

GROSSE POINTE CIVIC NEWS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF CITIZENS ASSOCIATION
OF GROSSE POINTE TOWNSHIP

VOL. 2

FEBRUARY, 1925

NUMBER 8

VILLAGE ELECTIONS

March 9th is the date set this year for the election of village officers in Grosse Pointe Park, Grosse Pointe Village, and Grosse Pointe Farms. The following officers for each of the villages named will be balloted on: President, one year term; Clerk, one year term; Treasurer, one year term; Assessor, one year term; three Trustees, two year terms. The Village of Grosse Pointe Park, in addition to the officers named, will choose three election commissioners for one year terms.

In Grosse Pointe Park, nomination by party caucus is still used. A statement of each party's candidates must be filed with the village clerk twenty days prior to the election that is by Wednesday, February 18th. Registration of new voters can be made at the village hall between eight a. m. and eight p. m. on February 14 and 21.

Candidates for office in Grosse Pointe Village are nominated on petitions of not less than twenty or more than twenty-five electors. February 18th at 5:00 o'clock, is the last hour for filing petitions. Registration of new voters will be held on the following Saturdays, February 14th, 21st, 28th, and March 7th. Attention is called to the provisions of an ordinance passed by the village trustees January 19th, 1924 which requires a filing fee of \$5.00 for each candidate for office.

At Grosse Pointe Farms, the list of candidates has already been filed. This village requires that if more than two persons file for any office a primary shall be held. The primary, if one is necessary, is held four weeks prior to the second Monday in March, and the two names receiving the greatest number of votes shall be placed on the final ballot. The last day for filing petitions in Grosse Pointe Farms is two weeks prior to the primary date.

This year not more than two candidates have filed for each vacancy so that a primary election is not required. The list of candidates for offices in Grosse Pointe Farms follows:

President

*Theodore Beaupre, 108 Kerby Rd.
Edward J. Tucker, 54 Kerby Road.

Clerk

*John R. Kerby, 108 Moross Road.

Treasurer

Ben. J. Allard, 71 Oak Street.
Ignatius A. Backman, 29 Lakeview

Assessor

William C. Saeman, 38 Oak St.

Trustees

(Three to be elected, two year term)
George S. Hendrie, 209 Lake Shore Road.

Charles G. Holma, 90 Oak St.

*Barnard B. Mason, 92 Kerby Rd.

*Joseph Snay, 101 Oak St.

*Candidate for re-election.

Village electors in Grosse Pointe Shores will not be held until the third Tuesday in May.

A uniform blank giving all candidates an opportunity to make public statements regarding their campaign will be sent out by the Citizens' Association. The replies will be published in the "Civic News" prior to election.

VIOLATION OF GAME LAWS

Police officials of Grosse Pointe Shores have posted the following notice:

"No hunting will be allowed between Lake Shore Road and Mack Avenue. Pheasants and quail have been stocked here by the State Department of Conservation and by private parties. Police officers of this Village are also Deputy State Game Wardens and will see that the laws are strictly observed."

Signs prohibiting hunting have been posted on practically all property in Grosse Pointe Shores but have been generally disregarded. Two offenders have been apprehended and fined and more serious penalties are to be given future violators. In order to further protect game in this locality, plans are being considered to make the property a State Game Refuge.

MUNICIPAL CALENDAR

February 17th 8:00 p. m., Meeting of Parent-Teachers Association, Cadieux School. Subject: Commercial Classes.

February 20—8:00 p. m., Grosse Pointe Village Trustees meeting.

February 21—8:00 a. m. to 8:00 p. m., Grosse Pointe Park registration of new voters.

February 21, 28, and March 7—8:00 a. m. to 8:00 p. m., Grosse Pointe Village registration of new voters.

February 21—8:00 a. m. to 8:00 p. m., Grosse Pointe Farms registration of new voters.

March 2—8:00 p. m., Trustee meeting, Grosse Pointe Shores.

March 2—8:00 p. m., Trustee meeting, Grosse Pointe Farms.

March 3—8:00 p. m., Trustee meeting, Grosse Pointe Park.

March 9—8:00 a. m. to 8:00 p. m., Village elections in Grosse Pointe Park, Grosse Pointe Village, and Grosse Pointe Farms. Voting booths at village halls.

March 10—Last day for payment of state and county tax before rolls are delivered to Wayne County Treasurer. Treasurer's office, Municipal Hall, Grosse Pointe Park.

March 10—8:00 p. m., School Board meeting, Supt. office.

WOULD ZONING HELP?

Recent reports of the possibility of Jefferson avenue property in Grosse Pointe Park being used for an apartment site is credited with being responsible for an indefinite delay in the erection of a large residence on property near the site in question.

In another case called to the attention of the Citizens Association, a property owner in Grosse Pointe Park chose to build in another village to gain the protection offered by a zoning ordinance.

Grosse Pointe Civic News

Grosse Pointe, Mich.

H. P. Breitenbach, Consulting Editor.
H. G. Fishack, Editor.

Printed once a month as the official publication of the Citizens Association of Grosse Pointe Township, under the authority of the following board of directors:

H. P. Breitenbach, President.
Dr. L. E. Maire, Vice-President.
Wm. M. Mertz, Secretary
Jos. L. Hickey, Treasurer.
Mrs. H. H. Sanger Chas. Parcels
Raymond K. Dykema

GEORGE DEFER SCHOOL OPENED

At the beginning of the second semester of Grosse Pointe Public Schools February 2nd, the George Defer school at Kercheval avenue and Nottingham road enrolled its first classes.

The building, planned for elementary pupils, is 164 feet long by 68 feet 8 inches deep, with an extension at the rear center 48 feet by 70 feet to house the combined auditorium and gymnasium.

The exterior of the building is artistically designed and executed in cinder raked face brick and cut stone trim. A large bay extending the full height of the front facade is flanked by entrances which extend slightly from the main portion of the building.

On the ground or semi-basement floor is a domestic science room 34 feet 2 inches by 26 feet 3 inches, equipped with cooking tables and gas stoves. A room of similar dimensions equipped for sewing classes and domestic art is located at the other end of the building. Between these rooms is the manual training room, 26 feet 3 inches by 52 feet 10 inches with a finishing and glue room 13 feet by 26 feet 3 inches adjoining. The rear half of the ground story is used for boys and girls locker and shower rooms.

At the south end of the ground floor corridor and connecting with the domestic science room is a pupils' lunch room. The arrangement permits serving hot food if desired. At the opposite end of the corridor is the physical director's office.

Four class rooms, each 29 feet by 24 feet 1 inch, are located on the second floor at the four corners of the building. These rooms are exceptionally well lighted and of ample size to accommodate forty pupils each as planned. Rooms serving the same pur-

pose in Detroit schools are 22 feet by 30 feet. A kindergarten room 40 feet 9 inches by 24 feet is located in the front center portion on this floor. Pewabic tile decorating the fire place and the drinking fountain add greatly to the pleasant atmosphere of this room. A clinic for dental and medical examinations is at one end of the corridor. At the other end is a small unassigned room.

Entrance to the combined auditorium and gymnasium is made from the second floor corridor. This room is two stories high, 75 feet long and 45 feet wide, exclusive of stage and dressing rooms. The arrangement of the room for both auditorium and gymnasium activities has been very well worked out by the use of portable equipment which allows the floor to be cleared quickly. An ample fireproof projection booth with motion picture equipment is provided.

On the third floor, four classrooms are arranged at the corners of the main structure. In the front center portion, corresponding to space used by the kindergarten on the second floor, are three rooms to be used for music, art, and the library. At one end of the corridor is the teachers' rest room and at the other end a second unassigned room.

Modern toilet and washroom facilities are provided on each floor.

The boiler room, fan room and storage space are under the auditorium and gymnasium. Space to store a year's supply of coal is provided. Boiler and heating equipment was planned to take care of future enlargement of the building.

The total cost of the building including gymnasium, manual training and domestic science equipment, but exclusive of class room seats and teachers' desks, was \$244,219.19.

Following is a division of the cost among the various trades:

M. A. Mahoney, Gen. Contr.....	\$184,666.00
Pewabic Pottery.....	171.00
Drake Avery Co., Heating, Plumbing and Ventilating.....	46,698.00
McCleary-Hamon Co., Electric Wiring	5,916.00
Chas. G. Gayney, Electric Fixtures	2,253.70
Chicago Gymnasium Equipment Co., Gymnasium Equipment....	2,153.41
E. H. Sheldon Co., Equipment for Domestic Science, Manual Training and Domestic Art....	2,361.08
TOTAL	\$244,219.19

The architect for the building, Mr. George J. Haas estimates that its cubic foot capacity is 614,637. Upon this basis, the cost per cubic foot exclusive of all equipment was 38.9 cents. The per cubic foot cost of elementary schools built in Detroit during 1923 and 1924 ranged from 38.7 cents to 44.4 cents.

The Defer school is planned to accommodate 320 elementary pupils and 40 in the kindergarten. This shows a per pupil cost of \$665.64. Per pupil costs of three elementary schools built in Detroit during 1923 and 1924 follow: Duffield, \$322.29; Ferry, \$345.63; Poe, \$322.81. The difference in per pupil cost of Detroit schools and the Defer school is due undoubtedly to difference in planning and to the fact that Detroit schools are operating under the platoon system. This scheme of organizing the school permits the use of all rooms of the building during all periods of the day. Normally when children are in rooms devoted to manual training and other special subjects, their class or grade room is vacant.

Through the use of special rooms for regular class work, the capacity of the Defer school can be increased. Four hundred and three pupils were enrolled at the school during the first week and it has already become necessary to use the room planned for music as a regular class room.

The fact that the school is filled to more than capacity has shown the urgent need for the building.

Plans for the formal opening of the George Defer school are being delayed until minor equipment which still has to be placed in the building arrives.

George Defer school is an excellent addition to the Grosse Pointe school system and residents of the community will undoubtedly welcome an opportunity of attending exercises featuring the building.

PREVENTING EPIDEMICS

Increases in both smallpox and scarlet fever cases were reported in the City of Detroit during the month of January. During the same period no cases of smallpox and seven of scarlet fever were reported in Grosse Pointe Township. From February 1st to 12th fourteen cases have been reported.

The health officer advises, as a precaution, that all persons who have not been vaccinated do so at once. Such service is performed gratis at the Board of Health's office.

MUTUAL AID AND NEIGHBORHOOD CLUB

According to the annual report of the director of the Mutual Aid and Neighborhood Club, 1924 was the most active year in the club's history. Some idea of the numerous activities undertaken are given here, for it is believed many people of the community do not realize the breadth of work being done.

The influence of the club may be suggested as a factor in the low juvenile delinquency in Grosse Pointe. During the year no cases of juvenile delinquency from Grosse Pointe Township were reported. Mr. Baxter of the Wayne County Juvenile Court has said that more clubs similar to the Neighborhood Club would reduce the work of the court by fifty per cent.

The Neighborhood Club serves as the Boy Scout headquarters for the Grosse Pointe district. Scouting was among the first activities undertaken when the club was organized thirteen years ago. Former members now in business or college continue to take an active interest in their troop and return from time to time for troop meetings. During the past year the fathers of troop members have shown a great deal of interest in the work. A father and son banquet was held by the troop last year. A similar gathering was also held February 10th, of this year.

The men's club, known as the Grosse Pointe Athletic Club, has been more especially interested in gymnasium work and physical development. Boxing, basketball and baseball have been of chief interest. Boxing exhibitions held each month during the year, have filled the gymnasium to capacity. The Club has purchased its own equipment such as boxing gloves balls and mats.

Last spring an inter-settlement marble tournament with contestants from six settlement houses was held. Grosse Pointe won second place, first honors going to Tau Beta. The event was of more than usual interest and was covered by reporters and photographers from Detroit papers.

The local chapter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars also use the Neighborhood Club as their meeting place. The veterans principal social affair was a military ball held April 28th.

In the list of clubs and organizations for women and girls, the V. V. V. Girls' Club has been most active. As a reward for enrolling the greatest

number of new members, the club was entertained by Mrs. John S. Newberry, February 14th, 1924. This group held numerous social gatherings during the year and was also active in athletics, winning the State basketball championship in classes B and D. The club also entered the largest number of contestants in the first state track and field meet for girls.

Two groups of Camp Fire Girls are organized under the leadership of Miss Auckland and Miss Parker. With the assistance of Mrs. Edwin K. Hoover, the Camp Fire Girls organized groups of Christmas carrolers.

Numerous other clubs have been fostered during the year. Among them are the Gardeners' Club, which held a flower show in June, the Sewing Club, Grosse Pointe High School Girls' Club, Intermediate Boys' Club, Junior Girls' and Junior Boys' Club.

In addition to the long list of club and recreational activities undertaken by the Neighborhood Club, it also conducts an employment bureau which placed 60 persons in positions out of one hundred and four applications received.

The annual Halloween Entertainment is a feature of the Club's work that should not be overlooked. Last year it kept three hundred children occupied with games and contests, and while it was impossible to completely prevent mischievous Halloween pranks, the party did serve as an aid in maintaining order.

The "Clubship Dinner" held in May acted as a closing assembly of adult clubs and indoor classes for the winter season. This dinner which is considered the gala event of the year, brought together a capacity crowd. Annual reports of club secretaries and the presentation of medals to victorious teams was a part of the program.

The membership of each club and the number of meetings held during 1924 is shown below:

Club	Members	Meetings
Men's Club.....	58	104
Horticulture Club.....	60	12
St. Ambrose H. S. Girls.....	20	36
Veterans of F. W.....	28	24
St. Ambrose H. S. Boys.....	10	36
Camp Fire Girls.....	20	36
Boy Scouts.....	36	48
Junior Girls' Club.....	14	36
Sewing Club.....	12	40
Hickory Exch. Girls.....	15	36
Gr. Pte. H. S. Girls.....	20	36
Presbyterian Boys Club.....	16	36
V. V. V. Girls.....	54	48
Intermediate Boys' Club.....	36	36
Junior Boys' Club.....	70	40
Total	469	604

Mutual Aid and Neighborhood Club is a member of the Detroit Community Union and its operating budget is raised by the Detroit Community Fund. For the fiscal year ending December 31, 1924, disbursements of the organization totaled \$11,685.10. A total of 32,755 persons attended various activities during the year.

The present staff of the Neighborhood Club consists of W. G. Elworthy, Director Miss Hattie M. Taylor, Visiting Nurse; Miss Auckland, Playground Worker; Miss Elizabeth Jordan, Clerk; and Mr. Alfred Jordan, Gardener and Janitor.

The Director states that the Club is attempting to meet the steadily increasing demand for more clubs, classes, and other activities and that it is truly a community center where people of all stations and creeds meet on common ground. The Mutual Aid and Neighborhood Club is developing a community spirit based on mutual co-operation. Its work is of a high order and great credit is due its director, his staff and the board of directors. Grosse Pointe residents cannot overestimate the value of the Mutual Aid and Neighborhood Club to the community because at present it affords the only means for community-wide recreation.

NATIONAL ORATORICAL CONTEST

A national oratorical contest on constitutional government open to pupils of public, parochial and private secondary schools of the country is being sponsored by a group of daily newspapers.

The purpose of the contest as set down in bulletins distributed is to promote more general knowledge and better appreciation of the principals of constitutional government. A general lack of understanding of constitutional government and a growing lack of respect for national institutions prompted the contest.

The contest is open to all bona fide secondary school students under nineteen years of age on February 1, 1925. Orations must be original and require not more than ten minutes for delivery

Various elimination contests will be held leading to the selection of a national champion.

Grosse Pointe schools have indicated an active interest in the contest and expect to have representatives in the district elimination contest to be held April 17th.

THE METROPOLITAN AREA

A resolution proposing an amendment to Article VIII of the State Constitution authorizing the legislature to enact laws regulating the formation and administration of metropolitan areas. The text of the amendment in its present form follows:

Section 31. The Legislature shall by general law provide for the incorporation by any two or more cities, villages or townships, or any combination or parts of same, of metropolitan districts comprising territory within their limits, for the purpose of acquiring, owning and operating either within or without their limits as may be prescribed by law, public utilities for supplying sewage disposal, drainage, water, light, power or transportation, or any combination thereof, and any such district may sell or purchase, either within or without their limits as may be prescribed by law, sewage disposal or drainage, water, light, power or transportation facilities. Any such districts shall have power to acquire and succeed to any or all of the rights, obligations and property of such cities, villages and townships respecting or connected with such functions or public utilities. Provided, That no city, village or township shall surrender any such rights, obligations or property without the approval thereof by a majority vote of the electors thereof, voting on such question.

Such general law shall limit the rate of taxation of such districts for their municipal purposes and restrict their powers of borrowing money and contracting debts. Under such general law, the electors of each district shall have power and authority to frame, adopt and amend its charter upon the approval thereof by a majority vote of the electors of each city, village and township or portion thereof within such district, voting on such question, and, through its regularly constituted authority, to pass all laws and ordinances relating to its municipal concerns, subject to the Constitution and general laws of this State.

Resolved further, That the foregoing proposed amendment be submitted to the people of this State at the election to be held in the month of April in the year 1925. The Secretary of State is hereby required to certify said proposed amendment to the clerks of the various counties of the State in the manner required by law. It shall be the duty of the board of election commissioners of each county to prepare ballots for the use of the electors when voting on said proposed amendment, which ballots, after setting forth the proposed amendment in full, shall be in substantially the following form:

"Vote on amendments to Article VIII of the State Constitution.

Shall Article VIII of the State Constitution be amended by adding thereto a new section to stand as section 31 for the purpose of creating metropolitan districts?

Yes

No

It is the hope of civic organizations and officials of cities and villages sponsoring the movement that prompt action will be taken in both the House and Senate so that the amendment may be voted on by the people April 6th.

A public hearing on the proposed amendment was held by the Senate Committee on Towns and Townships January 28th. Representatives of Grand Rapids, Pontiac, Adrian, Royal Oak, Grosse Pointes Shores, Highland Park, Detroit Water Board, Detroit Citizens League, Detroit Bureau of Governmental Research, Detroit Board of Commerce, and the Michigan Metropolitan Conference appeared before the committee. General discussion on the organization and purpose of the metropolitan area and its application to problems existing in southwestern Michigan will be given in the next issue of Civic News.

ADDITION TO FARMS MUNICIPAL HALL

The two-story addition being made to the rear of the Grosse Pointe Farms Municipal Hall is about completed and will soon be occupied.

On the first floor of the addition is a kitchen and dining room for the use of firemen on duty. Firemen at the Farms are on the two platoon system, serving twenty-four hours each shift. Such schedule of hours necessitates living quarters for the men while on duty. Up to the present inadequate accommodations in the basement have been used.

The second floor of the addition will accommodate the engineering department. This office has been crowded into a part of the council chamber and has been handicapped by insufficient space and poor lighting. The new space provided includes a large room lighted on three sides for drafting and lay-out work.

Approximately \$11,500 is being spent in making the addition. An item to cover the cost was included in the 1924-25 budget.

DENTAL CLINIC HANSTEIN SCHOOL

Pupils of the first, second and third grades in Hanstein school were given dental examinations during January. One hundred and twenty-five children were examined; thirty-eight were referred to the dentist for prophylaxis treatment and fillings. Thirty-one of the cases referred were treated by the Health District's dentist during the month.

Return Postage Guaranteed.

CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

GROSSE POINTE, MICH.

"Informed public opinion is the only force that can make government effective and economical."

Public Business, No. 70.

Mr. Bernard B. Vogt,
696 Cadieux Rd.,
Grosse Pte. Village, Mich.

1c Paid
Detroit, Michigan
Permit No. 335