

Board of Trade Has a Mission

Civic Organization Will Select Officers This Month and Plan Projects for Coming Year

By CARL M. VOELKER

Elections are essential in a democracy. It naturally follows that where all the people have a voice in government choice of rules is made periodically. Concordant with the principle involved is the annual selection by members of organizations of those who shall guide the destinies of these associations.

And so it comes to pass that this month the Ventnor City Board of Trade will choose from among its membership the men who are to be honored with high office. This is not a mere perfunctory matter. The presidency of the resort's distinctively civic organization is no mean honor. It carries with it much responsibility as well. Those who have affiliated themselves with the Board of Trade are fully conscious of the importance of selecting worthy men for every office, because in them will be reflected the power and prestige embodied in the organization.

Nominations have been made and present indications point to the election of Theodore A. Royal, Jr., as president. Identified with the Board since its inception his civic spirit antedates the organization by many years, he having been numbered among the first to recognize in Ventnor the ideal place in which to live. Although classed as a Philadelphia cottager in the early days, Mr. Royal has ever maintained his right to be classed as a Jerseyman, claiming distinguished ancestry in one of Jersey's first governors. He has been a vice president of the Board for many years and has always been active in all of the projects fostered by the Board.

Closely associated with Thomas G. Sheen, who enjoys the distinction of having been the head of the Board virtually since its incorporation, Mr. Royal has had every opportunity to work hand in hand with the president in all of the phases of activity which have marked the history of the Board. His ability to lead the organization is generally conceded.

What will be the policy of the new administration?

This query might carry with it apprehension on the part of some, especially those members of the Board who have not been regular in their attendance or whose affiliation is of short duration. But to those who have been interested in the work of the Board the question prompts a positive answer. No fears are entertained by those who know the deep-rooted civic pride—love for the city which he calls home—which possesses every fibre of the prospective president's make-up. Further than that he will be supported by men who are equally as ardent in their praise and love for their home city.

The Board of Trade has assumed an important function. Its leaders must be in accord with the spirit which prompted the institution of this popular civic body. The seven men who met in the Ventnor City National Bank six years ago were each imbued with a local patriotism worthy of a soldier's sacrificial service for his country. Certain standards must ever be maintained, rights and privileges safeguarded, and justice exercised in the consideration of every issue. Ventnor has been exceptionally fortunate in having had clean government. The Board of Trade has always exerted its collective influence for the best interests of the city. While gradually refraining from becoming embodied in any political contests, the Board as an organization has never hesitated to go on record against any project likely to

jeopardize Ventnor homes, being on the other just as active in upholding any movement designed to enhance and improve the city, regardless of the sponsor.

For the past few months there has been a lull in the activities of the Board. This has probably been due to deference to President Sheen, who went abroad. An acting head is usually averse to initiating projects. Then again there is always a tendency to remain more or less inactive during the summer months. With the advent of autumn a resumption of activities can be looked for.

It has been said that the name of the organization is a misnomer. Be that as it may, the fact remains that even in a community of homes the commercial spirit is latent, but the heads of households are usually captains of industry and their powers of discernment invariably aid greatly in creating conditions which will make for happiness and contentment—the goal of every human.

Men of vision have been instrumental in preventing Ventnor from becoming what many other seashore resorts have become; the members of the Board of Trade have helped in a large measure to make the resort what it is and they will continue to exert their influence to make it even better.

Blessed with a government that has been notable because of its freedom from the taint of graft Ventnor City is fortunate in having had the prestige of its Board of Trade to insinuate itself into the political life of the city without having openly championed any group of adherents as against another.

The Board of Trade, by any other name, could have accomplished the same purpose. It remains now for the Board to continue its work. There are yet many tasks for it to undertake; many improvements to foster. It should be a constructive force for good, carefully guarding against ulterior motives, seeking only the best for the community as a whole. Every member should assume his full share of the burden and by co-ordinated effort nothing in the way of civic improvement will fail of ultimate accomplishment.

May the coming year be fraught with manifold achievements to the end that the Board of Trade will not have failed of its objective, and that its officers given tasks to the best of their ability and accomplished their purpose.

Mr. Down Returns

Mr. Merlin Miller Down, of 22 S. Harrisburg Avenue, has returned to Ventnor after a trip extending through Brazil, Africa and France. Mr. Down says he was surprised to find how well Atlantic City was known even in the remotest parts of Africa and claims that there was no restart in all his travels to compare with it. His many friends are arranging a dinner party for him at the Ritz-Carlton by way of a welcome home.

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Water Committee Urges Conservation of Fluid

Strenuous effort is being made by the Water Department Committee to assure that there is plenty of water for all necessary use during the summer and to this end special notice is being sent out to residents asking them to observe the following regulations:

"Owing to increased Consumption, we will have to insist upon the careful use of water. Fix your leaky spigots and toilets. Help us and well give all the water necessary for home consumption.

"The watering hours for sprinkling lawns, washing pavements and porches will be strictly enforced. They are 7 to 9 A. M. and 4 to 9 P. M.

"Use all the water you need, at the time it is permitted, but do not use more than is required.

"Your Co-operation will greatly assist the department in being ready to supply your wants, and be prepared for any emergency, without the necessity of changing the above rules.

"By order of Water Department Committee.

EXTRA PRECAUTION

"In case of Fire Alarm Whistle Blowing, see that all spigots are turned off immediately."

Story Hour Popular

The semi-weekly Children's story hours on the Ventnor Pier on Tuesday and Friday mornings continue to be centers of popular gathering for the young folks at 10.30. The tales offered by Miss Porter are not only without admission charge but are keyed to both the very young and the older children.

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May War Over Bulkhead

Two factions of property owners are expected to appear before the State Board of Commerce and Navigation on the third Monday in August, when application is to be made by owners of waterfront on the Thoroughfare at Winchester Avenue for leave to extend their land by bulkheading and pumping to a line forty feet beyond the present water line. Those who seek the privilege of bulkheading will claim that at present they have no land for their holdings and that they are entitled to cottage sites at the end of Winchester Avenue. The opponents of the plan will contend that such bulkheading would form eddies in front of other properties, which would cause gathering of meadow trash on big high waters and otherwise cause a nuisance. Should the application be granted it is likely that others all along that section of the waterway will demand similar leave to extend.

Fine New Cottage

G. Tumboli has taken out a permit for the building of a handsome cottage to cost \$20,000 at the southeast corner of Stratford and Atlantic Avenues. The new structure will be of stucco finish and will be a new ornament to that neighborhood.

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