 Outer Drive: 54

P.

Parker, R.S.: 21
 Percy Senator Charles: 48
 Phillips, Elizabeth: 14
 Pickett, Thomas J.: 17
 Pickle Farm: 40
 Pierce, Bessie Louise: 6

Pine Grove: 11
Plank Road: 14
Pollack, William E.: 48
Pope, Nathaniel: 6
Powers, Samuel: 21
Prislinger, Al: 50

Q.

Quinn, Mnsgr. John S.: 50

R.

Railroads: 21
Ranch, Barbara: 20
Randolph, S.M.: 27
Rasmussen, George: 40
Ravenswood High School: 26
Ravenswood Land Co.: 21, 35
Ravenswood Methodists: 21
Real Estate Development: 36
Rechzek, Karl: 38
Reed, Jessie E.: 50
Rees, James H.: 11, 15
Rees, John: 15
Reimer, August C.: 40
Reinberg, Henry: 9, 13
Reinberg, Peter: 13
Religious Action Council: 49
Rennie, William E.: 31
Resse, Jimmie: 49
Rice, Miss Frances: 50
Rice, Rev. George A.: 49
Ries, J.H.: 26
Riverview Park: 44-45
Robbins, Col. Burr: 30-31
Roeder, Bill: 48
Rogers, Catherine: 9
Rogers Park: 9
Rogers, Philip: 9
Rohkam, Henry: 33
Roman Catholic Priests: 50
Rosehill Cemetery: 9
Rostand, Edmund: 37
Rowley, E.R.: 82

S.

Sable, Jean Baptists du: 5
Saengerkranz, Harmonie: 38
St. Alphonsus: 9, 31, 32
St. Andrew's: 60
St. Henry's: 9, 12, 14
St. Josaphat's: 32
St. Luke's Lutheran: 18, 32, 66
St. Michael's: 9
St. Peter's Episcopal: 32
Samme, Cusina A.: 37
Sand Bar Case: 17
Sandburg, Carl: 21
Saperstein, Abe: 48
Schiesswohl, J.E.: 37
Schiller Monument: 29
Schlake, William Sr.: 36
Schmidt, Ernest E.: 53
Schmidt, William: 44-45
Schoenberger, E & Son: 44
Schreiber, Dominick: 9, 13
Schrieber, Michael: 9, 13
Schrieber, Nicholas: 9, 13
Schroeder, Carl: 48
Schuetzen Park: 45
Schumacher, Ray: 48
Schwab-Berein: 29
Schwartz, Packy: 48
Seeberger, A.F.: 21
Senn High School: 12
Seven Mile House: 12
Shamburg Junk Yard: 40
Sheffield, Joseph: 18, 57

Sheil, Archbishop Bernard: 60
Sheldon, Seth: 21
Shippy, Isaac C.: 15
Sickett & Hutmeyer: 35
Siegler, Charles: 42
Siems, Herman: 48
Siemund, Herman: 53
Sinclair, A.C.: 37
Smith, Mrs. Dorothy: 50
Smith, Peter: 14
Snow, George: 35
Snow, Helen: 35
Social Turnverein: 37, 42
Sommerfield, Jake: 48
Spafford, Horatio G.: 19, 26
Squires, J.G.: 76
Stark, J.L.: 21
Starr, Harry: 49
Steacy, Benjamin J.: 79, 80, 81
Steinbeck, Daniel: 30, 44
Stotz, J.W.: 37
Stratton, Gov. William: 48
Street Development: 35
Street Names: 55-58
Struve, H.C.: 40, 53, 55
Sulzer, Albert F.H.: 22, 36
Sulzer, Angleine: 22
Sulzer, Conrad: 7, 14, 20, 21, 26
Sulzer, Fredrick: 7, 16, 19, 22, 28, 36, 39
Sulzer, Grace: 22, 36
Sulzer, Harriet: 22, 36
Sulzer, Julia: 22, 36
Sulzer Road: 8, 39
Sunderland, Israel: 21
Sunnyside Inn: 10
Swanson, Gloria: 47

T.

Taylor, David: 49
Teamster's Strike: 44
Telephone, Lake View The: 42-43
Telephone Service: 42-43
Ten Mile House: 18
Terra Cotta Co.: 33
Tessmer, E.: 76
Thieman's Gardens: 25
Third Evangelical & Reformed: 32
Thompson, Mayor Wm. Hale: 48
Thorp School: 16
Thurlow & Kuester: 18
Tille, Henry: 18
Tillie, "Bad News": 50-51
Tillman, John: 9
Touhy, Patrick: 9
Town Hall, Lake View: 23-25
Townsmen, The Lake View: 31
Transportation: 27, 36, 40
Tremayne, Les: 47
Trinity Lutheran Church: 32
Trinity Seminary & Bible College: 36
Truck Farms: 11
True, John R.: 33
Turner, John: 25
Turner, Mary: 25
Turner, William: 25
Turpin, Ben: 47

U.

United Brethren Church: 32
Urban Expansion: 39

V.

Vukovich, Sam: 48

W.

Wacker, Fred: 28
Wagner, Frank S.: 48
Walker, Agnes R.: 27
Walker, Richard G.: 83
Waller, James B.: 19
Waller, Robert A.: 19
Walsh, John R.: 44
Warner Construction Co.: 78
Washburne, F.W.: 37
Washington, Mayor Harold: 68
Waterworks, Lake View: 28
Waveland Ave.
Congregational Church: 32
Wayne, Gen. Anthony: 5
Weber, Mrs. B.C.: 30, 44
Weber, B.F.: 37
Weber, Alderman Chas.: 49
Weber, Michael: 9
Weckler, A.J. & Wm.: 18
Weckler, Catherine: 38
Weichert, H.C.: 79
Weicker's Bakery: 43
Weise, Burt: 49
Weiss, A.W.: 81
Wells, J.P.: 37
Wells, Capt. William: 5
Wells Street: 8
Wendt, Judge Kenneth: 50
Werneck, Richard: 78
West, Frank: 48
Wetterling, Charles F.: 43
Whales, The Chicago: 45
Whitney, C.: 31
Wieboldt, Elmer: 51-52
Wieboldt Foundation: 51-52
Wieboldt, William: 51-52
Willard L.A.: 21
Williams, John: 21
Willey Lumber Co.: 4
Wilson, John M.: 21
Wirtz, Carl: 50
Wolf & Blaul: 18
Wolf, Jacob: 15
Wolfram, Robert: 39
World War II: 61-62
World War I: 52
Wright, Edward: 17
Wright's Grove: 18
Wrigley, Wm. Jr.: 45

Y.

Yates, Congressman Sid: 48
Young, Christine: 7
YMCA: 59

Z.

Zapel, Otto: 18