

FOREWORD

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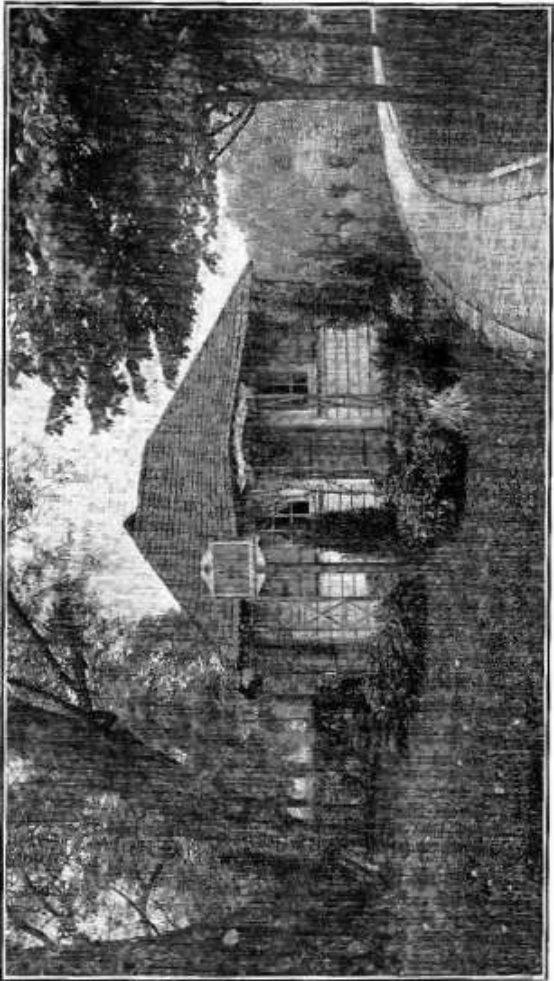
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Some of the names in the document have different spellings in different year books. Generally, we tried to preserve the spelling found in each original document.

Michael R Seiden
Webmaster, Merion Civic Association
www.merioncivic.org



THE OFFICE OF
THE MERION CIVIC ASSOCIATION

THE YEAR BOOK OF The Merion Civic Association

Merion Station Montgomery County
Pennsylvania

Nineteen Hundred
and Fifteen

Figure 1: The Office of the Merion Civic Association

OFFICERS

1914-1915

PRESIDENT

EDWARD W. BOK

VICE-PRESIDENTS

H. C. THOMPSON, JR.

W. H. WANAMAKER, JR.

DR. GEORGE D. B. DARBY

TREASURER

EDWARD B. WILFORD

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

FRANKLIN DUBBEL

DIRECTORS

T. WOOD ANDREWS

EDWARD W. BOK

LOUIS A. BELMONT

W. J. CONLEN

DR. GEORGE D. B. DARBY

E. C. DEARDEN

W. DE KRAFFT

THOMAS FISHER

W. H. FOLWELL

WILLIAM P. GEST

J. RENWICK HOGG

CHARLES S. KRICK

ISIDOR LEVIN

JOHN C. MCKEON

FRANK C. PEQUIGNOT

F. W. ROCKWELL

W. H. STEIGERWALT

SYDNEY THAYER

H. C. THOMPSON, JR.

FRANK G. THOMSON

W. H. WANAMAKER, JR.

E. B. WILFORD

ROSTER OF MEMBERS
OF
THE MERION CIVIC ASSOCIATION

May 18th, 1915

MEN

[Supporting memberships are divided into four classes-\$100, \$50, \$25, and \$10 a year. Each amount entitles a member to full privileges in the Association, which depends entirely for its general expenses on its income from supporting membership contributions.]

GEORGE ALLEN	VANCORT CARWITHEN
W. Y. C. ANDERSON	DR. GEORGE D. B. DARBY
T. WOOD ANDREWS	EDWARD C. DEARDEN
WILLIAM S. BAKER	GEORGE J. DEARMOND
DR. ALBERT C. BARNES	WILLIAM DE KRAFFT
LOUIS A. BELMONT	HENRY DELAPLAINE
CHARLES H. BEYER	P. F. DUPONT
B. F. BLAKE	A. H. EHLE
BERNARD BLOCH	NORMAN ELLISON
GIDEON BOERICKE	GEORGE K. ERBEN
J. J. BOERICKE	NELSON F. EVANS
EDWARD W. BOK	S. W. EVANS
WILLIAM J. BOK	THOMAS FISHER
EDWIN A. BOOKMYER	CHRISTIAN FEBIGER
OSWALD G. BOYLE	P. E. FOERDERER
J. W. BUCKMAN	WILLIAM H. FOLWELL
JOHN F. BRAUN	WILLIAM P. GEST
HOWARD B. BREMER	LINCOLN J. GODFREY, JR.
J. S. CHAMBERLIN	WILLIAM GRANT
WILLIAM J. CONLEN	FRANK T. GUCKER
C. P. COOK	S. EARLE HAINES
SAMUEL CROFT	THOMAS J. HARE
FRANK P. CROFT	S. WILSON HEATON
GUY E. CROYLE	W. O. HEMPSTEAD
T. NEVIN CARSON	H. SHERWOOD HICKS

J. RENWICK HOGG
 DR. W. C. HOLLOPETER
 EDGAR B. HOWARD
 C. W. HUBER
 W. S. HUMPHREYS
 ELDRIDGE R. JOHNSON
 JAMES C. JOHNSON
 DR. A. V. JOLLIFFE
 JAMES KATER
 CHARLES S. KRICK
 H. J. KROMER
 WARREN P. LAIRD
 J. W. LEE, I R.
 G. H. LE MAISTRE
 ISIDOR LEVIN
 ARTHUR M. LEWIS
 KARL E. LINDGREN
 H. H. LINEAWEAVER
 SIMON C. LONG
 GEORGE R. McABEE
 J. H. McCLATCHY
 SAMUEL McCREERY
 JOHN C. McKEON
 M. J. McMENAMIN
 W. B. MONTGOMERY
 C. L. MOYER
 MARTIN J. MULKIN
 GEORGE S. MUNSON
 MICHAEL MURPHY
 GEORGE NASS, JR.
 SILAS S. NEFF
 H. A. NOLTE
 JOSEPH H. ODELL
 FRANK B. OFF
 GEORGE P. ORR
 CHARLES C. PACE
 HAROLD PENDER
 FRANK C. PEQUIGNOT
 R. M. POPHAM
 FREDERICK J. POTH

C. B. PRETTYMAN
 DR. WALTER L. PYLE
 J. H. READING, JR.
 GEORGE K. REED
 THOMAS J. RICHARDS
 THOMAS ROBERTS, JR.
 W. H. ROBERTS
 F. W. ROCKWELL
 L. M. SACREY
 KIWA SCHWARTZ
 JOHN H. SEAL
 EARNEST SEARING
 OSWALD SMITH
 FREDERICK STANGER
 W. H. STEIGERWALT
 HERBERT C. STOCKWELL
 GEORGE R. SULLIVAN
 JAMES H. SULLIVAN
 WILLIAM L. SUPPLEE
 J. BONSAI TAYLOR
 SYDNEY THAYER
 H. C. THOMPSON, JR.
 CLARKE THOMSON
 FRANK G. THOMSON
 EMIL THORSCH
 NICHOLAS THOURON
 J. B. TOWNSEND, JR.
 I. BARTON TOWNSEND
 E. A. VAN VALKENBERG
 JULIUS VETTERLEIN
 W. H. WANAMAKER, JR.
 C. R. WENTZ
 G. ROBERT WHITE
 EDWARD B. WILFORD
 DWIGHT D. WILLARD
 JOSEPH L. WILSON
 W. J. WILSON
 JAMES H. WINDRIM
 F. R. WHITING

WOMEN

[Supporting memberships: \$5.00 a year—where a male member of a household belongs to the Association; but the opportunity is offered to any woman member to subscribe to the-\$100, \$50, \$25, and \$10 memberships the same as to a male member, and to the generosity of every woman the Association makes its appeal.]

MRS. LAURENT ALLIEN	MRS. W. H. FOLWELL
MRS. E. WOOD ANDREWS	MRS. F. H. GALEY
MRS. HENRY BAIN	MRS. WILLIAM P. GEST
MRS. WM. S. BAKER	MRS. J. F. GILLESPIE
MRS. ALBERT C. BARNES	MRS. WILLIAM GRANT
MRS. LOUIS A. BELMONT	MRS. S. EARLE HAINES
MRS. GEORGE C. BLABON	MRS. J. RENWICK HOGG
MRS. BERNARD BLOCH	MRS. J. JULES HOVEY
MRS. GIDEON BOERICKE	MRS. E. R. JOHNSON
MRS. J. J. BOERICKE	MRS. JAMES C. JOHNSON
MRS. EDWARD W. BOK	MRS. A. V. JOLLIFFE
MRS. OSWALD G. BOYLE	MRS. JAMES KATER
MRS. G. MARTIN BRILL	MRS. CHARLES S. KRICK
MISS FLORENCE BRILL	MRS. WARREN P. LAIRD
MISS JULIA BRILL	MRS. ISIDOR LEVIN
MRS. A. N. BURKE	MRS. M. J. McMENAMIN
MRS. JOHN F. BRAUN	MRS. MARTIN, J. MULKIN
MRS. H. B. BREMER	MRS. GEORGE NASS, JR.
MRS. C. P. COOK	MRS. SILAS S. NEFF
MRS. G. L. CRAWFORD	MRS. H. A. NOLTE
MRS. FRANK P. CROFT	MRS. J. H. ODELL
MRS. G. D. B. DARBY	MRS. FRANK B. OFF
MRS. E. C. DEARDEN	MRS. HAROLD PENDER
MISS M. DE KRAFFT	MRS. F. C. PEQUIGNOT
MRS. M. L. DE KRAFFT	MRS. R. M. POPHAM
MRS. HENRY DELAPLAINE	MRS. FREDERICK J. POTH
MRS. FRANKLIN DUBBEL	MRS. C. B. PRETTYMAN
MRS. A. H. EHLE	MRS. GEORGE K. REED
MRS. NORMAN ELLISON	MRS. T. J. RICHARDS
MRS. GEORGE K. ERBEN	MRS. F. W. ROCKWELL
MRS. B. W. FINLETTER	MRS. ERNEST SEARING
MRS. THOMAS FISHER	MRS. WH. H. STEIGERWALT
MRS. P. E. FOERDERER	MRS. G. R. SULLIVAN

MRS. WM. L. SUPPLEE
MRS. JOHN. THAYER
MRS. SYDNEY THAYER
MRS. H. C. THOMPSON, JR.
MISS ANNE THOMSON
MRS. NICHOLAS THOURON
MRS. DAVID VAN BEIL
MRS. JULIUS VETTERLEIN
MRS. C. B. WAGNER

MRS. W. H. WANAMAKER, JR.
MRS. E. B. WILFORD
MRS. JOSEPH L. WILSON
MRS. W. J. WILSON
MISS HELEN G. WILSON
MRS. J. H. WINDRIM
MRS. F. R. WHITING
MISS CARRIE ZOLLINGER



One of the Five Boundary Signs which mark the Boundary
Points of Merion

Figure 2: One of the Five Boundary Signs which mark the Boundary
Points of Merion.

THE SECOND ANNUAL MEETING

The Second Annual Meeting of The Merion Civic Association was held at the residence of Mr. Frank Graham Thomson, at Merion, on the evening of Tuesday, May the eighteenth, nineteen hundred and fifteen. At this meeting the following reports of President and Treasurer of the Association were read and approved.

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

To the Members of
The Merion Civic Association:

At the close of the second year there are enrolled in your Association 212 members, an increase of sixty-three over the total at the close of the first year. The increase has been largely in the list of women members, of which there are now eighty-three, and of men one hundred and twenty-nine. A fact that speaks well for your Association is that during its two years of existence not a single resignation due to dissatisfaction has occurred. As there are 463 adults residing in our community, there is still ample margin for a further growth in membership. You have the satisfaction, however, of knowing that the most progressive element of the community has membership in your Association and that it stands today as thoroughly representative of the best interests of Merion.

THE NEW CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIPS

During the past two years your Association has had financial help for its running expenses through a

Guarantor's Fund of \$1525 a year. It has been deemed wise not to ask for a renewal of this Fund this coming year, but rather to have your Association stand squarely upon the income derived from membership dues for its general expenses. This is not possible, however, by having a uniform membership rate of \$10 a year, since any efficient management of your Association could not be given on such an income. The salary of the Executive Secretary and the general expenses of the office would in themselves consume the \$2000 thus raised, leaving no funds for making the monthly water analysis, an annual milk investigation, the keeping of the roads clean, the removal of snow in winter, the printing of this report, the notices sent out to the members and the really necessary and vital work that your Association must do if it is to carry out its purposes.

It was, therefore, decided to have four different annual contributing memberships: the first for \$100, the second for \$50, the third for \$25 and the fourth for \$10. All memberships, of whatever amount, are entitled to equal privileges in the Association. The selection of the kind of membership is left entirely to the generosity of the member. But as the activities of your Association will henceforth depend entirely upon this one source of income, the

membership dues, it will be seen how important it is that you shall extend to your Association the largest generosity in your selection. The extent and character of your work next year depends solely on this.

THE NEW MEMBERSHIPS FOR WOMEN

Your Directors also decided that where a male member of a household already belonged to your Association, the membership fee for any woman member of the same household would be Five Dollars a year. But the same opportunity is offered to any woman member to subscribe to the \$100, \$50, \$25 or \$10 memberships. Several women members have already entered these higher classifications, and your Directors make the same appeal to the largest generosity of the women in the selection of their memberships as they do to the men.

THE INCREASE IN WOMEN MEMBERS

The marked increase in women members during the past year from 30 to 83 is almost entirely due to the special efforts made by the Women's Committee through a system of personal calls and notes, which proved so effective as to nearly treble the

women-membership, and helped to create a friendly community and civic interest which has become distinctly real.

THE POLICING OF MERION

Your Directors have given during the past year the same careful attention to the police protection of our community as they did during the first year, feeling that their largest service could be given you in making Merion a safe place to live. The year before we had two policemen at night and one during the day-time. Through the cooperation of the Lower Merion Township Commissioners and its Police Committee, this service has been increased, so that now we have three regular policemen at night and two in the day-time. The beats of the policemen have been shortened, and there is about to be introduced a new telephonic reporting system from new boxes to be installed which by special wires are directly connected with the central police station at Ardmore, where the policeman's report will register upon the dial of a clock, thus obviating the present method of indirect reporting through telephone exchanges. The new police system in Merion has worked so efficiently, especially during the last four months, that, while previous to that

time several unfortunate robberies occurred in this community, not a single robbery or attempt at robbery has happened since the Lower Merion Police have strengthened the policing of Merion. This record is the more remarkable when it is borne in mind that the past winter and spring have recorded the largest number of robberies and burglaries in Philadelphia and the surrounding country.

THE NEW POLICE WHISTLE

A new form of protection has been introduced to your members during the past year by the free distribution by your Association of a special police whistle to be used in case of emergency. This whistle is now in the homes of 140 of your members and any use of it, in case of trouble, will bring immediate response upon the part of the police force.

Permission was also asked from property owners to allow the police officers to enter private grounds in order to ensure a more thorough surveillance of properties. This permission was almost unanimously given; where it has been withheld the surveillance cannot, of course, be so complete.

THE BURNS DETECTIVE SERVICE

When it is remembered that there are twenty-six square miles in Lower Merion Township, and only twenty-five policemen to patrol that entire large territory, less than one policeman for each square mile, the problem that confronts the Lower Merion Police force will be better understood. Your Directors decided, therefore, that, so far as the protection of your part of that large territory was concerned, they would supplement the efforts of the Township police. After careful consideration, a special detective service for one year with the William J. Burns Detective Agency was entered into, the expense of which, \$175 per month, would be borne through a special fund to be raised among the members. The complete fund for one year was raised among forty-seven members. This contract provides for the services of a regular all-night detective and the shadowing of the community during the day-time. A daily report of the findings of the detective service is furnished to the Association. This service has been in operation now since February first and, as stated above, it has been instrumental, in connection with the Township Police Service, in bringing about an absolutely

clean record for our community so far as any robberies or attempted robberies are concerned.

A house protective sign has been furnished to each subscriber to the Burns Protective Fund, and while the service includes watchfulness over our entire community, special protection is naturally more surely guaranteed where such a sign is displayed.

A MEASURE OF PRECAUTION ONLY

Your Directors feel that they have done everything within their power to obtain proper police protection for your community. It should always be borne in mind, however, that scarcely any amount of police surveillance, no matter how complete, can actually prevent robberies; the most it can do is to minimize their occurrence. All that your Directors can do is, as they have done, to take the most effective precautionary measures, hoping for their success on the theory that communities known to be under careful surveillance are the least likely to be selected for depredations.

NOT A FIRE IN MERION DURING THE PAST YEAR

Not a single fire has occurred in our community during the past year. But the vigilance of your Directors with regard to fire precautionary measures has not relaxed. Regular water-pressure



The Road Light of which there are now 124 in Merion

Figure 3: The Road Light of which there are now 124 in Merion.

tests of all the fire-hydrants in Merion have been made every four months; during the winter the fire-hydrants have been protected from frost by straw bands, and after each storm the snow has been immediately removed from each hydrant, so as to ensure the freest access.

The arrangements between your Association and the fire companies at Cynwyd, Narberth and the two nearest city fire companies remain the same and are at the service of the community in case of necessity.

THE WORK ON THE ROADS

During the past year your Road Committee has done most effective work. Through its efforts an entirely new road bed was laid down the whole length of Merion Road; the dangerous gutters on that road to Highland Avenue were eliminated, the road materially widened at some points and a curb erected on both sides to Highland Avenue. The new method of laying a road from curb to curb has thus been started and will be continued.

A new roadway was laid on Wynnewood Avenue from South Highland Avenue to City Line.

A new surface was laid on North Latch's Lane.

THE FIRST SWEEPING OF MERION

This spring Merion experienced the first thorough sweeping of its roads. The extent of the dirt on the roads may be surmised from the fact that 275 double-teams of dirt and litter were hauled from the roads of the south side of Merion alone. The cost of this sweeping was borne by the Association, as the Lower Merion Township Commission has no cleaning department nor the funds with which to establish one. Your Directors felt, however, that health and sanitary considerations demanded clean roads in Merion, even at the large expense involved, and they had to take the money out of special funds to defray the cost, which approximated \$700. It is just such vital work as this, vital to the very health of the community, which your Directors wish to continue, but they can only do so if the means are given to them through the generosity of your memberships.

Of course, the considerable expense involved makes it possible for your Association to do this work only at long intervals, and the maintaining of the roads in a clean, sanitary condition must be left to the individual property-holders.

DUST LAYERS ON THE ROADS .

Your Directors, during the summer of 1914 and again last month, had the roads of Merion treated with Solvay, which materially lays the dust. The Lower Merion Township Commission has cooperated with your Association to the extent of its finances by oiling some of the roads, and will do so this summer. But the Commission has not the means to do it all, and so if the roads are to be kept dustless, as they should be, your Association must bear a part of the expense.

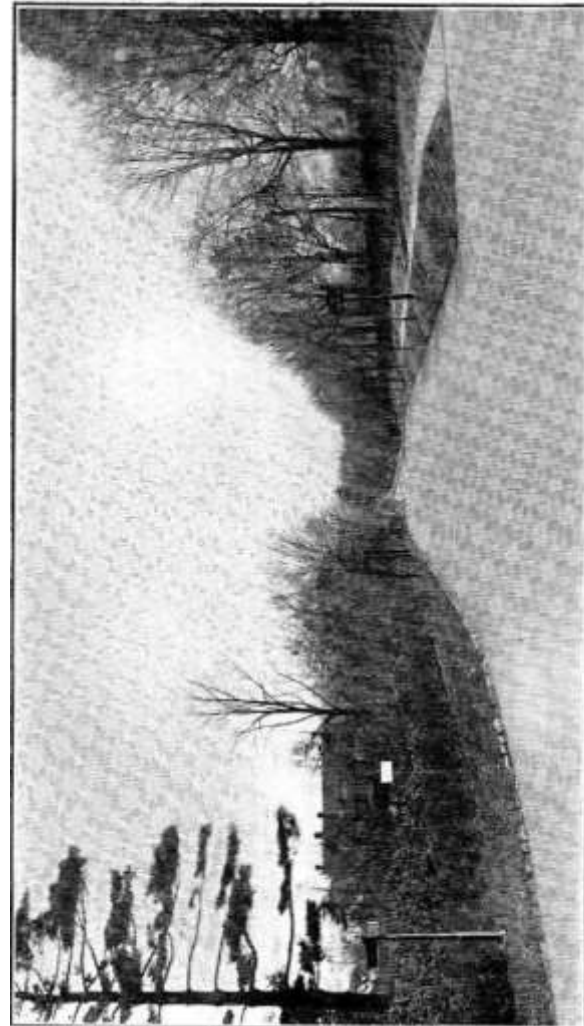
MERION'S TIDY-UP MAN

In response to a desire that some attempt should be made to keep the roads of Merion consistently clean, there was engaged by the Association a Tidy-up man whose daily duty it is to go over the roads with cart and broom, and keep the roads as free from litter as possible. This labor has resulted in gathering and carting away 222 carts of rubbish within six months. This labor is, of course, an extra expense and costs your Association \$600 a year. I should be lacking in my duty as your

President if I failed to call your attention to the fact that this expense could very largely be saved if the members of the Association would give more active help in abstaining from throwing newspapers, envelopes, package wrappers, etc., on the roads, and asking their children and servants to do the same. Despite the installation of fourteen litter cans in the community, and the work of your Tidy-up man, it is impossible to keep the roads free from litter which is thrown upon them by residents and others. With the strict necessity for economically conducting the finances of your Association, each member can, in this matter, help to make a direct saving of money; in fact, you save your own money. Every piece of paper that you throw on a highway in Merion must be picked up, and it is your money that is picking it up.

THE ROAD WORK THIS YEAR

Your Road Committee is now in consultation with the Highway Committee of the Lower Merion Township Commission with regard to the road work this summer, and it hopes to have work done on the roads of the community equal to that of last year, both with regard to road improvements and new roadways.



The new method of laying roads in Merion from curb to curb: eliminating dirt gutters

Figure 4: The new method of laying roads in Merion from curb to curb: eliminating gutters

THE NEW ROAD LIGHTS

During the past year the lighting of the Merion roads by electricity through its new road lights was actually accomplished, and has met with the greatest satisfaction. There are now 109 of the new road lights erected and in use, and 15 additional lights will be erected during the summer. Year by year this number will be increased until every road in Merion is adequately lighted. But as your Association must pay one-half of the lighting cost for the first year, which share amounts to \$696 for the present year (after the first year the Lower Merion Township Commission assumes the entire lighting cost), the necessity for a gradual addition of lights is apparent.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company has co-operated with your Association's work of improved lighting, and will shortly abolish all of the present oil, gas and electric standards on its station grounds at Merion, and erect and maintain eleven new electric lights with standards and lamps the same as your Association's design. The expense of these lights is entirely borne by the Railroad Company.

THE NEW ROAD SIGNS

Your Directors have also finished during the past year the complete marking of Merion with new road and automobile signs, and your community is today distinguished for, and acknowledged to be the only community on the Main Line that has its roads adequately marked. There are today in your community 93 road-signs, 54 automobile signs and 5 boundary signs, 152 signs in all. The design of these signs, as well as those of your road lights, have received the widest comment and approval, receiving the compliment of special articles in periodicals and newspapers all over the country, while the designs themselves are being copied by communities in several of the States. These designs are universally acknowledged as being the most artistic and practical designs in use in any community.

THE REMOVAL OF POLES FROM THE HIGHWAYS

After nine months of constant consultation and numberless meetings, your Directors, through your Counsel, have at last succeeded in signing a joint contract between your Association, the Bell Telephone Company and the Bala and Merion Electric Company for the removal of all poles



MERION ROAD AS IT LOOKS WITH POLES

Figure 5: Merion Road as it looks with poles

from the highways, and the substitution of a single line of poles on the back lines of properties. The companies are, therefore, ready to remove the poles.

The expense of such removal of poles from the highways must be borne by your Association for the reason that the Telephone and Electric companies have perpetual highway rights, and there is no reason why, on their part, they should move to the back lines of properties.

In response to a general desire on the part of the community that the beauty of its roads was an impossible achievement so long as the poles remained on the highways, it was decided to make an annual appropriation from the Merion Improvement Fund, to cover the cost of removal of the poles on one or two roads. They, therefore, appropriated this year \$2274 to remove the poles from Merion Road, Beacom Lane and South Highland Avenue.

But all efforts to respond to the community's desire are absolutely at a stand-still by the refusal of property-holders to give the Telephone and Electric companies the permanent right to erect and maintain poles on the back lines of their properties.

It stands to reason that the Electric and Telephone companies are unwilling to give up their permanent rights to erect poles on the highways unless they are given equal permanent rights on property lines.

Thus, in the face of the present unwillingness on the part of property-owners to give these rights on their properties, your Directors can go no further. They have carried out your desire to the fullest extent within their power; by the execution of the contract with the companies and the appropriation of sufficient money to begin the work. Whether the efforts of your Directors will go for naught, or whether the community desire will be carried out, is for the property-owners to decide.

The cost of laying the wires underground is absolutely prohibitive to your Association, and, of course, there is no reason why the Telephone and Electric companies should incur it. They are perfectly satisfied to leave their poles and wires where they are.

NEW SIDEWALKS TO BE LAID

Constant effort has been made to induce property-holders to lay new and uniform sidewalks in your community, with the result that this spring and summer several new sidewalks will be laid on North Highland Avenue, Hazelhurst Avenue, South Highland Avenue, Forrest Road and at other places.



MERION ROAD AS IT WOULD LOOK WITHOUT POLES

Figure 6: Merion Road as it would look without poles

THE PURENESS OF THE DRINKING WATER

Monthly analyses of the drinking water in Merion have during the year been made by Professor Samuel P. Sadtler, of Philadelphia, and a summarized result of each test has been sent to each member by mail. These reports have been highly satisfactory as regards the quality of the water. A Merion test has also been incorporated into the Springfield Water Company's monthly analysis, so that you have now two authoritative monthly tests as to the purity of the drinking water.

A POLLING PLACE IN MERION

Negotiations are now pending between your Directors and the proper authorities for the possible establishment of a polling-place and voting booths in our immediate community, so that the present inconvenience of going to the General Wayne Inn will be avoided. The polling-place at that point will remain, but it is hoped to secure from the authorities an additional polling-place for our community centrally located near the railroad station at Merion.

SCHOOLING FOR CHILDREN

Your Women's Committee has had under active negotiation the possibility of bringing closer private or public school facilities to the children of Merion. Several meetings between your Committee and various teachers of private schools and the Board of Education of the Township have been held, visits have been made to different schools, and when some definite conclusion has been reached you will be duly notified.

A COMMUNITY INVALID CHAIR

An invalid wheel chair, for community use, has been presented to the Women's Committee by Mrs. D. Dana Bartlett in memory of her invalid daughter. This gift, to be known as "Priscilla's Chair," is for the use in any family of the Association and can be had at any time by application to the Secretary.

A RECORD OF EMERGENCY SEWING

One of the most noteworthy and distinctly admirable pieces of work done under the auspices of your Association during the year has been the emergency

sewing accomplished by a Sewing Committee of your Women's Committee. Beginning last November and continuing until now, fortnightly "sewing bees" were held at different houses in which forty of the women of Merion participated. The results of the sewing were given to the American Red Cross for the wounded soldiers of all the belligerent nations of the war; to the Emergency Aid in Philadelphia for local relief Work; to the University Settlement; to the Babies' Hospital in Wynnefield; to the Children's Hospital; to the Southwark Day Nursery; to The Child Federation; to Saint John's Day Nursery, and to various needy families.

In all, the wonderful total of 2713 articles were made and distributed. The character of these articles can be judged from the following list:

- 90 pair of pajamas
- 207 convalescent jackets
- 17 surgical jackets
- 54 wrappers
- 6 knitted shawls
- 33 knitted mufflers
- 7 abdominal bands
- 237 pillow cases
- 4 rompers
- 52 layettes of 16 pieces each
- 12 layettes of 32 pieces each
- 90 bed sheets

- 14 boys' shirts
- 85 children's dresses
- 1 flannel shirt
- 5 crochet caps
- 2 women's dresses
- 12 flannel petticoats
- 2 flannel nightgowns

The financial basis of this splendid piece of work was the result of a musicale and card party given by Mrs. Frederick J. Poth which netted \$500. Mrs. Poth turned over the entire amount to the Women's Committee, and this has been so well managed that a balance is still in hand.

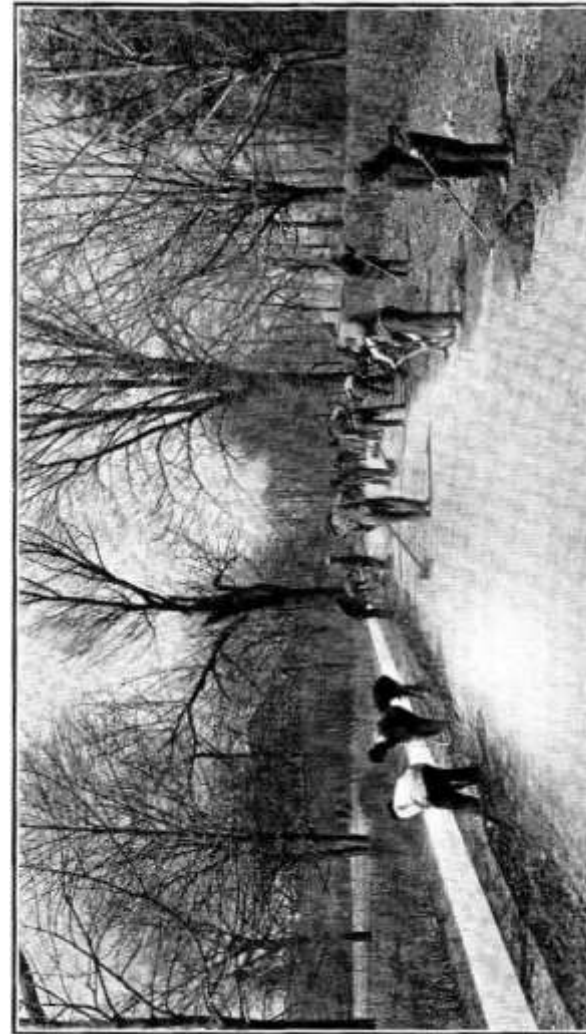
Your Directors call attention to this work on the part of the Sewing Committee as a singularly effective example of community work.

THE ELIMINATION OF TOLL ROADS

The possible elimination of the toll-gates on the two roads bordering your community has had constant attention, and an active agitation has been started for the condemnation of Montgomery Pike and its assumption by the County.

THE MILK SUPPLY

Last summer your Directors, through the Health Committee, and the employment of a dairy expert



The Association's gang of sweepers cleaning the roads of Merion: 275 double teams of rubbish were removed on the South side by these men as the result of one sweeping

Figure 7: The Association's gang of sweepers cleaning the roads of Merion: 275 double teams of rubbish were removed on the South side by these men as the result of one sweeping

and chemist, a graduate of Cornell University, had a personal and careful inspection made of all the dairies and bottling plants of the dealers which supply milk to the residents of Merion. An elaborate report was made to your Association, and a summarized result, giving the names of the dealers whose dairies and plants were found to be up to the required sanitary standards, was furnished to each member of your Association. This work has received the highest commendation from Merion householders, and an investigation of the milk supply should be made each year. But this is one of the special expenses that depends upon generous membership fees.

THE MOSQUITO PROBLEM

Your Directors also engaged, last spring, an expert attached to the Department of Health in Philadelphia, who made a careful research of the breeding places of mosquitoes in your community and a recommendation as to their elimination. An elaborate report was made to your Association, the location of each breeding place in Merion indicated, but the problem was such a widespread one, calling for absolute co-operation from every property-holder and involving such heavy expense,

that the only definite action possible to your Directors was to send to each member the simple rules by which each individual can eliminate the mosquito from his property. This was done last spring and was repeated this spring. In the absence of the necessary funds to organically stamp out the breeding places as a whole, this vital problem can only be solved by active individual co-operation. Exactly the same is true of the elimination of flies; the solution of the problem lies in individual action.

THE COLLECTION OF ASHES AND GARBAGE

So far as can be learned from householders, the present method of the collection of ashes inaugurated under the auspices of your Association last year is working satisfactorily. The collection of garbage in Merion is now made chiefly by the Township under its new free collection system, and of the working of this system your Directors have received no complaint.

A BOY SCOUT TROOP

Negotiations are now under way between the Boy Scout Commissioner for Montgomery County looking toward the possible formation of a Boy Scout Troop in your community. The conditions

under which such a Troop can be organized will shortly be submitted to the parents of boys, and it will then remain for the boys to decide whether the interest in this movement is sufficient for the organization of such a Troop.

A SUBURBAN FEDERATION

Your President has attended two meetings looking to the formation of a probable organization to be called The Suburban Federation, with a membership to consist of the President and two delegates of each of the five or six Civic Associations in Lower Merion Township. The purpose of this larger civic body will be for a more concerted action on the part of the Civic Associations on the larger questions affecting the entire Township.

THE EXTENSION OF THE MERION LINE

Your Directors have been asked, and are now considering, the question of extending the present Western boundary line of our community and the consequent extension of the work of your Association so as to include that part known as the Anthwyn section lying between Rockland Road, where the community line is now fixed, and the boundary line of the Borough of Narberth.

THE SOCIAL SIDE OF THE WORK

Very little attention has thus far been given by your Directors to entertainments looking toward the development of the social spirit of the community, for the reason that their time has been fully occupied by what they felt to be the more urgent and immediate needs of the community.

A beginning was, however, made last year with the musicale given by Mrs. Frederick J. Poth, which, as previously said, was very successful; a subscription dinner given at which Mr. William I. Burns was the guest of the evening, attended by 95 men, which was likewise successful; an effective talk on Domestic Efficiency was given to the women members by Mrs. Anna B. Scott, domestic expert of the Philadelphia "North American," and a tea given a few days ago by the Women's Committee for all the women members of your Association.

The fostering of a closer community spirit through entertainments is most needful in Merion and is a matter to which your Directors are now ready to give attention if the members will indicate the forms which such entertainments should assume.



The "Danger" and "Blow Your Horn" Sign of which there are 54 single and double signs in Merion

Figure 8: The "Danger" and "Blow Your Horn" Sign of which there are 54 single and double signs in Merion

But while this and all other special phases of your Association's work is primarily one of efficient methods; the whole turns largely on a question of means. The most moderate form of entertainments calls for an outlay of expense. Your Directors are ready to take up this phase of your Association's work, and carry on the other special parts of your work' already begun, if you will furnish them with the means.

THE WORK FOR THE COMING YEAR

As a matter of fact, the work of your Association turns on two essentials and only two:

First: On the amount of money you will give your Directors to spend, and on this point turns almost wholly the extent of your work for the coming year and the present and future usefulness of your Association. Your Directors stand ready to give the needed time and the judgment to wisely spend if you will give them the money. And, as I have said, the entire income this coming year will come solely from your generosity in the way of membership fees. Your Directors will expand or contract your activities in proportion as you indicate your wishes.

Second: On the close and active personal interest and co-operation which you indicate or give to your Association. The one desire on the part of your Directors is to conduct your Association along the lines your wisest interest points, and just in proportion as you indicate that interest and the degree to which you express it, can they intelligently act in accordance with your desires. Your Directors do not want only your financial generosity, needful and vital as that is; they want, equally, your actual expressed interest and active co-operation.

You have built up, in the incredibly[sic] short period of two years, a Civic Association which has attracted not only local. But national attention; the New York periodicals of national circulation have spread its activities throughout the United States; inquiries with regard to its plan of work constantly come from every part of the country; its methods and results are today being copied more extensively than you who are not close to its daily mail have any idea. The work of your Association has, in a curiously unexpected sense, become national in character, although purely local in its immediate usefulness. Your Association has made Merion known where it was never known before; your community has again and again been referred to during

the past year as "a model suburb;" it has been the direct inspiration, only within the past few months, of actual real estate purchases involving amounts far into six figures. In short, your Association has more than justified its existence. Such a growing factor in your community is a distinct asset and one that you should not only encourage, but you should come closer to it and work with it and in it. Then you will make it greater and more useful.

EDWARD W. BOK

President.

Merion

May 1915

THE TREASURER'S REPORT

Merion April 30th, 1915.

To the President and Board of
Directors of The Merion Civic Association:

As Treasurer of your Association, I have the honor to report the finances of the Association on April 30th, 1915, as follows:

Balance of cash on Deposit with Philadelphia Trust Company as per report of former Treasurer, April 30, 1914:		\$7,240.03
To which should be added Receipts as follows:		
Dues	\$1,180.00	
Supporting Membership Dues for 1915	1,570.00	
The Guarantors' Fund	1,275.00	
The Burns Protective Fund	2,102.00	
Individually Established Funds ...	694.50	
Merion Improvement Fund	2,600.00	
The Women's Emergency Aid Fund	500.00	
Guy E. Croyle Special Deposit	50.00	
Edward Bok for Road Sweeping...	228.86	
Interest on Deposits	85.93	
Association Dinner	136.50	
Insurance covering damage to Office by Electrical Storm	6.50	10,429.29
		\$17,669.32

Brought forward		\$17,669.32
From which should be deducted Disbursements as follows:		
General Administration Expenses	\$3,145.58	
From Funds Individually		
Established	691.29	
The Merion Improvement Fund...	4,233.30	
The Burns Protective Fund	350.00	
The Women's Emergency Aid Fund	433.50	
Association Dinner	198.63	
Repairs to office	6.50	9,058.80

Leaving a Balance of Cash on Deposit with Philadelphia Trust Company on April 30, 1915, of		\$8,610.52
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FOR GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Balance of Cash on hand as per Report of April 30, 1914:		\$268.20
To which add amounts received as follows:		
From Membership Dues	1,180.00	
From Membership Dues for 1915	1,570.00	
From Guarantors as follows:		
Thomas W. Andrews	\$25.00	
B. F. Blake	25.00	
Edward Bok	50.00	
William J. Conlen	25.00	
George D. B. Darby	50.00	
Edward C. Dearden	50.00	
William De Krafft	25.00	
George K. Erben	25.00	
Forward	\$275.00	\$3,018.20

..... Brought forward	\$275.00	\$3,082.00
Shipley W. Evans	50.00	
Thomas Fisher.....	50.00	
Percival E. Foerderer.....	50.00	
William P. Gest	50.00	
J. Renwick Hogg	50.00	
Granville Le Maistre.....	50.00	
Isidor Levin.....	50.00	
Martin J. Mulkin	25.00	
John H. McClatchy	25.00	
John C. McKeon	25.00	
M. J. McMenamin	50.00	
Frank C. Pequignot	50.00	
Charles B. Prettyman.....	50.00	
Frederick W. Rockwell.....	25.00	
William H. Steigerwalt.....	50.00	
Sydney Thayer.....	50.00	
Frank Graham Thomson.....	50.00	
Henry C. Thompson, Jr.....	50.00	
E. A. Van Valkenberg.....	50.00	
William H. Wanamaker, Jr.....	50.00	
Edward B. Wilford	50.00	
William J. Wilson	50.00	
	-----	1,275.00
Interest received on Deposits.....		85.93
		\$4,379.13
From which deduct Expenditures as follows:		
George L. Stevens, Executive Secretary, 8 months.....	\$1,000.00	
Franklin Dubbel, Executive Secretary	400.00	
Office Furnishings.....	74.58	
Rent of Office Site.....	5.00	
Forward.....	\$1,479.58	\$4,379.13

Brought forward.....	\$1,479.58	\$4,379.13
Telephone	109.41	
Lighting and Heating of Office ...	33.00	
Sundry expenses, postage, etc...	308.99	
Tidy-up Man	324.80	
Water Analyses	232.70	
Mosquito Report.....	68.30	
Milk Inspection.....	75.00	
Rental of Fire Alarms.....	25.00	
Rental of Fire Hydrant	20.00	
Police Whistles	40.00	
Union Fire Association Dues	5.00	
Painting and Covering Fire Plugs.....	16.92	
Printing notices, etc.....	352.30	
Stop Watch	8.50	
Ledger and Journal	6.00	
Letter Heads	22.03	
Mimeographing.....	18.05	
Association Dinner Deficit.....	62.13	3,207.71
Leaving a Balance on April 30, 1915 of.....		\$1,171.42

FUNDS INDIVIDUALLY ESTABLISHED

Balance on hand April 30, 1914, as per previous report.....		\$272.75
Contributions have been received as follows:		
The Mrs. Edward Bok Fund.....	\$110.00	
The Mrs. G. Martin Brill Fund	159.50	
The Neighborhood Fund.....	225.00	
The Swastika Fund	200.00	694.50
		\$967.25

Brought forward.....		\$967.25
Expenditures from these Funds have been made as follows:		
Equipment for Clean-up Man	\$37.03	
Painting Waste Cans	4.25	
Planting Trees and care of same ..	450.01	
Cleaning Roads.....	200.00	691.29
Leaving a Balance on April 30, 1915 of		\$275.96

THE MERION IMPROVEMENT FUND

Balance on hand as per Report of April 30, 1914		\$6,699.08
To which add Contributions received as follows:		
Louis A. Belmont	\$500.00	
Edward Bok for Road Sweeping...	228.86	
Edward C. Dearden.....	250.00	
William H. Folwell.....	250.00	
Isidore Levin	250.00	
George R. McAbee	500.00	
W. H. Wanamaker, Jr.....	250.00	
Edward B. Wilford	500.00	
James H. Windrim	100.00	2,828.86
		\$9,527.94
Less Expenditures as follows:		
Fire Maps	\$49.83	
Fire Gongs	56.96	
Road Improvement	584.88	
Beautification.....	34.00	
Street Lamps	1,529.80	
Road and Automobile Signs	1,977.83	4,233.30
Leaving a balance on April 30, 1915 for further improvements.....		\$5,294.64



One of the 93 Road Signs which have created such favorable comment

Figure 9: One of the 93 Road Signs which have created such favorable comment

THE BURNS PROTECTIVE FUND

Subscribers and Amounts Received:

T. Wood Andrews.....	\$10.00
William S. Baker.....	25.00
Louis A. Belmont.....	50.00
Mrs. George C. Blabon.....	25.00
Bernard Bloch.....	10.00
Gideon Boericke.....	20.00
Edward Bok.....	175.00
Mm. A. N. Burke.....	35.00
Mrs. George Crawford.....	15.00
Dr. Georg D. B. Darby.....	100.00
Edward C. Dearden.....	50.00
William De Krafft.....	10.00
P. F. DuPont.....	50.00
A. H. Ehle.....	5.00
Thomas Fisher.....	100.00
Percival E. Foerderer.....	175.00
William H. Folwell.....	30.00
William P. Gest.....	50.00
S. Earl Haines.....	10.00
J. Renwick Hogg.....	100.00
W. C. Hollopeter.....	20.00
Eldridge R. Johnson.....	175.00
James Kater.....	25.00
Charles S. Krick.....	12.00
J. W. Lee, Jr.	5.00
Isidor Levin.....	50.00
Arthur M. Lewis.....	10.00
John H. McClatchy.....	25.00
John C. McKeon.....	10.00
M. J. McMenamin.....	50.00
Martin J. Mulkin.....	10.00
George Nass, Jr.....	10.00
Charles Pace.....	5.00
Frank C. Pequignot.....	25.00
Frederick W. Rockwell.....	15.00
Louis M. Sacrey.....	5.00
Forward.....	<u>\$1,497.00</u>

Brought forward.....	\$1,497.00	
John H. Seal	15.00	
W. H. Steigerwalt.....	120.00	
Herbert G. Stockwell.....	10.00	
William L. Supplee.....	60.00	
Henry C. Thompson, Jr.....	25.00	
Mrs. Mary Van Beil	50.00	
E. A. Van Valkenberg.....	25.00	
Mrs. Carolyn B. Wagner	25.00	
William H. Wanamaker, Jr.	175.00	
E. B. Wilford.....	100.00	

		\$2,102.00
Paid out to the Wm. J. Burns International Detective Agency for two months' service, February and March.....		350.00

Leaving a Balance on April 30, 1915, of.....		\$1,752.00

RECAPITULATION OF FUNDS ON HAND

The Mrs. Edward Bok Fund	100.00	
The William P. Gest Fund.....	42.34	
The Neighborhood Fund	33.62	
The Swastika Fund	100.00	\$275.96
The Merion Improvement Fund		5,294.64
The Burns Protective Fund		1,752.00
The Women's Emergency Aid Committee Fund		66.50
The Guy E. Croyle Special Deposit		50.00
Funds available for the General Expenses of Administration.....		1,171.42

Total cash on Deposit with Philadelphia Trust Company on April 30, 1915.....		\$8,610.52

Respectfully submitted,

E. B. WILFORD, Treasurer.

PERSONNEL OF COMMITTEES

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

SYDNEY THAYER, Chairman

EDWARD B. WILFORD

FREDERICK W. ROCKWELL

FRANK C. PEQUIGNOT

GEORGE R. SULLIVAN

ROADS COMMITTEE

JOAN C. MCKEON, Chairman

T. WOOD ANDREWS

CHARLES S. KRICK

FRANK G. THOMSON

J. B. TOWNSEND, JR.

POLICE AND FIRE COMMITTEE

HENRY C. THOMPSON, JR., CHAIRMAN

J. RENWICK HOGG

ISIDOR LEVIN

NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

EDWARD W. BOK, Chairman

Isidor Levin

Warren P. Laird

FINANCE COMMITTEE

WILLIAM P. GEST, Chairman

EDWARD B. WILFORD

LOUIS A. BELMONT

ELDRIDGE R. JOHNSON

J. RENWICK HOGG

THOMAS FISHER

EDWARD W. BOK

HEALTH COMMITTEE

WILLIAM J. CONLEN, Chairman

GEORGE D. B. DARBY

W. H. WANAMAKER, JR.

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

W. H. WANAMAKER, JR., Chairman

ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE

FRANK C. PEQUIGNOT, Chairman

T. WOOD ANDREWS

FREDERICK W. ROCKWELL

WOMEN'S COMMITTEE

MRS. F. W. ROCKWELL, Acting Chairman

MRS. NORMAN ELLISON

MRS. EDWARD W. BOK

MRS. GIDEON BOERICKE

MRS. GEORGE D. B. DARBY

MRS. WILLIAM P. GEST

MRS. SYDNEY THAYER

**SPECIAL: BURNS PROTECTIVE SERVICE
FUND COMMITTEE**

GEORGE D. B. DARBY, Chairman

FRANK C. PEQUIGNOT

W. H. STEIGERWALT

**FOR THE PROTECTION
OF YOUR HOME**

The following suggestions are made by The Lower Merion Township Commission and The Burns Protective Service for your benefit with regard to protection from burglary:

See that all windows and doors are locked when leaving your house vacant.

Do not leave the back doors open while you and your servants are in some other part of the house.

Do not allow strangers to enter your house to inspect anything unless they have proper credentials.

If you notice suspicious characters around your property telephone at once to Ardmore 217 or 293 and give your specific address.

Notify the Executive Secretary, Merion 441, when you leave your house vacant. He will in turn notify the Burns detective service and Township police.

Never leave your house entirely dark when going out for an evening: leave a light or two burning.

Do not allow junk dealers to enter your grounds or houses. Notify the Executive Secretary whenever you wish to dispose of old articles. Arrangements have been made with the Salvation Army whereby their representative will call at your house on receiving word from the Executive Secretary.

It is important that servants be warned not to loiter around your house after dark; the Burns detective service has been instructed to challenge any loiterers and notify householders.

FROM "THE OUTLOOK"

NEW YORK CITY

Edited by Lyman Abbott, D. D.

"The moment one passes into Merion from any direction the change, due to the work of The Merion Civic Association, is noticeable. Merion has become a model suburb. If the plans now under way are carried out, as they will be, Merion may standardize ideal suburban life, certainly for Pennsylvania, possibly for the United States."

THE OFFICE OF
THE MERION CIVIC
ASSOCIATION

The office is on Civic Circle near the station.

Office Hours—8 to 9:30 a. m.; 4 to 6 p. m.

(The Executive Secretary may be found at the office, however, at most any hour of the day and evening.)

Telephone—Merion 441.

Executive Secretary's inspection of the community, each Friday.

Members are requested to consult freely with the Executive Secretary on any matters pertaining to the civic betterment of the community.