

# Library gets rare Wright monograph

After an international search for over two years, a rare collection of Frank Lloyd Wright drawings has been found and is now housed in the Oak Park Public Library. Credit for the gift goes to the Oak Park Rotary Club which purchased the set of drawings from the collection of John Lloyd Wright, son of the famed architect.

Published in Berlin and known as the Wasmuth Monograph, the deluxe edition is on soft textured Japanese paper and bears Wright's personal autograph as well as a personal message to his son, John. Another son, Lloyd, worked with his father on the original drawings which were executed in Italy.

Ranked a historical item, the monograph contains drawings for the Winslow house and stable, the Frank Lloyd Wright Atelier, River Forest Golf Club, Thomas house, Martin house, Heurtley house, Cheney

house, River Forest Tennis Club, Gale house, Isabel Roberts house, Richard Bock Atelier, and Unity Temple.

H. Allen Brooks in the Encyclopedia of World Art says the Wright folio "profoundly influenced European architectural design and as such stands as one of the most important architectural publications of modern times."

In addition to the Rotary Club gift, the library received from an "anonymous donor" a small brochure designed and printed by Wright in 1898, announcing his new office at the Rookery and visiting hours at his Oak Park studio. The brochure shows floor plans of the Oak Park "draughting rooms" and business offices at the Rookery. The item has been described by the library as "very rare." It is in the Wright collection room.



Dr. Noel T. Maxson (left), Rotary Club project chairman, presents the rare Wasmuth Monograph of the works of the late Frank Lloyd Wright to Barbara Ballinger, librarian, Oak Park Public

Library. Participating in ceremony are Harry L. Buss Rotary secretary, and Clifford C. Peterson, president. The gift from Oak Park Rotary is one of two priceless Wright items received.

## Concordia to hold science congress

The 13th annual science congress, sponsored by the Science Activities Club of Concordia Teachers College, River Forest, will be held Saturday. Teachers and pupils from Lutheran elementary and high schools of 200-mile radius have been invited to

participate in the event.

Among the activities planned for the day will be demonstrations by the professors of the science department, films, and micro-teaching by the students of Concordia. Tours of the campus will also be conducted.

Gilbert Daenzer, head of the department of natural science and mathematics at Concordia Teachers College, Seward, Neb., will speak on the topic of "How

to Use the Hardware," explaining how modern curricular materials can be organized into a science program. Student will be exhibited in three categories: kindergarten to 3d grade, 4th through 6th grade, and 7th through 12th grade. Winners will be announced at 3:30 p.m. The public is invited, there is no admission charge. Events will be held in Geiseman Memorial Auditorium and Elfrig Hall, 7400 Augusta St.

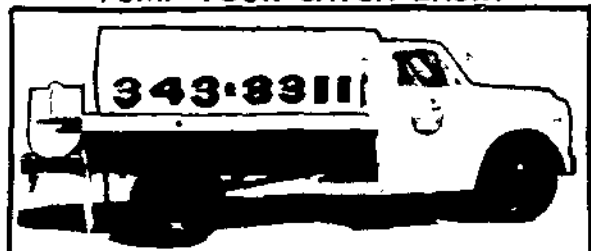
## Area students on dean's list

Illinois State University has named the following Oak Park and Forest Park students to the first semester dean's list: Patricia Barr, 815 N. Lombard; Jeanne Coryell, 222 LeMoyné Pkwy.; Margaret LaFruit, 419 N. Cuyler; Cynthia and Linda

Lewis, 647 Linden; Susan Solberg, 1123 Paulina; Joann Sterba, 227 S. Oak Park; Phyllis Swanson, 635 Garfield; Wendy Sandelin, 513 Circle, Forest Park.

Patricia Barr and Linda Lewis were straight A students.

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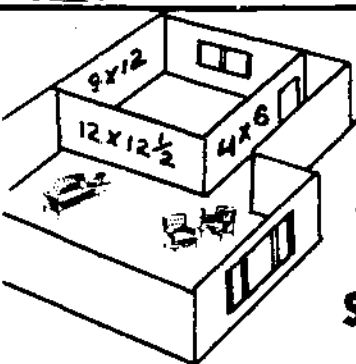
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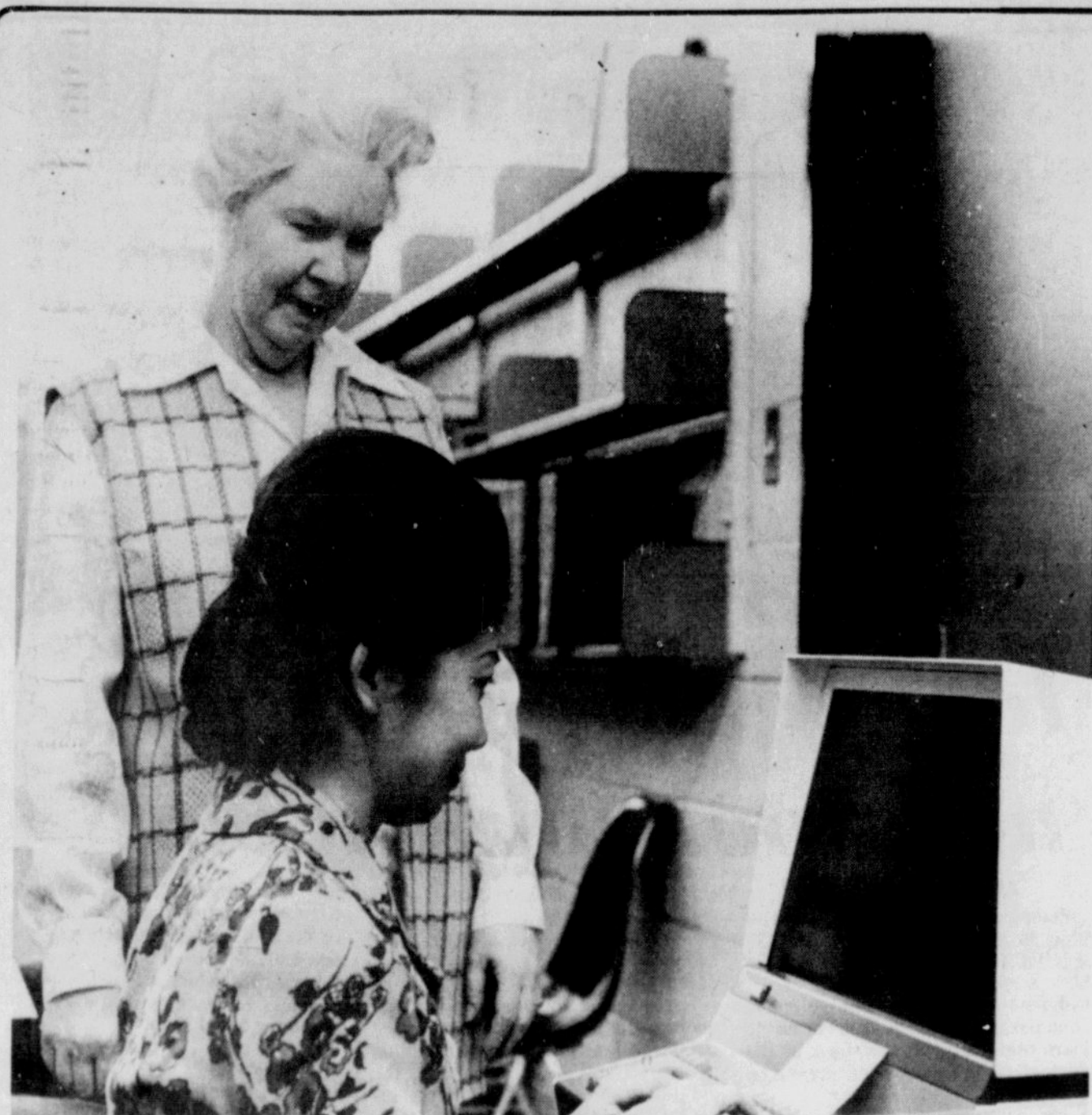
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Elisabeth Howell, head of circulation at Oak Park Public library, looks over the shoulder of catalogue chief Dorothy L. as they get acquainted with the library's new computer. The equipment will speed up checking out books, and will keep track of their whereabouts with efficiency. (Photo by Keith Swinden)

### Terminal case

## Computers clicking with library staff

What do a box of cornflakes and a book on hydrodynamics have in common? They both contain a zebra striped pattern of bars and a series of identifying numbers below the bars which will facilitate check-out both at the supermarket and the library.

Within the foreseeable future, supermarket checkers will simply pass each item over a computer terminal which will scan the goods and record the price. And, within the next few months, the bar-coded labels which are now being placed in all 200,000 volumes in the Oak Park library will also be scanned by a "light pen" each time a patron checks out a book.

The book's identifying number as well as the number on the patron's card will be simultaneously recorded in a computer terminal at the Suburban Library system office in Burr Ridge after they have been scanned by the light pen. (Although 60 suburban libraries belong to the system only nine are currently participating in this computer program). When the book is returned the light pen will again scan the bar-coded label and this time will inform the computer that the book is available.

The computer system is not being installed at either branch library nor are children's books being included initially. Mrs. Dorothy Lee, head of Catalogue Order Repair and Mrs. Elizabeth Howell, head of Circulation have trained library personnel to op-

erate the two keyboard terminals.

At the present time they are working on the herculean task of feeding patron information into one terminal and complete book information including title, author, publisher, price, card catalogue number, level number and Dewey Decimal system classification. These details will enable the library to compile statistical information that, in the past, has been too time consuming to gather.

Barbara Ballinger, head librarian, is enthusiastic about the system. "It's an efficient way of handling routine clerical work and it will free personnel from jobs such as typing overdue notices and searching for reserve books and give them more time to assist patrons," she said.

The computer will assume both of these tedious tasks. When a patron requests a particular book the librarian will be able to determine in a matter of minutes exactly where the book is simply by checking through the library's keyboard terminal with the computer terminal in Burr Ridge. If the book is in another library within the Suburban library system it can be in the hands of the patron the next day, based on information stored in the computer terminal.

Oak Park library will also be able to print overdue notices automatically with information stored in the computer terminal.

Computer compatible cards are issued as new patrons apply for cards

and as old cards expire. The plastic library card contains the patron's individual bar number and will be honored at any one of the 60 member libraries of the Suburban Library system.

Once the system is functional, the new cards will be issued to all patrons as they attempt to check out books. And since almost half the people in Oak Park own library cards, 28,839 out of an approximate population of 60,000, that will be no small task.

Oak Park is one of the most heavily used libraries in the suburban system. Over the past three years there was a 24.7 per cent gain in patrons, and 12.7 per cent of that gain occurred in 1974. Ms. Ballinger attributes some of the increase to economic conditions, adding that peak circulation in the history of the library existed during the 1930s depression.

Another reason for increased use is that the Suburban library system has provided the Oak Park library with a valuable addition of 31,435 volumes. The system rents shelf space from the library for half of its collection of books. These volumes fall in the 0-600 classification of the Dewey Decimal system, so the library offers its patrons an extensive collection of books on philosophy, psychology, religion, social science, languages and theoretical and applied sciences.

And in choosing him, Woods says the voters would be getting the benefit of his three years of experience.

Woods has been chairman of the finance committee, a post he, as a stock broker, feels entirely comfortable with.

"I feel financial concerns are becoming more and more crucial," he said. "We are changing from a cash surplus budget to a cash negative budget. We're eating into our cash. By 1976, we're going to have to have a referendum."

In addition to chairing the finance committee, Woods headed the negotiations team during 1974. His experience on the building and grounds and the community relations committees round out his qualifications, according to Woods.

ing to Woods.

"A board member is just reaching his peak of effectiveness after three years," Woods said. "I'm offering my experience to River Forest."

Woods, a native River Forester, attended Roosevelt school and Oak Park-River Forest High school. He attended Williams college in Massachusetts and received his master's degree in business administration from Northwestern university.

He has one child who attends Roosevelt Junior high and two in Roosevelt elementary school. Among his community activities are Little League, Community Chest, as well as activities at his church, First Presbyterian, where he is head of the deacons.

candidates competing for two terms of three years duration. A fourth candidate, incumbent Carl Tamminen, will run unopposed for the remaining one year of his term. Tamminen was appointed to serve out an unfulfilled term vacated last year.

The other Dist. 200 candidates are Harold T. Rohlffing, Nancy Waichler and McLouis Robinet.

The WORLD will print interviews with all the candidates shortly before the April 12 elections.

Hugh Helfer, Marion Hogenboom, Arthur Goldman, Thomas Jokiel and Jack Hammond.

A district employee indicated surprise that no further candidates entered the race. "We thought with the commotion (over racial balance plans for the district) there would be more," she said.

Three seats in Dist. 97 are available.

The race in Oak Park-River Forest High school Dist. 200 will have three

## No new entries as filing ends

Filing for the April 12 school board elections closed at 4 p.m. Friday, with no additions in two districts since the filing began.

Only Dist. 90, the River Forest elementary school system, has a late-filing candidate, George Woods. His entry into the race brings a contest for the three vacant seats. Other Dist. 90 candidates are James Starkey, Patricia Reblitz and Charles Finn.

Dist. 97's ballot was complete early in the filing period. Candidates are

# Jury chooses high parking land price

By MARTIN FISCHER

After deliberating for more than three hours Friday afternoon, a circuit court jury set aside the final legal obstacle to construction of a four-level parking garage in the 900 block of Lake st.

The jury, in the Civic Center courtroom of Circuit Judge Edward F. Healy, set the amount the Village of Oak Park will have to pay to Elks club Lodge 1295 for the fraternal organization's property at 938 Lake st. at \$147,500.

A condemnation suit had been filed by the village against the Elks Aug. 30, 1974, because they could not come to an agreement on the fair market value of the last piece of property needed for the planned Oak Park Village mall garage.

At issue in the condemnation suit were conflicting appraisals of the "highest and best use" of the land on

the north side of Lake st. During the three-day trial, the jury heard from three appraisers. One appraiser, representing the village, set the price at \$125,000, while the other suggested a \$126,000 price tag.

The third appraiser, who had been hired by the Elks club, estimated the value of the land at \$231,000. But during cross-examination of the Elks appraiser, Robert F. Dreher, it was revealed by the Village's attorney, William Burke, that their appraisal was based on an erroneous assumption — that the land at 938 Lake st. was zoned G, rather than its true F zoning.

Dreher, it was shown, had based his appraisal on a 1972 zoning map which would have allowed for construction of a 42-unit multi-family apartment building at that location. But that property is in fact zoned F, under the village's present compre-

hensive plan, and would legally be allowed only 27 or 28 units for residential construction.

As a result of the Elks appraiser's failure to determine the true zoning of the land, his estimate of the highest and best value of the Elks property was greatly inflated, according to Burke.

The Elks' attorney, L.W. Gudgeon, attempted in his final arguments to the jury to persuade them to believe that while the zoning factor may have been in error, thus affecting the per-unit price, the same appraisal of \$231,000 could be obtained by figuring it in terms of square-footage, rather than by how many multi-family units could legally be built at that site.

The Elks' club building was constructed in 1914. The building, designed by Prairie School architect E.E. Roberts, has been listed by the Illinois Historic Structures survey.

## Conditions improving, building tenants say

After a tenant-instigated building inspection resulting in 113 violations, residents of an apartment building told a community group Thursday conditions are apparently being rectified.

Jo Barrows, a tenant of the 24-32 Washington building managed by Baird and Warner, told the Hawthorne Community Council that replastering and exterminating were being done last week. Other tenants reported prompt action from the building manager, Ronald Wert, on complaints.

The March 9 inspection of 22 apartments in the building found violations such as: lack of sufficient outlets, faulty lighting fixtures, leaky pipes, and radiators with leaks and without valves.

"About 75 per cent of those violations were of an electrical nature," Carl Celestino, Oak Park housing director, told the council.

The tenants were organized by the Hawthorne Community Council to request the inspection, CeCe King, council co-chairperson, said. They had previously complained to the building's management, without result, she said.

The tenants' group asked Wert, the building manager, and Mrs. Cyrene Palmisano, the owner, to meet with them on March 6. Neither showed up at that meeting, King said, and council members went to talk to Wert the next day.

Wert said that Mrs. Palmisano didn't give him enough money to take care of building conditions, King said. King spoke to Mrs. Palmisano on the telephone later, who blamed the building conditions on bad management.

"The tenants don't care whose fault it is," King said. "They just want things fixed."

Cooperation from the village government has

been "excellent," she said.

The village will reinspect the building April 12, Celestino said. "We purposely chose a Saturday so tenants would be at home."

If, at that time, "we do not find total compliance, significant compliance, or a letter showing that measures have been taken to correct the violation, we will take legal action," Celestino said.

"If they show good faith, I'll go along with them, but it's got to be in writing," he added.

Barrows said that shortly after the inspection, a small fire was caused in one apartment by water seeping into electrical fixtures from the apartment above. Checking records, Celestino said that the apartment above had bathroom tiles missing with the plaster exposed.

Barrows said that in her conversations with Wert, he had told her he was not aware of many of the

problems.

"Maybe people are hesitating to call him, for whatever reason," she said.

"He was very congenial when I talked to him," she said. "I think we really have to wait and give him some time now."

Another complaint of the council was that Baird and Warner was allegedly steering blacks and whites to different apartments.

"Wert said that was ridiculous," Bryan Sickbert of the Community Relations Department of Oak Park said.

Wert agreed to inform apartment-seekers that the housing center had lists of available apartments in Oak Park, if he did not have to bring up the issue of race, Sickbert said.

"When they have raised the issue of racial balance themselves to apartment-seekers, that's when they've gotten in trouble" with discrimination laws, Sickbert said.

## Oak Park mists away Dutch Elm disease

By JOHN J. WILK

With the advent of warmer weather, the Oak Park forestry department began spraying its parkway elm trees this week.

Using a large mist blower mounted on a trailer and towed by a village-owned jeep, the trees are being sprayed with an insecticide called methoxychlor diluted in a light oil base. The insecticide is licensed for use in mist blowers by the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Prior to 1958, DDT was used as the insecticide for control of the elm bark beetle population in Oak Park's previous Dutch Elm disease control programs.

Due to the toxicity and the extremely long residual effect of DDT and its contamination of the food chain, the EPA outlawed further use

of DDT in urban tree spraying programs.

Fred Byers, village forester, has cautioned residents that there may be some inconvenience and nuisance due to the spraying program.

Since the spray is mostly an oil-base emulsion, some of the spray will settle on homes, lawns, bushes and automobiles.

Normal rainfall will cleanse most of the residue, although automobiles should also receive a normal detergent wash to remove all the residue. For this reason, the village has advised residents to move cars away from curbsides by 10 p.m. when spraying is being planned for their neighborhood.

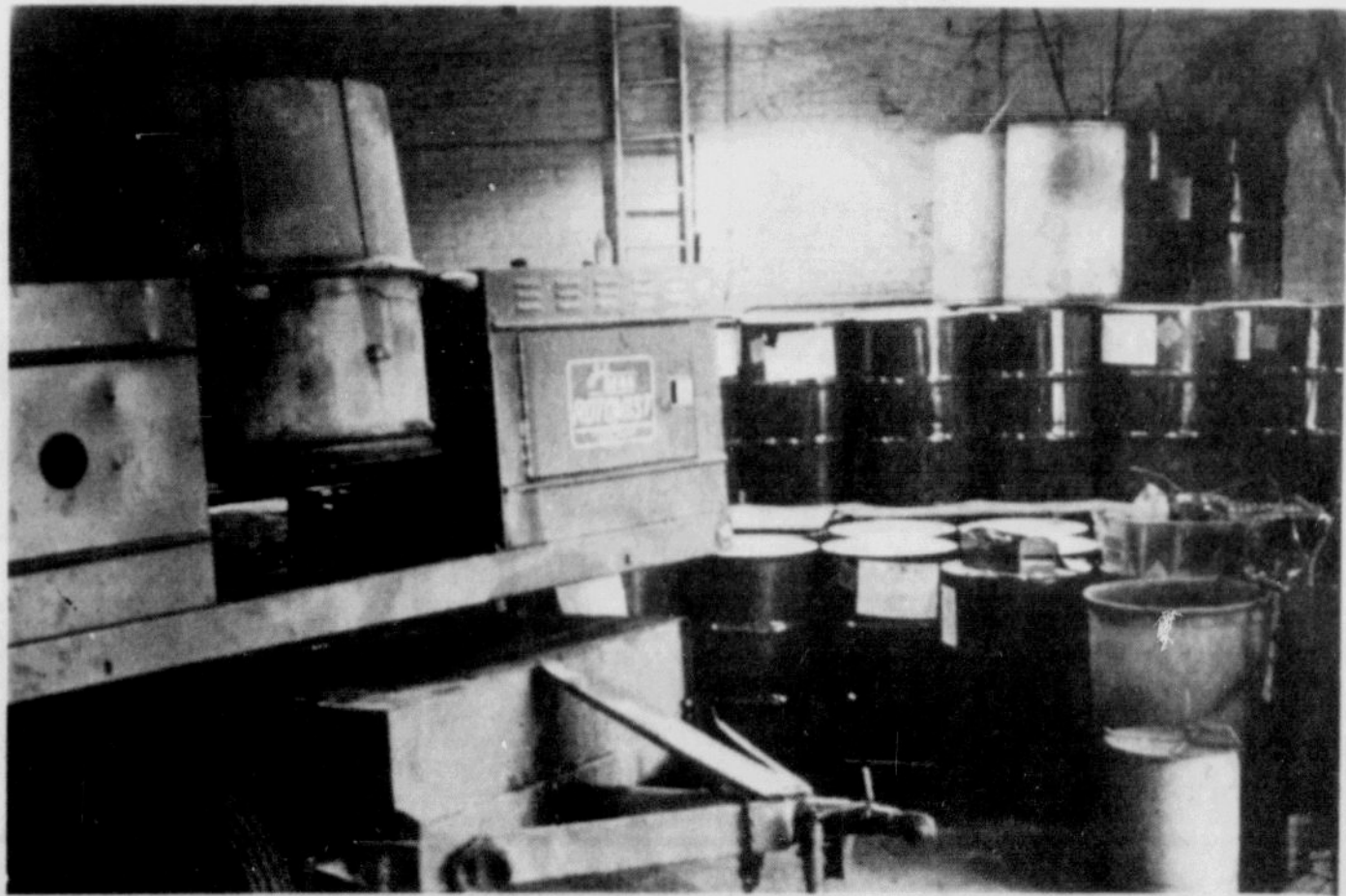
When spraying was started on Wednesday and Thursday night, the forestry department distributed notices to homes in the neighborhoods where spraying was planned. The first area

to be sprayed was on the north side of the village st. bounded by Division to North ave., and Austin blvd. to Harlem ave.

Spraying, which normally begins at 10 p.m. and continues through the night, had to be interrupted at 1:30 a.m. Thursday morning to make adjustments on the equipment.

The Oak Park WORLD will feature in each edition a notice on the front page with information about the progress of the tree spraying program, and advance notice of the location of planned spraying for the following week.

Since spraying cannot be done on windy or rainy nights, the program will not necessarily follow a precise schedule. Residents who read the notices on the front page of the WORLD each week will be able to get the most current information on the spraying schedule.



### Misty-fying

The recently repaired spraying equipment was pressed into service after a five year rest since it was last used for spraying Elm trees in Oak Park. Drums containing over 4,000 gallons of the insecticide methoxychlor stand ready for application to parkway elm trees. The spraying program, which began this week, will have to be completed before the Elm trees are in full foliage. (Photo by John Wilk)