

the village of **EVERGREEN PARK**
75th ANNIVERSARY ALBUM

1893-1968



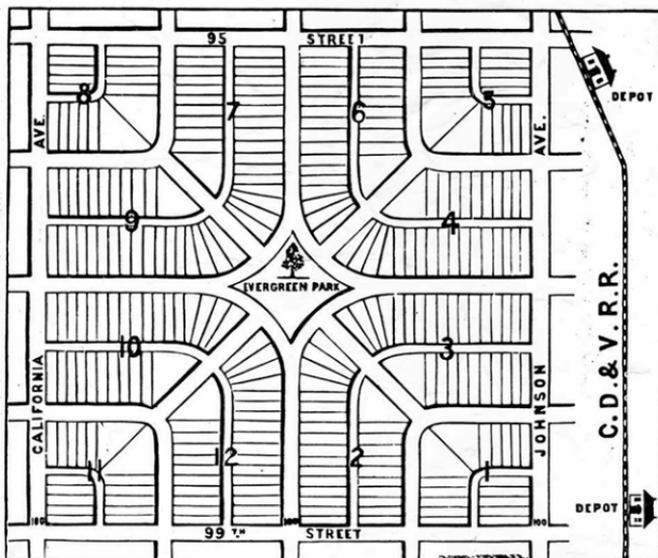
In 1878 this ad appeared in a Chicago newspaper, describing the Park in glowing terms. Notice California Avenue on the west side, instead of Central Park. Best guess is that the mapmaker was a bit confused. But Kedzie Avenue actually was Johnson Avenue at that time.

HALF ACRE LOTS

FOR SALE AT

EVERGREEN PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILL.

NORTH.



EVERGREEN PARK

Is one of Chicago's most beautiful Suburbs. It is six miles south of City Limits, on the Chicago & Southern Railroad, which affords the very best of accommodations at low rates of fare. The scenery about the Park is the most delightful in Cook County. The streets are all 100 feet wide, with 20 feet alleys; the lots are each 54 by 270 feet, containing about half an acre. The streets are well improved, many thousands of shade trees growing on their margins. The Park is famous for its large number of fine evergreen trees, from which it derives its name. An elegant public school building has recently been completed at a cost of \$10,000. The foundations of the Scientific College of the "University of the West" are now finished; it is expected that one million dollars will be required to complete this institution. The Public Park is located in the center of the village, and is approached by eight broad avenues. The land in the vicinity is interspersed with alternate groves and lawns; many Photographic Views have been taken, which parties are invited to call at my office and see. Over 60 lots were sold in good times for \$1500 each. At present \$750 will be charged for the same kind of property—\$150 down and \$100 per year, with interest at six per cent. To be successful, you must buy when things are cheap and sell when they are dear. Times will soon be good, when these lots will sell for double the price now charged for them. The title is perfect; a printed Abstract will be given with each sale. For particulars, call on or address,

C. W. DEAN,
No. 69 Market Street, Chicago.

Village Board of Evergreen Park in 1908. 1st row, l. to r., Edward P. Wehle, Matt Solterman, Colonel Beck, John Hill, Jr.; 2nd row, Fred Hill, Daniel Schwer, Thomas McCauley, Peter Merkel.



75th Anniversary of the Incorporation of the Village of Evergreen Park, Illinois 1893 - 1968

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The Chairman says:



Since the early days of the founding and settling of Evergreen Park and its actual incorporation in 1893, the Village has been a fine community in which to live. Many early settlers and worthy citizens have devoted a large portion of their busy lives to the purpose of developing our local government and community betterment. Obviously, the citizens in 1968 still devote much of their lives for the community. The Village stands now as a tribute to these past and present citizens.

We have set aside the days of August 9-17 to celebrate our 75th Anniversary. In this way we pay tribute to the people of the past, create new civic awareness, develop new civic leaders, stimulate our local economy, and focus attention on tomorrow. We have a great many things to be thankful for—wonderful schools, many churches, a hospital, parks and playgrounds, fine businesses, and a very attractive community.

In the midst of our Diamond Jubilee Celebration, let us be thankful for the past and present—let us have fun now, and vow to work in the future for the greater development of our fine community.

I thank each and everyone of you wonderful men and women who are giving a great deal of your time and effort to work on all the committees that planned the celebration, and are carrying out every assignment to make this one of the finest and most successful celebrations of its kind.

**Anthony Vacco, General Chairman
75th Anniversary Celebration**

The Editors say:

To think that every facet of the 75-year history of our Village could be unearthed and recorded in these few pages is unrealistic. Another impossible dream is that every citizen and every organization that has made a contribution to the betterment of Evergreen Park will receive full credit, and the amount of space they feel they deserve.

We realized these facts when we accepted this assignment, and hope you do, too. We've done our best—using the records available, the memories of old-timers, and the time allotted—to make these pages interesting, informative, and memorable.

Happy reading.

William and Stephanie Leeder, Editors



Let's Take an Old-Fashioned Walk...

*Come for a stroll down our History Lane,
Back seventy-five years . . . and more!
When "Injun" signals were seen from afar
And pioneers came to explore.*

*Some of them liked it—this Evergreen Park,
To farm it and live here they chose.
They made it a Village in ninety-three . . .
Let this be a tribute to those!*

IN 1893 Illinois celebrates her 75th anniversary of statehood. People die of cold and hunger as the United States faces a bitter depression and financial panic. Little Egypt dances her hootchy-kootchy at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. And tiny Evergreen Park is incorporated as a Village in the State of Illinois!

Earlier years had seen the muddy portage and tall grass prairies from Chicago to the Palos Hills traversed by Indians. First to occupy the region was the Illinois tribe, which means "real men" in the Indian language. They were driven out by the Iroquois, followed by the Algonquins, the Fox, the Sioux, the Miamis, and finally the Potawatomies took over. The ridge at 87th and Western was the

highest in the near vicinity and was used as a signal post.

Before the drum beats of the Civil War were heard, even before Chicago officially came into existence as a town, Blasius Schwer and his wife built a farm house on the hill where Evergreen Cemetery now is located. The year was 1828.

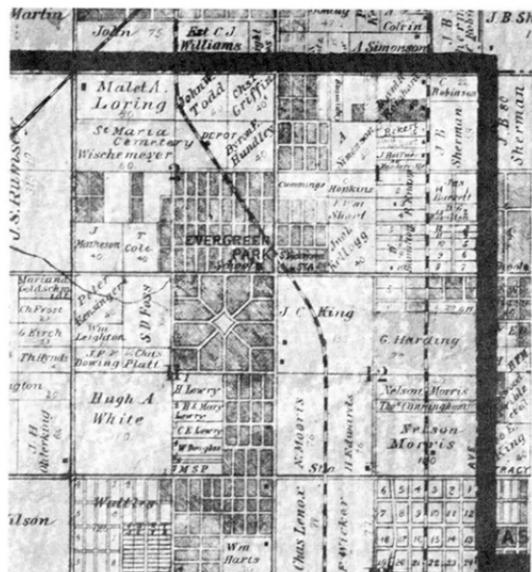
Chicago was made the seat of a new county in 1831, named for Congressman Daniel P. Cook, and "progress" started pushing out the Indian. The Potawatomies were urged in a colorful and exciting powwow to cede their territory and withdraw to an area west of the Mississippi. They drew out the proceedings as long as they could since they were enjoying themselves thoroughly at the government's expense. Finally they signed a treaty in 1833 and had completely vacated by 1835, with 5,000 of them leaving amidst a glorious war dance by 800 painted warriors.

The land boom was on! Settlers flocked to the Chicago region and, as the years passed, many industries blasted and wheezed it into a braggart metropolis. Several miles south and west a few venturesome families joined the Schwers and braved the unknown for the peace and fulfillment of farm life. For these



Here's the oldest business in Evergreen Park, now called Geis and Crossen. In 1895 it was located at 89th and Central Park, among saloons that served cemetery visitors. L. to R. are: William Hense, unidentified, Charley Milne, unidentified, Ed McCombie, Jacob Geis, John Zirkel, Anthony Geis. Horse's name is Frank, driver unidentified.





Just before the turn of the century, the Evergreen Park area looked like this on a map, courtesy of the Chicago Historical Society.

early pioneers there was beauty and promise to be seen ahead in this combination prairie, forest, and swampland that we now know as Evergreen Park.

The thick prairie grass made an excellent sanctuary for wild life, and there were quail, rabbits, wild ducks, and even occasional wolves. There was also an area having the dubious distinction of being called "Skunk Hollow". The country was the most fertile that could be imagined and well-suited for the crops of hay, grain, potatoes, cabbage and onions. Some of the first families were the Hills, Graefens, Haas, Leppins, Seipps, and Robbs. The dirt crossroad of 95th and Kedzie became the hub of a new village.

The rural community was determined that its children would receive the education that had been denied the parents. The first school was built on the site of our present Central Junior High in 1875. It was a two story, red brick structure with four rooms and faced 95th Street at Spaulding Avenue. Earliest records are from the school year of October, 1884, to April, 1885, which show a total enrollment of 14 children.

On picture-taking day, the children dressed in their Sunday best, the boys in knickers and long black stockings and high button shoes, the girls in frilly dresses with enormous hair



bows and long white stockings. Since Evergreen Park was then a farming community, the students were needed in the fields. Often the absentee list showed that a pupil had left school to "work in garden," or to "work with cows". Some other reasons noted were: "returning to German School", "raining", "visiting grandmother in Chicago". If the teacher was ill, school was dismissed.

Religious training also was considered very important by the early settlers. Mrs. Mary Overton started the first Sunday School in Evergreen Park in a room of the public schoolhouse in 1884. Another Sunday School, organized as an individual enterprise under the direction of Benjamin F. Jacobs in 1892, met in a building owned by him at 94th and Homan. Mr. Jacobs donated land to the Methodist Church, which started as a mission in 1893. He did the same for the Baptist Church but, although a foundation was dug at 94th and Turner, the group never was able financially to finish building and met instead in a store at 95th and Spaulding. In 1907 the two churches joined forces and E. W. Lyman of the Baptist group was ordained as a Methodist minister. According to *The Enterprise*, our newspaper of 1894, the Union Sunday



Our first school built in 1875 at 95th and Sawyer had four rooms, one class, one teacher. The fourteen pupils enrolled in 1884-1885 were: Mary Abs, age 10; George Overton, 12; Louise Overton, 10; Joseph Minnington, 6; Dennis Reed, 6; Phillip Rickert, 14; Mary Overton, 5; Tom Overton, 9; Minnie Abs, 14; Paul Heim, 11; Addie Heim, 9; Harry Heim, 7; Willie Walters, 9; Linda Walters, 7.

School met at the drugstore at 95th and Spaulding, classes for all ages.

The business area of the nineties seemed to be bounded by 95th Street, 92nd Street, Kedzie Avenue, and St. Louis Avenue. At 94th and Kedzie, the tiny wooden building still

is standing that was Vogwill's Coal and Ice Business Office. Traveling down the dusty narrow path known as Kedzie Avenue, we would find two grocery stores, (one also handling hardware and tinware). At the northeast corner of 95th and Kedzie, we might stop for a bit of liquid refreshment or shoot some pool at Fred Leppin's Saloon, a three story wooden building. The first floor was the saloon and pool room; the second, the family living quarters; and the top floor was for dances. (In 1942 the building was cut down to one story and moved to 96th and Sawyer to become the Bethel Baptist Church.)

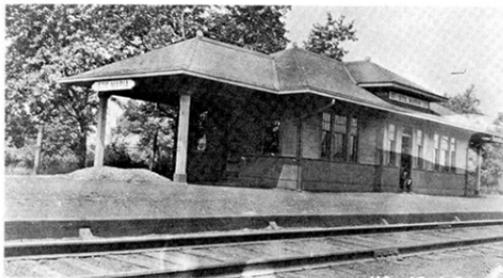
The Railroad Station at 95th and the Grand Trunk Crossing had separate waiting rooms for men and women. On 95th Street west of the railroad track, one could stock up at Fred Schultz, Groceries and Provisions, featuring "Best Brands of Winter Wheat and Pillsbury's Best Flour at LOWEST PRICES". You would find penny candy, stationery, notions and sundries at the drugstore at 95th and Spaulding. Farther west on 95th was Robb's Blacksmith Shop or "Practical Horse Shoer". The Robb family lived in the white frame house still located at 3517 W. 95th Street.

F. W. Gunderson, Practical Painter, resided at 9334 Maple Avenue. On the corner of 94th and Maple was A. Wilson's Meat Market, selling meat, vegetables, eggs and "oysters in season". A boarding house stood at 94th and Spaulding Avenue. At Vogwill's Grocery on the northwest corner of 94th and Turner, most trade was cash and carry, but some deliveries were made by horse and wagon.

Also on 94th Street, just east of Turner, one found Steen's Grocery. In the early days of the Village, ordinances were published by placing notices in prominent places about town. Steen's place often was chosen to be one, along with the Village Hall and the Post Office. The Steen family residence was the white frame house still standing at the southeast corner of 94th and Turner.

At 93rd and Spaulding is an old two story brick factory building cut down from its original three story height about 25 years ago. This was originally the Ritchie Box Factory and later was used to dress chickens to be shipped to meat and provision firms. Down on Turner just north of 93rd Street the Armstrong Tailoring Factory manufactured uniforms.

There were two hotels in town, mainly for the employees of the various factories. One at 92nd and Turner catered to men exclusively. The second, on the southwest corner of 93rd and Homan, was for women. A little south of 92nd, a switch track turned off the Grand Trunk and curved northwesterly around a cooperage and barrel factory. The switch



St. Maria's Station on the Grand Trunk Railroad at 89th Street was more crowded than this when the funeral train brought a casket and mourners out from the city. *Courtesy, Grand Trunk Railroad*

track crossed Homan Avenue and ran along the north side of a two story brick factory building at 92nd and Homan which made wooden matches for the Diamond Match Company and later harbored the Williams Biscuit Company.

The land for St. Mary's Cemetery (it was known as St. Maria's at the time), was bought by Mr. Henry Wischmeyer in 1887. It was deeded to the Catholic Bishop of Chicago on the condition that the net profit be paid to the Angel Guardian Orphanage in Chicago.

Near the railroad station called St. Maria's at 89th and the Grand Trunk, the area was referred to as "Vinegar Hill". There were several restaurants and saloons to serve the people who came from the city to attend funerals



The bunch at the match factory at 92nd and Homan take a moment out to pose during their coffee break in 1909.





or decorate the graves at St. Mary's. One of these was Ab's Tavern where complete dinners were served, a favorite being corned beef and cabbage. Joseph Wehle had the office of his Granite and Marble Monuments Company at the St. Maria Station, and in 1895 Geis and Zirkel started their monument company. Now known as Geis and Crossen, it is the oldest business in the Village.

The year of 1893 was an eventful one. A financial panic started when Europe began selling American securities and withdrawing gold. In spite of the depression, neighboring Chicago went through with its elaborate plans that turned Jackson Park into a flamboyant fairyland honoring the 400th anniversary of the landing of Columbus (about seven months

Our first Village Hall in 1894 with Village officials posed in front. Our first Mayor, John M. Foley, is seated second from left with Trustees: Joseph Merkel, G. L. Hamilton, John Robb, Sr., A. Priebe, and Herman Kuschel. Peter Merkel is at bottom of the stairs. The volunteer fire department, practically hiding its "chemical wagon" at left, is comprised of Matt Solterman, Ed Wehle, Mr. Liepe, J. W. Howell, Dan Schwer, and Chief John Leppin, Sr. in the stovepipe hat.



after Columbus Day). Many Evergreen residents traveled to the fair to see such new-fangled devices as: the intramural train with a third rail electrically stimulated; Edison's Kinetoscope, a camera and phonograph working in perfect unison; and the Ferris Wheel, a 36-car engineering novelty imported from Europe, which was the first thing to meet the visitor's eye.

Several of the communities surrounding Chicago asked to be annexed to the city in order to survive. But plucky Evergreen Park asserted its independence and held a referendum on incorporation. The population at that time was about 500. On historic December 20, 1893, fifty-one persons turned out and forty of them voted to make Evergreen Park a Village.

The name, Evergreen Park, had been suggested by the numerous pine trees in the park at 97th and Homan. The original planners hoped that the Village would be a small replica of the Arch of Triumph area in Paris, which has many streets radiating from the monument that honors Napoleon. They envisioned our Village as having the park as its center, but 95th and Kedzie proved to be more practical. Their idea of a perfectly square town was defeated by the inclusion of St. Maria's area at the time of incorporation.

On January 22, 1894, the first Village election made John M. Foley, a real estate and insurance agent, our Village President. Fremont W. Gunderson was elected Clerk, and Trustees were: Andrew Olin, Leo A. Frankel, John Robb, Leo Phillips, Edward F. Lowell, and Joseph Wehle. The first annual election held April 17, 1894, saw the same men in office with the exception of Herman Kuschel replacing Leo Phillips as Trustee, and adding Charles M. Bixby as Police Magistrate.

There were 77 persons voting at this election and the winning Citizen's Party was opposed by the Republican ticket of Anthony Wilson for President; Daniel Oakley for Clerk; Benjamin Andrews, John Hill, Sr., Geo. L. Hamilton, Lafayette Lepp, Edward Proim, and S. Overton for Trustees; and Francis D. Webb for Police Magistrate. The Board of Trustees held regular meetings every Monday each week in Council Chambers, west room of the public school building.

On Thanksgiving Day, 1894, August Sievers and a group of neighbors made a regular road in the northeast section of the Park, later called California Avenue, so that 91st Street could be reached without going to Western or Kedzie.

95th Street in those days was a narrow road, just wide enough for two buggies to pass, with deep ditches at the sides. There were some sidewalks, but many of them were rickety

and narrow. After a heavy rain 95th often became a sea of mud, and if one lost balance, there was danger of falling into the mire and sinking. An ordinance dated August 17, 1896, calls for wooden sidewalks to be constructed:

"five feet four inches wide of two inch plank not less than six nor more than ten inches wide planed on the upper side laid crosswise no more than one-half inch apart".

This ordinance was specifically for the south side of 95th Street from Central Park to Western, on the west side of Spaulding from 95th to 96th, and on the south side of 96th from Spaulding to Kedzie, according to the *Evergreen Park Review*.

Water drainage was accomplished by ditches and septic systems. Each family dug its own well for water supply. These frequently ran dry, and people had to carry water from either the school or village pump. Even after running water arrived in every home, many folks preferred the cool, refreshing well water and credited it with therapeutic powers. From neighboring communities people came with jugs and bottles to the village pump.

The annual appropriations ordinance for running the village in 1896 read:

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Interest on Public Debt | \$ 690 |
| Bond Sinking Fund | 500 |
| Public Grounds | 250 |
| Village Hall | 200 |
| Clerk's Office | 100 |
| Election Expense | 50 |
| Legal Expense | 300 |
| Police and Fire Department .. | 850 |
| Street Lighting | 1,000 |
| Salaries | 950 |
| Street Improvements and Repairs | 1,000 |
| Contingent Fund | 1,000 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | \$6,890 |



Grades 6, 7, and 8 in the year 1909, look like they hold great promise. L. to R. are: Top row, Albert Howell, Sylvester Walsh, Henry Goetz, Albert Priebe, Harry Leppin, unidentified, Matt Striet; Middle row, Miss Overton, Minnie Goetz, Gertrude Teipe, Marian Wolf, Myrtle Anderson, Herbert Albrecht; Bottom row, Clara Fuchs, Laura Conrad, Mary Robb, Edna Woodman.



Taking a breather from breaking ground for Evergreen Cemetery. This wide open spaces scene was photographed in 1910.

Discovery of gold in the Klondike in 1896 started the most picturesque gold rush of all time. William Jennings Bryan made his famous "Cross of Gold" speech, and in Evergreen Park the Village elections were held in the engine room of the Village Hall.

Of the total real estate and personal property bills that our people receive today, approximately 9% goes to the Village. The library receives 20% of this for its operating budget, leaving approximately \$278,000 in total receipts from this source for the Village's current annual appropriations.

According to an ordinance in 1896, the President and Board of Trustees had the power to "grant license to keep so many saloons in Evergreen Park as they may think the Public Good requires". A liquor license that year cost \$500 (in advance). Another ordinance stated:



"No person shall sell or give intoxicating liquors to any person whenever the wife, or any other relative or friend of any person, by notice in writing or personally, shall make a request to any saloon keeper or liquor dealer not to sell or in any manner give away liquor to such person." August 25, 1896

In 1899 the Board of Trustees posted a notice in the Village Hall, the Railway Station, and the Post Office saying that having carefully investigated the conditions existing in the Village they felt that two saloons were sufficient "to supply the wants of the community and are as many as the Public Good requires". Two districts were set up, one saloon to be located in each.

The salaries of Village employees were set forth on August 5th, 1897 as follows: The President to receive the sum of \$20 per month or \$240 per annum; the Village Clerk shall receive a salary of \$30 per month or \$300 per annum; the Village Trustees to receive each the sum of \$3 for each regular meeting of the Village Board; each Night Watch or Village Policeman to receive a salary of \$540 per annum; the Street Commissioner shall receive the sum of \$2.50 per day for each and every day while actually engaged upon work for the Village; the Village Janitor shall receive the sum of \$72 per annum for care of the Village Hall and engine room; the Village Treasurer shall in lieu of salary receive a sum amounting to one and one-half per cent on all moneys paid out by him.

Land transportation in the 90's consisted mainly of horse-drawn hacks, carriages, or wagons. The Grand Trunk Railroad ran trains

from Chicago to the Park and on to Blue Island. Every day except Sunday there was a "Funeral Train" which brought the mourners out to the St. Maria station and then went on to Mount Greenwood Cemetery. The factories here employed many Chicago residents and some Evergreen Parkers worked in the "big city". Their commuter system compares favorably with the many transfers needed today to get to the loop. According to the 1894 schedule published in *The Enterprise*, the trip took 51 minutes!

Bicycles were a common conveyance and an ordinance dated June 17th, 1899 requested that "all persons riding bicycles on the sidewalks of Evergreen Park shall dismount and walk past any and all pedestrians. All bicycles used in said Village at night must be provided with headlights."

The southwest corner of 95th and Kedzie had a dense grove of trees running south to 96th and west to Spaulding. John Wolf acquired it and built a saloon on the northeast corner of his property and a beer garden in back. Ed "Strangler" Lewis appeared there once in a wrestling match. There was a large dance hall, a bowling alley, and a picnic grove with refreshment stands and swings. What is now Maple Avenue was then just a path that led from the grove to the Park at 97th and Homan, and young couples could take walks together between rows of beautiful trees. For many years what is now 96th Street from Sawyer to Spaulding was known as "Lover's Lane".

People came from great distances to picnic in our Village. The Grand Trunk ran special picnic trains on Sundays and holidays. Any-

Judge Albert Fritz, at the reins, pauses in front of the Wehle residence at 94th and Kedzie in 1907. Mr. and Mrs. Edward Wehle and son Edward Jr. are on porch.



Pride of the Force in 1913 was August Gottschalk in his "Keystone Cop" hard hat. With him are Elizabeth, Anne, and Earl Gottschalk.





You qualify as an old-timer if you remember the sausages hanging from hooks in Emil Petschinsky's Market on 95th. That's Emil with the checkerboard apron. Can you find the Christmas decoration, two scales, and the meat saw in the picture?

one wishing to hold a picnic had to secure a permit from the Village Clerk. In 1908 a liquor license was required for the sale of "malts, vinens, and spirituous liquors" at dances and picnics, and could be obtained upon application by "a responsible citizen or regularly organized club . . . upon payment in advance of five dollars".

The Village granted the Chicago Telephone Company, its successors, lessees, and assigns, the right "to erect, maintain and renew lines of poles, wires and cables to use for supplying the general public means of communication by telephone or other electrical device". Some of the conditions were that the poles be straight, clean and painted white with black butts and red or black arms, and that one telephone, with local exchange service free of charge, be placed in each and every fire engine house maintained by the Village. This ordinance was passed on July 31st, 1899, and was accepted unconditionally by Chicago Telephone Company on August 2, 1899. Wolf's Tavern had one of the first telephones, and many of the villagers were called there. Around 1915 Illinois Bell took over the original phone company.

Hard times at the turn of the century saw

many of the factories close, and the railroad cut out quite a few of its trains. The President's salary in 1900 sank to \$10 per month and the Public Grounds Fund was allotted only \$25. In spite of financial difficulties, however, \$2,000 was appropriated for the graveling of 95th Street.

In 1901 the labor on streets, bridges, and sidewalks, or in any other capacity for the Village, was paid at the rate of \$1.50 per day for each man. There were two Police Officers appointed, one for the daytime, and one for

Picnic Paradise for many years in the 10's and 20's was Wolf's Grove at 95th and Kedzie. Owner John Wolf poses among the greenery.





Typical tintype shows Jacob and Cassie Geis and family in front of their home at 9300 Trumbull in 1909. The house is still there.



The Graduating Class of 1916 is ready to face the world. They are l. to r.: unidentified, Herbert Anderson, Augusta Pohlman, Dorothy Rolff, Viola Geis, unidentified, George Rolff.

night. The day officer was to clean and fill the lamps and do the janitor work of the Village Hall, and the night officer to act as lamplighter, having in charge the oil house, fuel, and the chemical engine and fire apparatus. Each officer received a salary of \$42 per month.

These were problem years for the farmer. Just as the crops of corn, tomatoes, and cucumbers were ready to harvest in 1903, a tornado came through Evergreen Park and took them all. Two years later came the locusts, followed by windstorms which blew away the hay.

However, things must have picked up a little, because 1902 saw the President's salary up to \$16.67 per month where it stayed at least until 1911. Cinder sidewalks were replacing the old wooden ones, and in 1904 the first ordinance about concrete sidewalks was recorded.

Northwestern Gas, Light and Coke Company brought gas to the Village on August 7, 1909, and electricity followed the next year. Evergreen Park granted the Sanitary District of Chicago permission to construct poles and wires necessary for furnishing "Light, Heat and Power by means of Electricity" to the Village. The Board of Trustees decided in 1910 that the Village should purchase electric current from the Sanitary District at 5c per kilowatt hour, and deliver it to citizens in their stores or residences at 11c per kilowatt hour. The Village installed all equipment and in-

candescent lamps and lamp renewals of the carbon filament type. There was a sub-station at 94th and Kedzie.

\$2,100 was appropriated in 1910 for installing a street lighting system, and on December 1, 1910, Miss Minnie Wolf, "voted most popular girl in the Village, turned a lever illuminating 100 arc lights, making main streets as light as day". A light-up parade followed, going to the home of U.S. Marshal Thomas Middleton, who said, "This is only the start of the greatest boom any town in the state ever had. Plans for streetcars are already being made."

On the Fourth of July in 1910, the hottest in Evergreen Park history, Ed Wehle, telephone operator and former Village Clerk, saved the town from burning down. He notified Ernest Tink, Chief of Police and Fire Marshal, who got the whole population out to help the chemical engine fight the blaze. The Grand Trunk rushed a tank car of water out from 49th Street, but there was no way to get the water onto the fire, and two factories, a hotel, and several houses were completely destroyed. Due to everyone's pitching in, however, the fire was confined to the block.

1910 was the year that Evergreen Cemetery was established. Also, the Trustees became concerned about the amount of taverns springing up and started to limit licenses so that there would be no more than one saloon or dram shop for every four hundred people.

Although it is known that, as early as incorporation, the Village had a Post Office, the actual address is unknown. Around 1912 the location was about a half-block north of 95th on Kedzie, at Burns' Grocery.

In 1913 many Dutch families settled in the Evergreen area. The religious situation in the Netherlands had caused them to come to the United States and eventually to Illinois.

