In 1926-27 Wilson Road was being constructed, the earth used for the fill was being taken from the hill in Woodlawn across Watertown Road from the tennis courts. The earth was blasted from the hill, loaded into wagons and hauled to the construction site. Some low ground on the Newport side of Watertown Road was also filled in at this time for building sites. The earth and rock were removed from the hillside by blasting. This was a slow and dangerous job and caused much inconvenience for the surrounding neighborhood. The noise and clouds of dust made life most unpleasant for the people. The housewives found it almost impossible to keep the dust out of their homes. Watertown Road was covered with about six inches of dust. Whenever a vehicle passed the dust was raised into clouds which hung in the air.

Rain gave the only relief from the dust but this relief was accompanied by deep mud and was almost as bad as the former situation.

The equipment used to move the earth was dumpy gasolled by teams of mules. These wagons would make quite a contrast with the trucks and other heavy equipment used on modern jobs of the same type.

The shots used in this blasting consisted of five hundred pounds of black powder and five hundred pounds of dynamite. The last shot was extra large and the resulting explosion caused much damage to nearby property. A large clod of mud, the size of a wash tub, was thrown into the air over Ed Bartlett's house. The mud penetrated the roof and entered the room below, narrowly missing one of his children. The roots of a large tree were loosened and it crashed onto a building belonging to Mr. Wallace, who owned the tennis court at that time. The tennis courts were out of action for a month...
AN OLD MAN'S LETTER TO HIS YOUNGER GENERATION.

forgive me that I am alive and that my presence is unpleasant to you. Then you were a small tot and would not believe that you would treat me as a stranger. At that stage you needed me. Today you have your own world, and since you have to provide the little food and shelter for me, it seems to me that I am an unnecessary nuisance to you. There is not much left for me to do.

All the work I did in my younger days is sunk and forgotten. All that my trembling hands are able to do is peel the potatoes and wash the dishes. I do not like to do this, I do not do this with pleasure, it is only to show you that I am still a little useful in little things please let me walk unhindered with halting steps through the rooms. Remember how tired my old feet became, that mad of so many steps for you. Let my hands rest on the hands that built a roof for you in your youth. Don't begrudge me the drop of milk that I require in my old age. Don't say the growing children need it more, for also I am growing — towards true earth—don't say the milk is curtailed for the children; the old people don't need it so much, you cannot imagine how well it is for my tired and worn old body when I drink a little milk now and then. I feel then, like the flowing life is again running through my veins, you see I too am a human being that loves life and the few sunny days that remain in me. Some day I will not be with you anymore, although tears might in your eyes. You may sigh in relief, saying to yourself, it was better for him, he reached a ripe old age, and now he is at peace. I will be unconcerned of all that happens as I lay quietly in a narrow box of a few boards, not caring in all earthly things come to an end, you no longer have to stand behind me, watching that in my feebleness I drop and break things, you won't need to scold of my ignorance of old age, to take care of the few pieces of clothing I still possess, you won't have to be angry at me for spilling a little soup or coffee at your table, all that will be over for you. Do not be so faulding for the little while I have to live. Think how hard it is for me to be old. Let me be in my childhood that I love, because it brings back memories of my childhood and gladness the present for me. Brighten my last days with a sunny smile now and then, be good to me, you may re-

NOW REGARDING OUR STRENGTH.

Due to an oversight of the fire chief and the abscon of the president of the fire dept. the siren was not sounded. March 4th. But this gives us an opportunity to remind all the citizens that the siren will be sounded at 10:00 as a test and anytime other than that the siren blows please respond as it will either be to fight a fire, or a fire drill, which is also very important. It will be necessary to hold fire drills to acquaint all members with our equipment so that we will all be capable of operating it.

THE FIRE CHIEF.

CLASSIFIED

Wanted articles for sale or trade remember something may be of little value to you yet someone also maybe looking for this same item. So please call 7049, and let us advertise it for you in the next issue at no charge.

NEWS

Wanted interesting comments of news concerning citizens or friends soon or heart about town. This information will help make the paper more interesting to read so please co-operate and give this information to any member of the staff or call 7049.

CONDOLENCES

We wish to extend our sympathy to DON PURCELL, VICE PRESIDENT of the dept. on the death of his mother.
The Volunteer fire departments in the United States have handled two-thirds of our annual crop of 1,700,000 fires. Of these, three fires with losses of over $1,000,000 in 1940, thirteen were handled by volunteers.

The volunteer fire departments in America dates back to 1643 when Peter Stuyvesant, Governor of New Amsterdam, was a member. George Washington was an enthusiastic and hard-working volunteer.

There are 42,000 professional firefighters in the United States and 750,000 volunteers. Illinois alone has 485 volunteer units and only 20 professional companies.

Confederate General R. E. Lee was once fired upon by his own men. Dashing up to the offending group he gave vent to his wrath: "Men," he stormed, "you must be more careful. You almost killed the best man in the Confederate army."

The regular meeting of the Vol. Fire Dept. was held at Maple Grove Feb. 12, 1950. The fire equipment committee presented the report of all equipment on hand and they are continuing to scrounge the trucks. The building committee gave their report and suggested that the Board purchase Hartlett's garage as a vacant building and play ground. The committee was given a vote of approval and told to continue working on it.

The President appointed a committee of ten men to plan for the coming Carnival. A tentative committee was also appointed.

On Feb. 17 the first meeting of the month was held at Speake's Place. Vice President John Pearson presided in place of President T. Northcott. All constituencies were present and it was also stated that the fire truck, built by W. E. Crenshaw in 1916 and bought by the town, could not be counted on in fighting all kinds of weather.

The Ladies Auxiliary, under the leadership of Mrs. Albertson, Mrs. Van Rensselaer, Mrs. Hine, and Mrs. Hoofer, has been appointed a building and civic committee consisting of Miss Verity, Miss Truitt, Mrs. Prince, and Mrs. Hooper. The Ladies Auxiliary has appointed a committee to work jointly with the men's committee. The Ladies Committee consists of Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Hooper, and Mrs. Heath.

The purpose of this joint committee is to secure information and investigate the possibilities of securing a building, or a site, and a construction of a building, preferably in Woodlawn, to house the fire equipment, and provide a meeting place for the City and its Citizens Organizations.

The committee met and discussed the proposed site and also the possible acquisition of the former garage on Woodlawn Road. They then reported back to the women's and men's organizations for further discussion. The ladies in particular were quite interested in the project and wanted further detail into it.

The committee is now getting more definite figures on the cost of erecting a suitable building on a suitable site. As soon as all possible locations are considered and the cost of erecting a suitable building is obtained, the matter will again be presented before both the men's and ladies' organizations.

After it is decided whether to build or acquire the existing garage, the next problem will be that of financing the project. We will probably be able to secure a first mortgage loan from a bank or building association to the extent of 50% of the cost, leaving 50% to be financed through the issuance of second mortgage bonds or notes paying 4% interest, possibly in 15-20 years. It is felt that the entire population of the city should be given an opportunity to subscribe to these notes. Further details are being worked out.

Any suggestions or getting a suitable location and building, and financing the acquisition, will be earnestly welcomed by the Building Committee.