

# The Town Manager

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TEANECK, N. J.

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## Ely Denies Resignation Was Due To Criticism; Harmony On Council

Retiring Official Says Heavy Business Responsibility Prompted Act; Calls Petitions Counterfeit

In a brief and dignified note, Mr. Walter Ely, at the Township Council meeting held on Dec. 20 presented his resignation as a member of the Council, to be effective Dec. 31, 1932.

Although Mr. Ely had stated as long ago as last June, in the presence of other councilmen and some of the other township officials, that under no circumstances would he retain his office after the end of 1932, nevertheless his resignation involved an element of surprise, since he had made no advance statement as to the date when his resignation would be presented.

Accompanying the formal letter of resignation, Mr. Ely submitted a letter of explanation addressed to the other members of the Council, and reading as follows:

"In submitting my resignation as a member of this Body, I wish to publicly record the circumstances that have brought about this decision.

"When I was elected to this honored and highly responsible public office, I held and still hold the official position of Assistant Secretary of the Atchison, Topeka and Sante Fe Railway Company. On Account of the depression, the company has been forced to a policy of strict economy and in so doing additional duties have been assigned to my office.

"The counterfeit recall petitions recently filed by the opposition and prompted only by ulterior motives have not in any way influenced my resignation. I did not seek the office, as you are aware, and to be relieved at this time of the many cares and worries incident thereto will be to me a great comfort and the greatest favor the Council can bestow.

"It has been intimated by the op-

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## Chief Murray Shows Aims And Needs of Fire Fighting Machine; Exhaustive Study

In an exhaustive report submitted to Township Manager Volcker as a preliminary to determining the Fire Department appropriation in the 1933 budget, Fire Chief Frank A. Murray sets forth what he believes the Fire Department of Teaneck should ultimately be, not only to secure for the township an advance on fire insurance rating from Class E, its present rate, to Class C, but also to give to the people of Teaneck the assurance that they have as adequate fire protection service as it is reasonably possible to give.

In his report Chief Murray makes it clear that he realizes that to bring about all the improvements he recommends will require a period of years. As to the immediate future he says:

"I would like it understood that I appreciate thoroughly the tremendous task our Township officials are facing in these distressed

(Continued on Page 4)

## State Sets Up \$26,300 For Share In Paving West Englewood Ave.

From Township and Borough Aid Funds at its disposal, available for construction of county and municipal roads, the State Highway Commission has appropriated \$26,300 as the state's seventy-five per cent of the cost of paving West Englewood Avenue from Windsor Road west to River Road.

Whether this improvement, which is badly needed, will be made in 1933, now depends upon the action of the Board of Freeholders of Bergen County, which must appropriate the remaining twenty-five percent if the work is to be done. There seems to be little doubt that this will be done, since the amount required from the county is less than \$9,000.

While no official action has been taken by the Freeholders, it has been stated unofficially that Teaneck's for this improvement, which has been long pending, will be given.

(Continued on Page 8)

## Fleischman Elected Garden Club Head

The Garden Club of Teaneck, not yet eight months old, is going along splendidly. It has attained a membership of one hundred and fifty and now ranks high among the civic organizations of Teaneck. Each monthly meeting of the club sees its rolls increasing, also its enthusiasm.

The club plans to have a speaker or lecturer of some kind at each meeting. This helps the gardeners with their problems, of which there are many. At the November meeting the club had the pleasure of hearing Mr. Feisler of Peter Henderson & Company give a lecture upon spring flowering bulbs, illustrated with excellent slides, which he took on his travels through Holland on a recent visit. There was a large attendance and many important matters were disposed of.

At its December club meeting Mr. Eisenbrown of Peterson & Company from Arcola told the club all about the propagation and preservation of roses and peonies.

The question of securing lumber

for tables came up and a committee was appointed to look into the matter and report at the January meeting. The club voted to donate a substantial sum to the relief of the poor in Teaneck.

Officers for 1933 were elected, nominations being made from the floor. Those chosen were Mr. Carl Fleischman as president, Mr. Victor H. Palmer as Vice President, Mr. Ralph Halstead as Secretary, Mrs. Martin as treasurer, and two recording secretaries, Mrs. William Senn and Mrs. R. Halstead.

Another question discussed was the problem of what to do about dogs in the town that are destroying the taxpayers gardens. The club thought it best to get in touch with the township officials, to see what could be done along this line.

All meetings of the Garden Club of Teaneck are open to the public and all citizens are cordially invited to attend, whether members of the club or not, and get the benefit of the club's program of

(Continued on Page 10)

## Sums Up The Evils And Cures Of Town Finance

(Note—The following article by Irwin G. Ross, whose experience as banker and investment expert has made his services in the Advisory Board on Finance highly valuable to the Township, is commended to the careful attention of all readers of The Town Manager.—Editor.)

By IRWIN G. ROSS

Chairman of Advisory Board on Finance  
About four years ago, practically every town, regardless of size or financial stability could go into the municipal money market and borrow funds on advantageous terms.

At the close of 1929 the sunlight of prosperity faded; evening came. One by one the lights of factories and stores flickered out. It was the awakening for all.

Today, we stand at the dawning of a new era and I believe that all budgets not only will be balanced but balanced as to the conditions as they exist today. Let us here in Teaneck take a moment in retrospect.

The fundamental factors of gov-

(Continued on Page 18)

## Old Photographs Given To Town By Morrison

Mr. Frank A. Morrison, of Morrison, Lloyd & Morrison, who resides at 7 Teaneck Road, Teaneck, has long been interested in the history of the Township and in the course of years has made a collection of relics and pictures showing the Teaneck that was in earlier times.

From this collection Mr. Morrison recently selected and had framed—all attractively arranged in one frame—seven pictures which show the old Phelps residences, and the ruins of the oldest, which stood for about thirty-seven years on the site where the Town Hall now stands.

This set of pictures, already of great historical interest, and which will be of still greater interest as the years roll by, was given by Mr. Morrison a short time ago to

(Continued on Page 2)

## To Our Depositors

At the close of 1932 we again  
say . . . "Thank You!"

At this holiday season when all the world is thinking of others, our thoughts turn naturally to our depositors. Your confidence, cooperation and goodwill during the past year have been for us a constant source of encouragement and inspiration . . .

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### OLD PHOTOGRAPHS ARE PRESENTED TO TOWN BY F. A. MORRISON

(Continued)

Township Manager Volcker, who in turn has presented them to the Township with the idea that they are to be placed either in the Town Hall or in the library.

Mr. Morrison's letter of transmittal addressed to Mr. Volcker, is as follows:

"It gives me a great deal of pleasure to send to you the photographs of the Phelps' Ruins and of the later home of the Honorable William Walter Phelps, known as The Grange.

"To those of us who have lived in and about Teaneck for many years, the Phelps Estate and particularly the Phelps' Ruins recall many happy memories.

"With the development of the tract which at one time extended from the Hackensack River to and beyond the Overpeck Creek, there has passed an estate comparable with the finest of which this country can boast, and at the same time there passes a monument to the life work and character of a man.

"And yet it is still true that the good that men do lives after them. There are many of us who have received a very definite imprint upon our character and upon our tastes, because of the effort and the treasure expended by Mr. Phelps in the esthetic development of his estate, and his generous

public spiritedness, which made of this estate a place open to the people for their enjoyment.

"The 'Phelps Estate' and the Phelps Ruins symbolize to me the real purpose of a man interested in all things for the public good, and, beyond the mere purpose, real accomplishment. I do not intend to flatter you, but in my brief official association with you, and in my frequent contacts with you since the cessation of my official position in the Township, I sincerely feel that you, too, exemplify the real purpose of a man interested in all things for the public good and, beyond the mere purpose have shown real accomplishment.

"It is therefore gratifying to me to have you accept the group of views, and since you desire to do so, I gladly consent to your placing the pictures in any public building of the Township, where I hope they may remain some years as a slight token of my appreciation of the public spiritedness of one man whom I never knew, and of another man of like spirit whose acquaintance and regard I shall always prize.

Sincerely,

"Frank A. Morrison."

Mr. Morrison, who was the first appointee of the present administration as Township Counsel, resigned that position because of lack of time to attend to its requirements.

Pending a decision as to where they shall be placed permanently, the framed photographs of the Phelps Estate mansions and ruins are in Mr. Volcker's office at Town Hall. A visit to Town Hall to see them is well worth while for anyone interested in the history of Teaneck.

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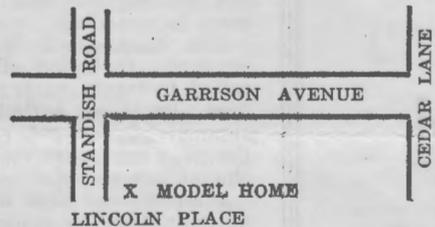


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### CHIEF MURRAY SURVEYS STATUS AND NEEDS OF FIRE DEPARTMENT

(Continued)

times, and I will do everything in my power to operate the department with minimum cost. However, I feel that it is my duty to call your attention to the condition that exists in the department, and to make the proper recommendations to remedy same.

"I do not believe it just at this time to make any improvement that would occasion a raise in taxes, but believe everything should be done to reduce them. If it is decided by the Township Manager that not one recommendation can be carried out this year, I assure you I will do everything I can to operate the department with its present force and equipment to the best of my ability."

In this connection it is emphasized that the value to citizens of improvement in fire protection service cannot be measured by saving in insurance costs alone, but to even greater degree in the saving of lives and avoidance of the mental and financial stress and distress incident to the tragedy of being "burned out", which at best arises all too often in any community.

Addressed to Mr. Volcker as Township Manager and Fire Commissioner, the report reads in part as follows:

I herewith respectfully submit a tentative proposal covering requirements for the Fire Department, some of which I recommend be provided for in the 1933 budget, and others to be taken over a period of three years.

**Water Supply**—As far as I am able to determine, we have a very adequate water supply in the territory covered by the Hackensack Water Co. The district covered by the Bogota Water Company can be improved on. The water pressure at some points in this district is quite low, especially on the higher elevations.

This is a problem which we cannot control, but can only recommend be remedied.

The Hackensack Water Co. is gradually replacing all small barrelled hydrants having 2½" openings with larger hydrants and with steamer connections, and I believe the coming year will see the change completed.

I recommend that an additional appropriation be made in 1933 to cover the installation of fifty new hydrants. These at a yearly rental cost of \$12.00 per hydrant would mean an increase of \$600.00.

**Apparatus**—The Schedule Rating Association has penalized us about 80 points deficiency on apparatus, 45 points for not having an aerial ladder truck, and 40 points for being deficient in available pumping equipment.

Our population of 20,000 calls for 1.6 ladder trucks based on the formula 1 plus 0.03 P, where P represents the population in thousands. This is now very close to two trucks.

The National Board of Fire Underwriters require an aerial truck where five buildings are four stories or higher. I quote from their manual for rating Towns and Cities, section 9, page 38, under Fire Department. "An aerial ladder must be provided in a district where five buildings are four stories or higher."

We have at this time ten buildings that are four stories or higher. Therefore, not having an aerial truck, we suffer 45 points deficiency.

In addition to the credits we would secure we have a moral obligation in this matter, as we now have several buildings that are beyond the reach of our longest ladder which is 50 feet. In the event of a fire in the top floor of some of these buildings we would be seriously handicapped in reaching the fire or in saving life. The advantages of an aerial ladder over the ground ladders are—

1st—Ease of operation. One man can operate a seventy-five foot aerial ladder, and maneuver it from one window to the other. This compared with eight men usually necessary to put up a fifty foot ground ladder.

2nd—It can be used as a water tower, making possible streams in operation with good penetration on floors above the third floor.

3rd—It can be handled on turns and in narrow streets more easily, owing to its flexibility of operation, due to rear tiller steering and tractor type drive.

I therefore recommend that an aerial truck be purchased in 1933, at an approximate cost of \$16,000.

**Pumping Engines**—We are now charged with 40 points deficiency for lack of pumping apparatus. We require 500 gallons per minute more capacity. I recommend we overcome this deficiency in the following manner:

We are now dispatching to about fifty per cent of all brush and grass fires a 1,000 gal. per minute, 150 horsepower engine, costing \$13,500.00. This is not an economical procedure. I therefore recommend that we purchase a combination 500 gallon per minute pumping engine and squad car. This piece of apparatus could be equipped to carry a booster tank of 200 gallons capacity, 1,000 feet hose body, thirty brush brooms, first aid equipment and other emergency tools. It would be a very efficient piece of apparatus, and would eliminate sending the larger pumping engine to these numerous brush fires.

I therefore recommend that this type of engine be purchased in 1933 at a cost of about \$7,500.00.

Both hose wagons now in service at Station No. 3 and 4 are unfit for fire service. They are very old, heavily overloaded and in a dangerous condition for men to ride on. They should be replaced with modern equipment. The above mentioned 500 gallon per minute combination pumping engine and squad wagon would replace one of these trucks. I recommend that the other one be replaced immedi-

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## CHIEF MURRAY SURVEYS STATUS AND NEEDS OF FIRE DEPARTMENT

(Continued)

ately with the purchase of a 1½ ton truck chassis costing about \$1,000.00.

We would remount all old equipment taken from old hose wagons, and would assemble the equipment with men in the department. The total cost of this apparatus should not exceed \$1,200.00. This apparatus would immediately be placed in service at Hose No. 4, where the present Reo is continually giving us trouble. It is at present in a dangerous condition, and owing to its age I would not recommend spending any money on repairs other than enough to keep it in service until it can be replaced.

The above plan would give the Township:

- 1—Aerial Ladder Truck.
- 1—City Service Ladder Truck.
- 1—1,000 G. P. M. Pumping Engine.
- 1—Type 75 Junior Pump 350 G. P.M. Pumping Engine.
- 1—500 G. P. M. Combination Pump and Squad Engine.
- 1—Combination Booster and Hose Wagon.

This equipment would eliminate all the deficiencies charged against us, meeting all requirements of the Schedule Rating Bureau.

The estimated cost of new apparatus is:

- 1—Aerial Truck .. \$16,000.00
- 1—500 gal. pump .. 7,500.00
- 1—hose wagon .. 1,200.00

Total .. \$24,700.00

**Training**—During the past year there has been conducted a Fire College course of training and two Drill School courses, one for the paid force and one for the Volunteers, and a great benefit has been derived from this schooling. However, I have been handicapped in giving the men a complete schooling, owing to lack of equipment, which I did not request this year, as I felt this work could be put off until 1933.

In order to conduct some of the outside drills on ladders and ropes, it is absolutely essential to safeguard the lives of the men by having a large net spread under them. This we have not obtained, but would recommend that one be purchased in 1933 at a cost of \$375.00.

We have a very fine drill tower with the exception that there are no landings at the different floors, therefor not more than 25% efficiency can be had from this tower. If the landings were on each floor we could get the full benefit from this tower and many drill school evolutions now impossible to teach could be included in our curriculum.

I therefore recommend that provision be made in the 1933 budget covering cost of installing landings on all floors of the tower. Estimated cost \$250.00.

I also recommend that we purchase four pompiers ladders at a cost of \$70.00 each, total cost \$280. These ladders are of the scaling type and used to reach floors or

roof when the regular ladders cannot be used. They are also extensively used in the drill school to teach men how to scale the outside of a building. The use of these ladders in the drill school gives the men confidence in themselves while climbing ladders.

Cost of Drill School equipment, and repairs to tower—

- Landings in tower ... \$250.00
- Large Rope Life Net .. 375.00
- Four Pompiers Ladders 280.00

Total ... \$905.00

**Fire Alarms**—We have started a modern fire alarm system, but in order to get classification above class D (We are now Class E) we have to install fire alarm boxes. I believe we will start soon running a fire alarm circuit line from fire headquarters to all the other fire stations, and as this wire will pass through considerable of our business section and also pass Holy Name Hospital and several of our schools, it would be very easy for us to install fire alarm boxes and connect to our present system.

With these installed we could receive immediately over the system, and have recorded in all stations at the same time, any fire that might be discovered on our streets and not within reach of a telephone. Any fire in the hospital or schools could be immediately transmitted over the box circuit. I believe we could get the hospital officials and school board to purchase their own boxes, and we would install same and connect to our system.

I therefore recommend purchasing twenty fire alarm boxes, at a cost of about \$2,000.00.

I recommend that a fire alarm circuit line be run between headquarters and all other stations, and connected into Police headquarters, and that a punch register be installed in all the above mentioned places. This would eliminate entirely the use of the telephone between these points for the dispatching of companies to fires, and would greatly speed up the response of apparatus, also the notification of the police of a fire.

The cost of four punch registers would be about \$300.00.

I recommend that your honorable board consider investigating the cost of installing a modern fire alarm system complete, starting as soon as is convenient; that a complete survey of the Township be made, and that estimates be received. This work should be completed in three years.

**Hazards**—I recommend that the new building code be adopted as soon as possible, as the Schedule Rating Association has partially held up giving us a new rate pending the adoption of the new code.

I also recommend that an ordinance be adopted regulating the installation of Oil Heating and Storage equipment; also mechanical refrigerating devices other than those in private homes; also the adoption of an ordinance regulating the installation of bulk gasoline and oil storage plants; also an ordinance for smoke abatement.

(Continued on Page 6)

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Reasonable Rates

**CHIEF MURRAY SURVEYS STATUS AND NEEDS OF FIRE DEPARTMENT**

(Continued)

Personnel—Personnel of the Department for 1933.

I recommend that Volunteer Hose Cos., No. 3 and No. 1 be disbanded, giving the following reasons:

Hose Co. No. 3 has only seven

active members. The others are all exempt firemen not obliged to do fire duty. Nearly all of this company are business men and quite a few commute and are not available for fire duty. At the last two house fires, both of them serious fires, not one volunteer fireman responded from this company, and one of the fires was in their district and they were first due in. Both fires were at night, when you would expect these men to respond. At a fire on Catalpa Avenue, the siren on Hose 3 quarters sounded for twenty minutes, and not one fireman answered the call. Several firemen from Hose 4 at Glenwood Park hearing the continuous sounding of the siren drove the apparatus to the fire. This was a serious fire and I needed men badly.

Now let us take a more recent fire. On December 9th, at 3:36 a.m. a fire was discovered by a passerby at 641 Johnson Avenue, corner of Palisade Avenue. Hose 3 was first due, as this fire was in their district. Fireman White of the paid force ran from Park Avenue to the fire station and drove the apparatus to the fire, but not one volunteer fireman responded. This was a serious fire as there was a life hazard involved when we arrived. One man had jumped from the second floor and two women, one 74 years of age, were trapped on the second floor and had to be brought down ladders.

I have attended several of their meetings trying to instill new life into the members, but I find it cannot be done. The personnel of this company is such that they

cannot be depended on for fire service. Some of their members have never attended a fire since I have taken care of the department. I therefore recommend that this company be disbanded.

I recommend that Volunteer Hose Co., No. 1 be disbanded, giving the following reasons—

"They are located at headquarters, where there are paid men who have full charge of the building and apparatus. When these conditions exist there is usually very little interest taken in fire matters. This company has had only one meeting since May 24th. This shows an utter lack of interest, and it deprives me of the opportunity of attending meetings and talking over matters of interest and explaining any general orders that may be issued. There are only about six active members in this company. These men attended nearly all fires, and are men I would appoint as call men. With these men appointed call men, there would be no volunteers left in this company who could be depended on to do fire duty.

I can see no reason why this company could not be disbanded. I therefore recommend that this be done.

**Personnel of Department for 1933**

I recommend that the personnel of the Department for 1933 be made up of 1 Chief, 2 Captains, 3 Lieutenants, 19 firemen, 2 fire alarm operators and 15 call men, to be distributed as follows:

|              |                          |               |
|--------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| <b>Days</b>  | <b>Headquarters</b>      | <b>Nights</b> |
|              | <b>Engine No. 1</b>      |               |
| 1—Captain    | 1—Lieutenant             |               |
| 3—Firemen    | 2—Firemen                |               |
|              | 2—Call men               |               |
|              | <b>H. &amp; L. No. 1</b> |               |
| 3—Firemen    | 2—Firemen                |               |
|              | 3—Call men               |               |
|              | <b>Engine Co. No. 2</b>  |               |
| 1—Captain    | 1—Lieutenant             |               |
| 3—Firemen    | 2—Firemen                |               |
|              | 2—Call men               |               |
|              | <b>Hose Co. No. 3</b>    |               |
| 1—Lieutenant | 2—Firemen                |               |
| 2—Firemen    | 3—Call men               |               |

14 Total 20  
This would make an ideal work-

ing force for this department. We now have a working force of 1 chief, 9 regular paid men and 2 temporary men, a total of 12 men. In addition we have had an average of two or three firemen working on food tickets. If it were not for these men I would not have enough men to man the switchboard and get the apparatus to the fire.

It requires seven men to man switchboard and drive apparatus to the fire, and for two shifts, fourteen men. I now have only twelve including myself. The proposed layout for 1933 would require an additional fifteen men. Two of these men would be detailed to the fire alarm switchboard, leaving thirteen to be added to the active force.

**Proposed Comparison Payroll**

|                              |                    |  |
|------------------------------|--------------------|--|
|                              | <b>1932</b>        |  |
| Salaries .....               | \$25,000.00        |  |
| Chief, (8 mo.) .....         | 3,800.00           |  |
| Call Men (5).....            | 600.00             |  |
| Services of unemployed ..... | 1,000.00           |  |
| <b>Total Paid .....</b>      | <b>\$29,800.00</b> |  |
|                              | <b>1933</b>        |  |
| 1 Chief .....                | \$ 3,800.00        |  |
| 2 Captains .....             | 5,000.00           |  |
| 3 Lieutenants .....          | 7,500.00           |  |
| 4 1st grade firemen....      | 10,000.00          |  |
| 15 4th grade firemen...      | 33,000.00          |  |
| 2 fire alarm men .....       | 2,500.00           |  |
| 15 call men .....            | 1,800.00           |  |
| <b>Total .....</b>           | <b>\$63,600.00</b> |  |
| <b>Increase, \$33,800.00</b> |                    |  |

As to the rate of pay mentioned in my proposal, I believe it is possible for us, after creating a list, to engage substitute or temporary firemen. The item 15 fourth grade firemen, could be worded 15 substitute firemen at say \$25.00 per week, or any rate decided on by the Commissioner. This would reduce this item from \$33,000.00 to \$18,000.00 and would reduce the increase in payroll from \$33,800.00 to \$15,800.00.

I have recommended what in my estimation would be necessary to bring the fire department up close to standard strength, as is required by the Schedule Rating Association, and which would most likely result in us getting a rating of Class C. This rating would materially reduce the insurance rates, and I believe the sav-cost to the taxpayers caused by the change, not taking into consideration the additional protection we would receive.

The changes I have recommended have all been recommended by the Schedule Rating Association, with the exception that they advise having more men than my plan calls for, and recommended a more complete fire alarm system.



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## Gun Smoke

No. 2—Frontier Peace Officers

### By Capt. Walter C. Mayer

The frontier peace officer who had to rely on the revolver as the weapon of last resort worked out his problems alone. The modern police department is a huge laboratory with all sorts of ballistic experts and microscopic instruments to be called upon, as well as systematized schools of firearms. Both the old-time and modern schools seem to have arrived at the same conclusions: that nine-tenths of the value of the revolver as a peace instrument is psychological; and that, in case of emergency, good marksmanship is not more essential than a swift and sure "draw."

Down in Texas, in Hale Center, lives Sheriff J. Frank Norfleet, who has achieved a notable record in the single-handed capture of criminals. He has used a gun on plenty of them—BUT ONLY AS A CLUB.

The subject of gunplay came up not so many months ago, when the Sheriff was one of a small dinner party. When he sat down at the table the Sheriff's coat bulged open, showing the butt of a large revolver at his waistband.

"I suppose you've shot a lot of men with that gun," someone re-

marked. The wiry little white-haired man smiled. "Never shot a one," he said. "When I left home to trail down the Furey gang, my wife said 'Bring 'em in alive, Frank; any fool can bring 'em in dead.' I've always kept that in mind, and I've never had to shoot. A tap on the head with a revolver barrel was enough in most cases.

"I remember once," went on Norfleet, "when I had taken some cattle to Wyoming. Texas was burning up. If I was going to save my cattle it was necessary to shift them on the range. I found a place in Wyoming and loaded my stock on railroad cars. At one where there was a windmill, where there was a windmill.

"Some tough-looking hombres who were lying out along the railroad used to come over to drink, and they'd leave the water running. Now, there wasn't any too much water for the cattle, and when I asked these fellows not to leave the water running, their leader laughed at me—and started for me.

"He had to jump across a considerable puddle that had been made when they left the water running. I caught him across the head with the gun barrel when he was still in the air. When he hit the ground he didn't know what had happened, and I never had any more trouble with that gang."

Norfleet did not turn man-hunter until late in life. He was a Texas

ranchman, and became "riled" when he was swindled out of \$40,000 by a confidence gang. Not getting any trace of the men through the authorities, he started on the trail alone. He followed the swindlers all over the country and on into Canada. One by one he caught them, put on the handcuffs and took them back to Texas. He had plenty of physical encounters and more than one attempt was made upon his life.

Some of the swindlers were gunmen, but the little man from Texas beat them all to the "draw," and then disarmed them. Sometimes he "tapped" them on the head, but he never fired a shot. After he had rounded up the last of the swindlers who had "riled" him—several of whom later died in prison—Norfleet was in demand as a sleuth, but he never took up a case which did not offer some real problem in detective work.

In practically every police department in the United States the men are required to become proficient in the use of firearms. They are compelled to fire a required number of shots each year. They are required to go through patient and exacting practice with unloaded revolvers to perfect themselves in the "draw."

These measures are necessary when one realizes that the criminal ranks today are filled with many cold-blooded assassins.

Next "Gun Smoke" article—"The Modern Peace Officer and the Modern Gangster."

## REQUEST FREEHOLDERS TO PAY ELECTION BILLS

At the request of President Allen of the Democratic organization of the Township, which was promptly seconded by many individuals affected, the Township Council on Dec. 29 adopted a resolution respectfully requesting the Board of Freeholders of Bergen County to pay as promptly as possible, to all Teaneck citizens who served in 1932 as election officials, the amounts due them for such services, said to aggregate for the fifteen election districts in the township about \$4,500.

In the resolution it was set forth that many of the individuals concerned, due to present business conditions, are sorely in need of the amounts owed to them by the county. The Freeholders also were requested, in deciding what action to take regarding the resolution to give consideration to the fact that Teaneck is one of the municipalities that have paid in full their county tax for 1932, although many others have paid only the first half and some have defaulted entirely.

In view of these conditions, the Township officials were hopeful that bringing the matter to the attention of the Freeholders in this way would accomplish beneficial results for the Teaneck citizens concerned.

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## STATE SETS UP \$26,300 FOR SHARE IN PAVING WEST ENGLEWOOD AVE.

(Continued)

en first consideration in allocating any road-building appropriation the Freeholders may include in the 1933 county budget.

Plans under consideration contemplate having the work done not by contract, but by utilizing unemployment labor under direction and supervision of the township's Engineering Department. It is pointed out that this plan would keep the cost of the improvement down to the minimum and at the same time assure the employment of Teaneck citizens in doing the work, whereas contractors are not bound to employ any local labor.

The project calls for concrete paving and curbing of West Englewood Avenue throughout the limits mentioned. This would reduce to a negligible amount the cost of keeping the road in repair for a good many years to come, and this would mean a definite economy, since this street in recent years has been one of the most expensive in Teaneck in annual cost of maintenance, paid for out of general taxation. In spite of the close attention given it, and expensive repairs, complaints of the bad condition of its roadway have been more frequent than of any other street in Teaneck, since West Englewood Avenue carries constantly heavy traffic.

Owners of vacant lots fronting on West Englewood Avenue, where no sewer connections have been laid to the lot lines, will be called upon to defray the cost of making such connections before the paving is done, or confronted in the future with the necessity of meeting the heavier cost of opening the pavement to make the connections and then restoring the pavement to good condition.

In view of this situation, a few property owners have protested against having the improvement made at this time, when business conditions make it burdensome to keep up payment of taxes and assessments on vacant lots that produce no revenue, and when the real estate market and the mortgage loan market are not in a condition that encourages building. Representing those who take that view, Mrs. Edythe Whipple endeavored to have the State Highway Commission withhold its appropriation for the improvement at this time. In this she was not successful, as shown by the fact that the appropriation has been definitely made by the state body.

It is apparent, however, that

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owners of a very large majority of the frontage affected on West Englewood Avenue do not take this view. Petitions now in circulation asking the Council to proceed with the work have already been signed by owners of more than half the frontage, and those circulating the petitions have encountered so few refusals to sign as to indicate that opponents of the plan constitute a very small percentage.

Meantime Township Manager Volcker has been in communication with officials of the Hackensack Water Company and the Public Service Company regarding the running of water and gas connections from the street mains to lot lines before the paving is laid. It now seems probable that both companies will do this work promptly and without cost to taxpayers in general or to the individual property owners concerned. If this is done it will manifest commendable public spirit and cooperation on the part of those companies, since the outlook is that they will have to wait several years before any considerable number of the connections will be utilized and thus contribute to their revenues.

## LETTERS PRAISE POLICE FOR FINE SUPERVISION

Three evidences of public appreciation of the work of Teaneck's Police Department were received by the Council at its first meeting in December.

In the first, Mr. Floyd B. Farant in a letter to Council complimented the police on their vigilance in watching his house during his absence from town. Council directed that a copy of this letter be sent to the Police Department.

In the second, Mr. Conrad Klemmer in a letter complimented Patrolman Sganga on his recent detective work in tracing and securing the return of most of the goods stolen from the writer. Council directed that a copy of this letter be placed in Sganga's personal record file in the department.

In the third, both the Police and Fire Departments came in for praise. This communication was from Mr. James P. Birch, representing the Allied Societies of St. Anastasia's Church, and expressed appreciation for the "splendid cooperation" given by both departments during the annual bazaar at the new church in the handling of traffic and safeguarding against fire risks.

## PROTEST RATE JUMP

At the request of the Bergen County Commuters League, seconded by a number of Teaneck residents, the Township Council in common with the governing bodies of many other affected municipalities, ordered resolution drawn protesting against the 15% increase in commutation rates charged by the Erie Railroad.

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## SUGGESTS INSPECTION OF FIREPLACE BUILDING TO REDUCE HAZARDS

When either praise or adverse criticism comes from a recognized expert in any field, it is both customary and reasonable to give it more careful attention than is given to comment on the same subject from a less competent source.

In a letter addressed under date of December 19 to Mayor Van Wagner, Mr. Herbert J. Stack, member of the Educational Division of the National Safety Council, who resides at 483 Wyndham Road, compliments the care and skill shown by the Teaneck Fire Department in handling a recent fire in a residence, and at the same time points out a defect in con-

struction that exists apparently in a number of houses in the Township. The letter in full follows: "Dear Mayor Van Wagner:

"I want to commend particularly the highly efficient work done by our Fire Department in the fire on Wyndham Road during the last week. I happened to be a close observer, living near the house that was on fire, and especially noted the care, skill and cooperation shown by the Department in extinguishing the blaze.

"It happens that this is the third fire that I know of on this street alone, that was caused by defective fire-place construction. If such a condition is true on one street, I can imagine our Fire Department must be kept pretty busy fighting this type of fire. This is particularly unfortunate, because it is not the fault of the owner or

tenant of the home, but wholly the fault of the builder. Would'nt it be possible to make some arrangement whereby, just as electrical wiring is inspected as a house is built, we could have a similar faulty construction of fireplace and chimney?

"I have no doubt that a close examination of many of the homes in our community would show a similar faulty construction of fireplaces and chimneys."

In reply the Mayor assured Mr. Stack that Teaneck's building code includes the necessary provisions to assure good fireplace construction, and that under the regime of the present building inspector the code is being enforced. He added that Chief Murray had recently volunteered to make separate inspections of all fireplaces under construction, as a double check against their becoming causes of fires.

## UNEMPLOYED RELIEF WORK SHOWS PROGRESS

Under direction of Township Manager Volcker, work done in payment for food tickets and rent tickets furnished by the township to relieve the unemployed is being applied as largely as possible in such a way as to reduce the amounts that otherwise would have to be expended out of public works and street department appropriations.

"The emergency relief work the township is doing is not all waste, or mere outlay with no return," said Mr. Volcker in making his report to Council on the second half of the month of November. The report showed that in that period the township received payment in the form of labor for 368 food orders and 17 rent tickets.

"Some real work is being done for the township by the unemployed," said Mr. Volcker, "and in the near future I shall ask the Council to inspect the township disposal plants, to see the improvement that has been made. We are getting some return for our expenditures in the way of needed work, and this will be felt in the form of some reduction both in this year's outlay and in next year's appropriation for the Public Works Department."

## TOWNSHIP BUYS TWO NEW FORD TRUCKS

On advertisement for bids for two one-and-a-half-ton dump trucks required for the Public Works Department, the township received only two bids. The Shea Chevrolet Company of Teaneck offered to furnish two Chevrolet trucks for \$1,520 and the Ridgefield Park Auto Company, whose owners and salesmen are residents of Teaneck, offered to supply two Ford trucks for \$1,475.

Council referred the matter to the Township Manager for report and recommendation and later in the meeting he reported that both were good trucks and he recommended acceptance of the lower bid. Accordingly the Council voted to award the contract for the two trucks to the Ridgefield Park Auto Co.

The trucks are of a type that will be most useful in road work and other public works, and that can be equipped with snow plows for use in clearing streets and roads of snow when necessary.

## FLEISCHMAN ELECTED PRESIDENT OF GARDEN CLUB; SHOW PROGRESS

(Continued)  
education in solving gardening problems. The proceedings are thoroughly informal, the club in all its activities being actuated by the spirit of mutual interest and neighborly helpfulness.

The January meeting of the club will be held in the Council Chamber at Town Hall on Thursday evening, January 26.

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## NO PLACE FOR LABOR RACKETEERS IN TOWN SAYS RECORDER FERRY

Through action taken in a case that came before him late last month, Judge Leland Ferry has served notice that any labor racketeers who resort to violent methods, in picketing or in any other labor dispute, will do well to steer clear of Teaneck.

John Luchetta, one of two men accused of wrecking a West Englewood Fuel Company truck while picketing, was given his choice of a \$200 fine or a thirty-day jail sentence, when Judge Ferry discovered that the man at first had given an assumed name and lied about his identity. When positively identified by finger prints and a rogue's gallery picture, Luchetta, who had called himself John Gato and sworn that he had never been arrested on a criminal charge, admitted his identity, and that he had once been fined \$100 on a statutory charge. The other man arrested, who gave his name as William Roberts, was given an indefinite suspended sentence. Judge Ferry said he intended to lay the Luchetta case before Prosecutor Losche and seek his indictment for perjury.

"I hope I have made it plain that tactics of force will not be tolerated in Teaneck," said Judge Ferry later. This is a peace-loving community, and I intend to make it my job to keep it so. There is no place here for violence of any kind. Racketeers should give the town a wide berth, for we are ready to give them a ride if they come here."

The case has served to emphasize the value of the Criminal Identification Bureau as a part of the Teaneck Police Department, as well as the advantage of having a magistrate presiding in the local court who is not subject to the powerful influences of racketeering gangs, to which some courts have been said to be amenable.

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## Councilman Warner Sees Method Of "Open" Dealing, Bearing Fruit

By Frederick T. Warner  
Township Councilman

Under the Municipal Manager form of government here in Teaneck we have had in effect for the last two years all the conditions requisite to enable the public not only to keep informed of all official acts of the governing body, but also to know the thoughts and purposes that prompt those acts.

In the preparatory conferences of the Council which are and always have been open to the public, citizens have access to all the information that comes to the Council itself as the basis for its discussions and decisions. These preparatory meetings are held the evening prior to each regular Council session.

At both preparatory and regular meetings, comments and criticisms of citizens are invited and considered, and in many instances information and suggestions from citizens have proved of great value to the Council in arriving at correct solutions of important problems. While it is necessary in these preparatory sessions to restrict public discussion to reasonable time limits, in order that all essential matters shall be disposed of before the session ends, this restriction has never been imposed to the extent of debarring any citizen from being heard. After all, the public has a right to express its opinions and have them considered, for it is the public's business.

Here in Teaneck we have no "executive sessions," no meetings of the "Committee of the Whole," no "open covenants openly arrived at behind closed doors." To every preparatory or regular session both public and press are invited and welcomed. If there are not enough seats to go around in the clerk's office, the preparatory session moves into the Council Chamber. These meetings are purely informal family gatherings, but under our Mayor as presiding officer they have never gotten out of hand.

By way of contrast, consider the "executive session" plan that is still in vogue in many nearby municipalities, including Hackensack and Englewood, as well as the Board of Freeholders of Bergen County, but now out-moded in Teaneck. Under this "executive session" plan the regular meetings, open to the public, become simply a time for recording votes on matters regarding which each and every member has already made up his mind, definitely and finally. Even if citizens attend they are not in a position to discuss measures, plans or decisions with members of the governing body, because they have had no chance to gather data upon which to base any discussion, or even to know what matters are to come up for decision.

Is it any wonder that under such

circumstances citizens do not show their interest in public affairs by attending meetings. They have no way to form an estimate of the honesty, capability or fairness of their elected officials until, as time goes on, they can measure them by results.

The open meeting seems a more efficient method, for it gives the citizen an immediate and constant close-up of those he has chosen at the polls.

Viewed from the other side, isn't it true that a governing body that maintains the "open meeting" plan places a very definite obligation on citizens to avail themselves of its advantages? There are undoubtedly other diversions for an evening more entertaining than attending a Council preparatory session, but I for one contend that it is quite unsportsmanlike and unfair for any citizen to criticize or form adverse judgment of the acts of Council if he has made no effort to inform himself of the premises on which those acts are based.

I have in mind one instance in which the Council took up for final action at a regular meeting a matter which it had discussed at length in several preparatory sessions, and concerning which the Township Manager, by request of Council, had compiled an exhaustive report showing methods and costs in several other towns. When the matter came up for final action in regular session, a citizen who had attended none of the preparatory meetings at which the matter was discussed, and who knew nothing of the careful investigation that had been made or of the facts it revealed, opposed his views to the views of Council, and became highly indignant because the Council would not immediately agree that he and he alone knew exactly what ought to be done.

Now that, of course, was an extreme case, but cases like it, although in lesser degree, are not uncommon.

There are bound to be mistakes in judgment as long as human nature is not infallible; but please, Mr. and Mrs. Citizen, make at least reasonable efforts to be fair to your elected officials, by sharing in their deliberations and letting them know what you think about matters they have to consider in your interest.

We have a comfortable meeting place, ample parking area and everything necessary for your convenience. We devote our time to the work of governing Teaneck, with very inclination to be helpful to you, and we ask your cooperation for the good of the Township.

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## VALUE OF ANTITOXINS AND THEIR SOURCES REVEALED BY REYNOLDS

By W. F. Reynolds  
Township Health Officer

When a toxin is injected into the tissues, it causes the cells to produce an antibody called an antitoxin. The composition of antitoxins is unknown. The effect of an antitoxin is to combine with its toxin, if any is present in the body, and render it inert.

The principle factor in bringing about recovery in diphtheria or tetanus is the antitoxin which is produced in the body. There is also a production of substances which kill and destroy the bacteria themselves, as in other diseases. The antitoxins for diphtheria and for tetanus may be produced in animals and then may be used for the prevention and cure of these diseases in mankind.

When an animal receives an injection of toxin, it produces an antitoxin in excess of that required to neutralize the toxin. When an injection is repeated several times, increasing quantities of antitoxin are produced and are contained in the blood. A horse is generally used for producing antitoxin, because it forms a large quantity in proportion to its size, and because the effect of its serum is seldom harmful to man.

A standard method of manufacturing diphtheria antitoxin is as follows: A horse is given an injection of 1-3 drop of diphtheria toxin, which is about all an untreated horse can endure. The injection is repeated, with increasing doses of toxin, every third day, until one pint of the toxin is given at the end of two months, and the blood contains its maximum amount of antitoxin.

About three gallons of blood are then drawn from the horse and allowed to clot. The serum is taken and sufficient ammonium sulphate is added to make a solution that is 30% of saturation. A precipitate falls, which is discarded. More ammonium sulphate is added up to 50% of saturation. The precipitate which then forms contains the antitoxin.

This precipitate is pressed free from the excess of liquid, and is then placed in a bag of parchment paper and suspended in running water to dialyze for several days. The ammonium sulphate passes into the water, and the water enters the bag and dissolves the precipitate.

The solution that results is the concentrated and purified antitoxin which is used in human beings.

### KRUSE SPECIAL COP

At the request of the Principal of the High School and on recommendation of Township Manager Volcker, the Council voted to appoint Mr. Theodore Kruse, one of the janitors, as a special policeman, and authorized the Mayor to swear him in as such.



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## ELY DENIES CHARGE THAT CRITICS PROMPTED RESIGNATION FROM JOB

(Continued)

position that friction and dissension exists within our Council; I do not know of either. Our meetings have been both pleasant and enjoyable, our discussions of many difficult problems have been interesting and our decisions have usually been unanimous, which to me will ever be a pleasant memory.

"In the discharge of my duties I have only considered the best interests of the taxpayers of Teaneck, and I know the same spirit has prompted and governed your official acts. The results of the present administration are ample and convincing proofs.

"I have been criticised for irregular attendance at meetings of the Council. Such criticism would ordinarily be justified were it not for the fact that many of said absences have been occasioned by conditions over which I have had no control, and would therefore seem pardonable.

"In conclusion, please permit me to express my sincere hope that your efforts in the future will continue to receive the deserved endorsement and support of every honest thinking taxpayer of our Township."

Taken by surprise when the resignation and letter were read, near the end of the Council meeting, the other Councilmen voted to receive the communication and defer action thereon until the adjourned session of the meeting, which it had already been voted should be held on Dec. 29. At that time, Mr. Ely being present but not voting, the Council adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS Mr. Walter Ely, due to the pressure of other duties, has been impelled to tender his resignation as a member of this Council, and

WHEREAS Mr. Ely during his two years in office has kept inviolate his pre-election pledges to the people of Teaneck, and insofar as his time would permit has used his best efforts, in co-operation with other members of this Council, to establish and maintain an honest, efficient, economical and non-partisan government in Teaneck; and

WHEREAS throughout his term in office the relations between Mr. Ely and the other members of this Council have been at all times pleasant and agreeable and marked by mutual confidence and respect; therefore be it

RESOLVED—That Mr. Ely's resignation as a member of the Township Council of the Township of Teaneck be accepted with regret, to be effective; in accordance with his request, on the 31st day of December, 1932; and be it further

RESOLVED—That Mr. Ely is entitled to be held in the highest esteem by the citizens of Teaneck for his civic spirit in accepting and holding for so long a time a pub-

lic office which he did not seek or desire, and which he has filled honorably, and with full regard to the best interests of his fellow-townsmen, and at the sacrifice of his own interest and convenience; and be it further

RESOLVED—That this resolution in full be made a part of the official record of this meeting, and that the Township Clerk be directed to forward to Mr. Ely a certified copy thereof.

The resignation of Mr. Ely, leaving its incumbent upon the Councilmen remaining in office to elect his successor, will leave only four seats in the Council to be disposed of at a special election, in case the State Supreme Court decides this month that Township Clerk Diehl should issue a call for such an election as the result of the recall petitions filed in September; for the law provides that any Councilman taking office by election of the Council to fill a vacancy shall hold the office until the next following General Election, and that the office shall then be filled by vote of the people. Whoever is selected by the Council, therefore, will hold office until next November, but no longer unless then elected by ballot.

Mr. Ely, in common with the four present members of the Council, was elected on Oct. 14, 1930, four weeks after Teaneck Township by referendum vote on Sept. 16 had given a majority in favor of adoption of the Municipal Manager form of government. Mr. Ely had been from the beginning an active worker in the ranks of Teaneck Taxpayers League, which in its platform of principles declared in favor of the Municipal Manager Plan.

When, after the referendum campaign had been carried to a successful conclusion, Mr. Ely's name was brought before the League's nominating committee for consideration as a candidate for Councilman, Mr. Ely stated positively that, while he appreciated the honor, he could not accept the office, as he would not be able to devote as much time to it as he felt the office demanded. He yielded, and consented to become a candidate for the Council, only when convinced that he would be recreant to his duty as a citizen if he failed to obey the mandate of the nominating committee. The records of the League during that period uphold the statement in Mr. Ely's letter explaining his resignation: "I did not seek the office, as you are aware."

Very plainly, these facts were in the minds of the Council when they framed the resolution accepting Mr. Ely's resignation.

At the time this issue of The Town Manager went to press, Council had taken no steps toward selection of Mr. Ely's successor as a member of that body, although several names had been discussed informally, including those of two or three men who already have rendered the township valuable service as members of one or another of the advisory boards appointed by the Council.

**ROSS SUMS UP EVILS  
AND CURES OF FINANCE  
IN TOWN GOVERNMENT**

(Continued)

ernment, public administration, tax systems and fiscal legislation are reflected ultimately in the municipal market.

Investors are confused as to the status of municipal securities today because of a few defaults here and there. Defaults have had not alone bad effects, but in some cases good effects as well, such as drastic reforms in budget appropriations and a new degree of scrutiny, which in the end should react favorably.

Budgets of cities and states have expanded enormously while taxable resources have declined. Twenty-five reputable cities have increased their budgets 90% in the past ten years; twenty-five states, 47%. Too much debt for capital purposes, ever increasing, as shown by these figures:

|             |                 |
|-------------|-----------------|
| 1913        | 2,000,000,000.  |
| 1927        | 10,000,000,000. |
| 1932 (Est.) | 12,000,000,000. |

The taxpayers will be paying this debt, created at high cost, with dollars twice as dear. Bonded debt in school systems of forty-five states doubled from 1920 to 1930 and now approximates \$114. per pupil. Too many high priced schools which were erected on borrowed money. Census and other sources indicate a lessening in the growth of school population in the future.

One of the outstanding problems of all political subdivisions is the collection of the total amount of taxes levied. The tax burden on real property has become unbearable in many places. Collection of only 60% to 80% of such taxes is not unusual.

The deplorable real estate situation has led to much of the financial distress of cities and states. Probably one fourth of all farm, city and urban real estate mortgagees have failed to meet in full their payments of principal, interest and taxes.

Some states' statutes and constitutions impose a net debt limit of from five to seven percent of the assessed valuation of the property in a municipality, but this usually applies to the municipal government alone, and even this does not include certain exempt debts, such as assessments, or Utilities.

Furthermore, an overlapping of districts, each with its own debts, such as county, school, and municipal, covering identical taxable property, may run the debt as high as 25% of the value of the underlying property.

Valuations are not always a sound basis for appraising municipal securities. In some states municipalities assess property at full value; some at half; some much less.

The per capita tax collections, per capita expenditures and per capita debt should be the guides, together with the underlying real

values of property and, of course, the ability of the taxpayer to pay. Short term financing in these days is almost at a standstill, and the operation is most expensive. This naturally increases the debt service, and must be put in the budget together with other burdens of the depression.

Several states, cities and municipalities have acute maturity problems to meet in the next year or two. Graft, racketeering and political corruption have sapped the credit and resources of some of our cities and municipalities. The outstanding charges could be waste, extravagant spending, diversion of public funds and inefficient handling of fiscal programs. Graft and corruption are usually checked just short of the point of wrecking the municipal credit. Two or three large cities are now good examples of this condition.

The difficulties of the present and the recent past will be reflected by municipal economy either voluntary or forced, perhaps even mandatory by new statutes. Actual fiscal reforms are on the way now.

Planning for the future must come. One industry towns; excessive buildings; too many fine streets and no ratables on them; fine, efficient storm drains and sound sewerage systems running dry through overdeveloped farm land that is just another real estate "bust"—all these, with the Township credit at stake, will not be tolerated in the future.

Extremely high income taxes will create a demand for municipal securities when, as and if the state takes over the supervision of all its political sub-divisions' financial affairs, and affirms or guarantees their credit, with the proper statutes to supervise the operation. Several states have already done just this and more are giving it consideration.

You will hear the old cry of Home Rule, but the average small political sub-divisions and even some larger ones have proven their lack of vision and capacity properly to exercise Home Rule.

Let the state apply the tests of necessity, expediency and legality, in addition to all other statutory provisions and limitations.

It is not enough for the municipality to go into default, and then have the state set up a State Board to supervise Finance. This should be reversed, and the board set up in advance so there will be no default.

Some of the things essential for the cure of the average financially sick municipality are:

A—State, county and municipal budgets must be deflated by reduced expenditures.

B—Some other form of tax must be made available besides property tax; such as sales tax.

C—For the present emergency municipality, county and state must adopt a liberal attitude of foreclosure policy.

D—Overlapping taxing districts must be curbed.

E—Semi-annual reports should be made as to the affairs of the

corporation (municipality) to the stockholders (taxpayers). These statements should set forth how much of the tax levied is being collected that budget items are not being overspent; that miscellaneous revenue is coming in as anticipated, etc.

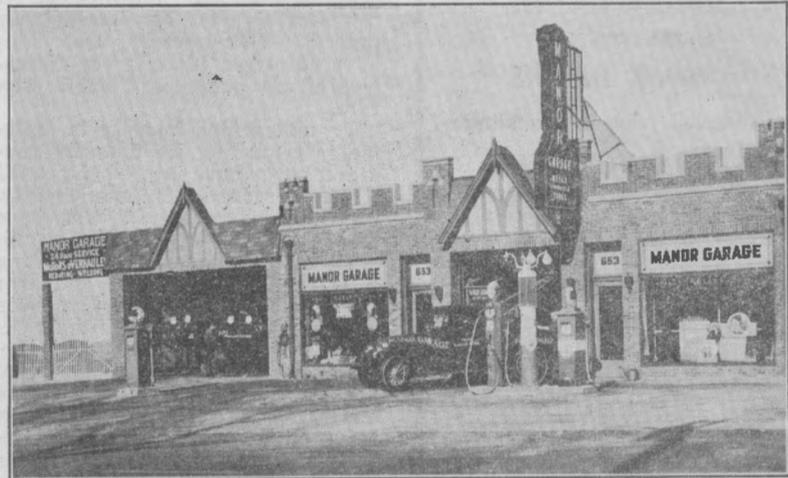
F—Finally all taxpayers, investors and bankers, and all business and civic leaders, for their own protection, must root out the organized political corruption which has brought many cities to the brink of disaster.

Although Teaneck Township has many hurdles yet to jump, it is on the way to lead the rest. In due time the sun of prosperity will reappear above the business horizon, and the dawn of a new and saner economic day for municipalities will be born out of the severe and beneficial lessons of a costly readjustment period.

After all, nothing quite equals the tonic effect of the sunrise after a stormy night.

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| Carburetion | Armatures | Wiring   |
| Generators  | Timing    | Lighting |

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TEANECK, N. J.

# Think 'em Over

Should a man be judged by what he says offhand, or is reported to have said, or by what he actually does? In the last analysis which is the safer and saner course—to base judgment on words uttered without deliberation, or on deeds and their results? It's a fairly well-accepted principle that results are what count.

Perhaps some day a legislature somewhere on earth will enact some law making it possible for some community to rid itself by the ballot of its unofficial "quacks." Nothing's too good to hope for.

Is anyone writing a history of Teaneck? If not why not? The time is ripe. Wouldn't this be a good enterprise for some public-spirited citizen or group of citizens to sponsor and endow? How about monthly prizes for high school pupils who turn out the best chapters?

Presumably the snow, like the rain, falls alike on the just and the unjust—yet it seems as if the Weather Man now and then took a hand on the side of right and decency. Fair enough.

Christmas has come and gone, but that doesn't make it imperative to forget immediately the spirit of "peace on Earth; good will to men," or that communities in which this spirit is prevalent throughout the year are the places where life is happiest and best. Mix a bit of that spirit with a dash of essence of Golden Rule and a jigger of "Judge not, that ye be not judged," and you'll have a grand cocktail for Teaneck to use in toasting the new year.

What a lot there is in mental attitude! Which man contributes more to human progress—the one who enters a controversy with his mind already made up, unwilling to see merit in any fact or argument opposed to his own view; or the man agreeing that there are two sides to every question and as anxious to be shown that he's wrong, if he is wrong, as he is to establish the fact that he's right, if he is right? Discussion and controversy, necessary if there is to be any progress, must be fair, disinterested and unprejudiced if progress is to be intelligently guided. Self-interest and bias have no proper place in the discussion of any question of public welfare.

Frankness and honesty in statements regarding its financial condition never have injured the credit of any corporation or municipality. To the contrary, those who have money to lend—and selling municipal bonds is merely negotiating a loan—are predisposed in favor of the borrower who has been careful to represent conditions exactly as they are. Furthermore, every concern handling municipal bonds makes its own investigation and satisfies itself as to conditions before it buys, and the State Department of Municipal Accounts as a matter of public policy advertises in the press the financial status of every municipality in the state.

The family that is united in purpose and peaceable command's greater respect among its neighbors and has higher credit rating than one torn by dissension and given to squabbling—and the same principle applies to a community.

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and

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Teaneck 6-3474

## ASSESSMENTS DUE IN JANUARY

| No. | Name  | Date Due |
|-----|---|----------|
| 50  | Garden St. Ext. E.S.                              | Jan. 6   |
| 56  | Farrant Terr. Gen'l. Imp.                         | 15       |
| 74  | Hillcrest St. Gen'l. Imp.                         | 2        |
| 78  | Palmer Ave. Gen'l. Imp.                           | 21       |
| 85  | Lees & Sherwood Gen'l. Imp.                       | 7        |
| 86  | East Sewer Ext.                                   | 9        |
| 110 | Hickory St. N. of DeGraw                          | 22       |
| 111 | W. E. Ave. to Station Imp.                        | 22       |
| 124 | Sherman Ave. E. of Q. A. Rd.                      | 22       |
| 133 | Elizabeth Ave. E. of Q. A. Rd.                    | 13       |
| 138 | Churchill Rd. from Buckingham Rd. to East End     | 13       |
| 152 | Short St. Linden to Chestnut                      | 20       |
| 190 | Shepard Ave. Paving                               | 13       |
| 191 | Van Buskirk Rd. Paving                            | 13       |
| 192 | East Oakdene Ave. Paving                          | 13       |
| 193 | Gaylord Terrace Paving                            | 13       |
| 194 | Parkway Ave. Paving                               | 13       |
| 195 | Ogden Ave. Paving                                 | 13       |
| 196 | Division St. Paving                               | 20       |
| 244 | Terhune St. Sidewalks                             | 6        |
| 245 | No. Forrest Drive Ord. No. 383                    | 12       |
| 246 | No. Forrest Drive Ext. No. 462                    | 12       |
| 247 | Cedar Lane Belle Ave. & Beatrice St. Ord. No. 445 | 12       |
| 248 | Fyke Lane Sidewalks                               | 26       |
| 249 | Teaneck Rd. Sidewalks                             | 26       |
| 250 | Harding Ave. Sidewalks                            | 26       |
| 251 | Oak St. Sidewalks                                 | 26       |
| 252 | Walnut St. Sidewalks                              | 26       |
| 254 | Walnut St. Gen'l. Imp.                            | 26       |

## Church Notices

**HELPS MANOR M. E. CHURCH**  
1000 Queen Anne Rd., Teaneck  
Charles Waldron, Minister

Sunday Services .....9:45 a. m.  
Preaching .....10:45 a. m.  
Tuxis .....7:15 p. m.  
Boy Scouts Fridays.  
Girl Scouts Mondays.  
Men's Club, Second Thursday.  
Woman's Guild, First Tuesday.  
World Service Fourth Monday.

### TEANECK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

21 Church Street, Teaneck  
Rev. Reginald Rowland, Pastor

Sunday Services .....11 a. m.  
Church School .....9:45 a. m.  
Harry M. Rice, Supt.  
Everybody Welcome.

### GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

405 Cedar Lane, Teaneck  
Carl Bergen, Pastor.

Sunday School .....9:15 a. m.  
Church Worship .....10 a. m.  
"A Hearty Welcome to All"

### CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

261 Cedar Terrace,  
Cedar Park Section, Teaneck  
Rev. Richard Baxter, Vicar

Morning Service .....9 a. m.

### ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Chadwick Avenue  
Phelps Manor, Teaneck  
Rev. Richard Baxter, Vicar  
Telephone Teaneck 6-6790

Holy Communion .....8 a. m.  
Sunday School .....9:30 a. m.  
Worship with address ..10:45 a. m.

**ST. ANASTASIA'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
1126 Teaneck Road, Teaneck  
Rev. Father O'Neill, Pastor

Sunday Masses...8, 9 10, 11 a. m.  
Holy Day Masses ...6 and 8 a. m.  
Week Day and 1st Friday ..8 a. m.

### CHRIST CHURCH

(Protestant Episcopal)  
351 Rutland Ave., West Englewood  
Rev. William K. Russel, Pastor

Holy Communion .....8 a. m.  
Church School .....9:30 a. m.  
Morning Prayer & Sermon 11 a. m.  
Holy Communion 1st Sun. of mon.  
Evening Prayer (discontinued thru June, July and August).

### COMMUNITY CHURCH

Elm cor. North St., Teaneck  
John J. Soeter, B. D., Minister  
262 Elm Avenue

Sunday School .....9:45 a. m.  
Beginners' Dept. (3-6 yr.) 11 a. m.  
Church Service .....11 a. m.  
Girl Scouts every Tues., 3:45 p. m.  
Young People's Society every Thursday .....8 p. m.  
Boy Scouts every Friday 7:30 p. m.

### TEANECK METHODIST EPISCOPAL COMMUNITY CHURCH

DeGraw and Hickory Streets  
Rev. Charles S. Kemble, Minister  
368 Hickory St., Tel. Tea. 6-4318

Sunday School .....9:45 a. m.  
Mr. J. W. Waldron, Supt.  
H. F. Lasher, Assistant  
Preaching .....11 a. m.  
Epworth League .....7 p. m.

### ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Church St., and Beaumont Ave.  
Teaneck, N. J.  
Rev. Charles M. Schnabel, Pastor  
Phone Teaneck 7-3189

Sunday School .....9:30 a. m.  
Sunday Services .....11 a. m.  
"All Welcome"

## Municipal Finance At Pulse Of Government

(Following is the third in a series of articles on the finance and accounting of Teaneck Township, written for the information of taxpayers and which will appear in The Town Manager each month until concluded.—Editor.)

By PAUL VOLCKER  
Township Manager

It was the original intention to discuss the Trust Account in this third article of a series on the Township's Finances. However, because of the timeliness of a year-end survey of the general financial position of Teaneck, it seemed better to devote this article to the survey and take up the Trust Account in a later issue.

The generally difficult financial position in which many municipalities now find themselves is well known to every reader of the daily newspapers. About half of the Towns in our county have been unable to meet their county and state taxes. In the neighboring county of Essex, some of the proudest municipalities are on the delinquent lists.

In practically all cases the difficulty arises from the fact that municipalities can no longer borrow money on their delinquent tax obligations in the manner to which they have been accustomed, and this at a time when, because of the non-payment of taxes, the necessity for borrowing is more necessary than ever.

In these conditions the cutting of budgets to the bone, while it is an aid and of course should be done, is not an absolute remedy; for no matter how small a municipality's budget may be, if it can collect only half of the taxes, and is unable to borrow on the remainder, it still will not be able to pay its debts.

About the only way in which a municipality, under present conditions, could be certain of meeting its obligations would be to reduce its budget to a minimum and then, in fixing the tax rate, double this amount, so that when fifty percent of the taxes were collected the amount actually needed to pay bills would be in hand.

The objections to this method are obvious. The resulting high tax rate would be very unjust to those who did pay their taxes, and because of its being so very high would result in a still greater percentage of delinquencies.

Probably each municipality should proceed to build up a cash surplus in a period of say ten years, so that at the end of that time it could be its own banker. This could be done by adding about ten percent a year to the budget, and then actually depositing this amount in a separate fund each year. But under existing conditions, both legal and economic, any municipal administration would hesitate very much to do this, not only because of the resulting increase in the tax rate, but also be-

cause there is nothing in the law to prevent a subsequent administration from digging into this fund and using it up, in order to make a showing for itself in a low tax rate.

Passing now from these rambling thoughts on the financial difficulties of municipalities in general to Teaneck in particular, the accounts for 1932 can be reported as closed, with all bills paid and some \$60,000 in cash on hand with which to start the new year, with perhaps another \$30,000 as book surplus, to find its way eventually into the current account, through the complex processes of municipal auditing.

In general, the various revenues anticipated from other sources than taxes were more than realized, while the percentage of the current taxes collected fell behind. This falling off in current taxes, however, was more than compensated for by the collection of delinquent taxes, largely because of the tax sale. This tax sale, however, had its darker side, in that it threw still other delinquent taxes into tax title liens held by the Township.

The \$32,000 net by which anticipated revenue other than taxes over-ran the estimate, came about through over collections of interest on delinquent taxes and in the franchise and gross receipts taxes, the latter being partly a reflection of the increased valuations of last year. Other items among the anticipated receipts ran behind, notably Local Licenses and Permits. The items that ran behind, however, were those whose amounts were smallest.

As to budget expenditures, it was found, when all adjustments and transfers had been made that about \$15,000 remained. This balance was transferred to the poor account and was then used to pay off the notes outstanding for Emergency Relief. This means that the Township has so far carried its Emergency relief load practically out of current funds and starts the new year with a clean slate.

This emergency relief is not to be confused with the unemployment funds, out of which the athletic field, stadium and tennis courts, among other things, were built. There are some \$40,000 of these obligations still outstanding, which are now in the process of being refunded into a permanent aerial bond issue payable during the next eight years. This is in accordance with law and is also perfectly good finance, for the stadium will last many times eight years and will be enjoyed by taxpayers for a long time to come.

Aside from closing the year in this satisfactory manner, it should be mentioned that an additional \$200,000 of assessment bonds were bought in before maturity and at a discount. The interest saved in these transactions was reflected in the budget appropriation for interest in the 1932 budget, and helped to make up the \$15,000 that went to the poor.

The matters herein set forth

have but an indirect and minor relation to the Township's problem of meeting this year's maturities of assessment bonds. That is another story, and will be told in next month's discussion of the Trust Account.

## OVER A MILLION IN NEW CONSTRUCTION IN TEANECK, DURING 1932

When a community of less than twenty thousand population, in a year such as 1932, can show almost a million dollars of new construction, that community has a bright future ahead of it. Moreover, the bulk of this expenditure for new construction in Teaneck in 1932 was for homes, the only large project of a different kind being the new buildings of St. Anastasia's church. Comparative figures for 1932 complete are not available yet, but there is no reason to doubt that Teaneck has maintained its state ranking of the past several years, when it has been consistently third or fourth among all of the cities of New Jersey in volume of building.

The exact figures for Teaneck for 1932 are \$907,838. Ninety-six new dwellings were built, all but two of which were single family homes. In view of recent discussions on zoning and rezoning, it may be interesting to note that permits were issued for seven gas stations and service rooms. Building permit fees received totaled \$1,911, besides \$343.50 for occupancy permits. The building inspector received as his compensation half of the building permit fees, or \$955.50.

Gratifyingly large as the volume of building in Teaneck was last year, it shows a considerable decrease from the totals of previous years. These were: 1928, \$4,034,625; 1929, \$3,228,950; 1930, \$2,298,699; 1931, \$1,700,989.

## TOWN PLANNING BOARD DROPS ZONE ACTION

In a resolution recently presented to the Council, the Planning Board, in view of the expressions of public opinion brought out at two public hearings held by the Council, has withdrawn its original recommendation that a strip approximately 600 feet wide on both sides of State Highway Four be zoned for apartment houses, and recommends that none of the property be so zoned until such time as there may be a demand for such zoning. It also recommended that none of the property fronting the highway that is now in Class A residential zoning shall be changed to a business zoning.

Shortly thereafter the Planning Board notified Council that its Master Plan for the Township as a whole is nearly ready, and invited the Council to meet with it on Jan. 12 when the Master Plan will come up for adoption. Members of the Council expressed their intention to attend, and decided to

defer setting a date for any further public hearings until after that time.

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Residence, Teaneck 7-3742-W

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**Louis Feibel**

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Teaneck 6-8715

# THE TOWN MANAGER

Application for Second Class Matter Pending

## Official Publication of the Teaneck Taxpayers' League

Its Field—The Township.

Its Creed—Justice towards all; malice toward none.

Its Purpose—To make Teaneck a good place to live in.

Its Hope—Co-operation from all residents, on non-partisan basis, with an eye single to service for the benefit of all.

### PUBLISHED ON THE FIRST OF EACH MONTH

|                                |                           |                |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| Business Manager and Treasurer | - - -                     | CHARLES WEDEL  |
|                                | 653 Linden Avenue         |                |
| Advertising Manager            | - - -                     | ROBERT DIAZ    |
|                                | 227 Elm Avenue            |                |
| Circulation Manager            | - - -                     | P. T. McEVOY   |
|                                | 227 Elm Avenue            |                |
| Secretary                      | - - -                     | GEORGE DIERAUF |
|                                | 324 West Englewood Avenue |                |
| Chairman of Board of Directors | - - -                     | AUGUST NAMM    |
|                                | 552 Linden Avenue         |                |

OWNERS: THE TEANECK TAXPAYERS' LEAGUE

### A FINE EXAMPLE OF CIVIC USEFULNESS

Since the Township Council appointed the Board of Child Hygiene, Clinical and Social Service, hardly a month has passed without bringing evidence of some definite improvement in the work of the child hygiene stations, which since July 1, 1932, have been conducted entirely at the township's expense and as a department of the township government.

Almost from the beginning, acting upon the board's recommendation, provision was made for attendance of physicians at clinics for children of pre-school age once each week at each station. Since then it has been arranged that there shall be dental clinics once each month, where dental examinations and competent advice on dental needs can be had without cost.

One of the board's latest and finest achievements has been to provide for inoculation against diphtheria, free to children of parents unable to pay for the treatment, of which fifty-three children already have had the benefit and thus gained immunization against one of the most dangerous of all contagious diseases.

In all its work the board has given the Council splendid co-operation in carrying out the purposes for which it was created, and in return the Council has given the board every encouragement, approving practically without change every recommendation the board has made.

Like the Advisory Boards, the members of the Hygiene Board serve without compensation and give a great deal of their time, with utmost interest and enthusiasm, to seeking solutions of various problems and needs of the community. All these groups of citizens are helping to make Teaneck's government truly a "government of the people, for the people and by the people," and are affording a fine example of civic usefulness.

### GOOD SOIL FOR COMMUNITY GROWTH

Teaneck has good community soil; the kind of soil in which all enterprises that make for a better community life strike root readily, grow rapidly and flourish. While this has never been doubted by those who know Teaneck, it has been strikingly manifested in recent time by the achievements of two organizations that exist solely to promote the things that add beauty to life.

One of these is the Teaneck Community Orchestra, which last season appeared twice in public with first seventeen, then twenty-two members, and which at its first appearance this

year had thirty-five members on the stage and gave a concert of which many an older musical organization might well be proud. The other is the Garden Club of Teaneck, only eight months old, which already has a membership of 150 and has to its credit one successful flower show and a consistent program of monthly illustrated lectures and talks on gardening problems, open to the public, and free.

Such activities as these are the best possible advertisements to the outside world of the kind of community Teaneck is. What will be next? Hasn't Teaneck material for an art club, which might serve to encourage the young who are studying art in the schools? Or a history club, which would stimulate especially research and proper recording of the history of Teaneck? Whoever may take the lead in any move, that aims at the betterment of Teaneck, the columns of The Town Manager are always open to give it publicity and help it along.

### MR. WALTER ELY'S RESIGNATION

The resignation of Mr. Walter Ely as Councilman marks the retirement from public office of one of the five men selected by Teaneck Taxpayers League to form the first Township Council under the Municipal Manager Act and to launch the new form of government. Having accepted the office against his own wishes and inclination, for two years Mr. Ely has carried its responsibilities, giving such time as he could devote to it, largely at the sacrifice of his own interests, and has subjected himself to much unjust criticism, which no man in public office can hope to escape. He has some measure of reward in expressions of commendation and high esteem from those who know him best—the organization that sponsored his election and the members of the Council with whom he served—and in his own consciousness that he has been faithful to the interests of the citizens who elected him. That, after all, is the highest reward attainable by those who accept public office solely to make effective their ideals of government.

### FIRE PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS

To what extent the administration may find it possible or judicious to adopt immediately the recommendations of Chief Murray, for improvements in Teaneck's fire protection service, remains to be seen. Aware of the township's financial conditions, the Chief presents his recommendations, not as demands, but rather as a clear outline of what is needed. His exhaustive report to Township Manager Volcker, appearing in this issue, gives ample evidence that he knows his job and that he has made a close study of the needs of his department. He has performed his duty in making those needs known to the Council, properly leaving to them the responsibility of deciding how and when they can be met.

