

REACHING THE HOMES OF  
RIDGEWOOD, BUSHWICK  
GLENDALE, MIDDLE VILLAGE,  
MASPETH AND VICINITY

# Ridgewood Times

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## EDITORIALLY SPEAKING...

### YES, EVERY SINGLE VOTE IS IMPORTANT

The outcome of official checking and re-counting of ballots in the November 2 elections are being eagerly awaited, particularly in those areas where the margin of victory was small. Certainly the closeness of the race for Governor in our own state, as well as for various local offices should prove beyond a question of doubt the importance of voting.

Those citizens who neglected to exercise their responsibility (as well as privilege) by not voting, giving the lame excuse "my one vote doesn't count," had better think it over.

For instance, the United Press reported that in Olivia, Minn., Russell L. Frazee defeated E. G. Schwartz for Renville County Attorney by one vote—4,316 to 4,315. In Greater Ridgewood and other sections of the county, a comparatively small number of votes cast for or against certain candidates could have changed the results in many districts.

Thoughtful citizens will agree that if evidence were needed to prove the importance of every individual going to the polls and voting the recent Election provided that evidence.

All dictatorships have one thing in common—government by an organized, disciplined minority. The few make the decisions and issue the orders, and the many must supinely obey. The right to vote is the very cornerstone of freedom—but that right means nothing if it is not exercised. The millions of people throughout our nation who apparently are not sufficiently interested in liberty and good government to go to the polls may some day wake up to find themselves deprived of that privilege unless they mend their ways.

### PROGRESS BEING MADE IN MEAT BUSINESS

A new meat packing industry is in the process of developing—and the next 10 years will witness remarkable progress which will benefit all consumers of meat and all producers of livestock.

That happy forecast was made by a leading authority—the Board Chairman of the American Meat Institute, an organization made up of packers operating in every section of the country. The progress he spoke of is taking place in varied fields—production efficiency, merchandising techniques, and scientific skills. To quote him directly, "We are in a new period when many circumstances are combining to lessen the frequent and abrupt changes of price for meat products; a period when the highs and lows of raw material costs will be leveled out and prices will be more stable. This will enable the retailer of meat to spend less time concerning himself with price changes out of fear that his competitors may be getting something he isn't, and it should increasingly level out the peaks and valleys in what the producer gets for his livestock. At the same time, the consumer should benefit very materially by not having to pay a relatively high price one week and a much lower price the next, with the price bouncing back later on."

One of the strengths of free enterprise is its ability to make the most of new discoveries and new ideas. The meat business is a typical example.

### Glendale Baby Drinks Cleaning Fluid

There was plenty of excitement in the Riecker home at 90-12 83rd Ave., Glendale Monday night when Frank Riecker Jr., 19 months, took a drink from a bottle of cleaning fluid while his mother was out shopping and his father wasn't looking.

Frank Riecker Sr., a bus driver, called police. Within a few minutes they were at the Riecker home and minutes later the infant was in Jamaica Hospital. His stomach was pumped out, and doctors said he will be all right.

## Queensboro Elks Charity Bazaar Opens Monday

Preparations have been completed and everything is now in readiness for the annual charity bazaar of the Queens Borough Lodge of Elks, 878, to be conducted from Nov. 15 to 20 inclusive, at the clubhouse, Queens Blvd., Elmhurst. Chairman of the committee in charge is Frank J. Rauch, past exalted ruler, who has headed the event for many years.

Supreme Court Justice James T. Hallinan, past exalted ruler of the Queens lodge and past grand exalted ruler of the Order, will formally open the bazaar on the night of Monday, Nov. 15.

Chairman Rausch will be assisted by James D. Hampton, Lodge Secretary; Thos. O'Rourke, Treasurer; Thos. G. Dunne and Dowdell as assistant secretaries. Guests will be greeted by George J. Balbach, Exalted Ruler. State Senator-elect Frank D. O'Connor will act as master of ceremonies.

Each year the bazaar attracts thousands of men and women from all sections of the borough. All proceeds go towards the support of the Elks' own charities as well as Roman Catholic, Protestant and Jewish charities and numerous other welfare, charitable and youth-serving organizations.

## Raps Section 309 Of the Multiple Dwellings Law

Various matters of community betterment came up for discussion and action at the meeting of the Ridgewood Property Owners and Civic Association last Thursday night in P.S. 93, Forest Ave. and Madison St. President Henry Hanft presided.

Charles Bunda, active civic leader spoke to the members regarding Section 309 of the Multiple Dwellings Law. He said in part:

"Section 309 is being used to compel property owners to clean up and improve property. The majority of us would have no complaint if the procedure were normal, but it is not.

"The inspector will come into your building and issue a summons which states there is a violation of Multiple Dwellings Law Section 309. When you get a summons such as this you will ask 'What am I guilty of?' You do not know. This is what we object to. We do not object to being advised of the violation—we are willing to take care of that, providing the procedure is fair.

"Previously when an inspector found a violation a notice was received from the Building Department that violation such and such existed and that within a certain time it must be taken care of or a summons will be issued. If you took care of it and sent the slip back there was no summons. Now it is different. Under Sec. 309 this is what has happened and most of our people do not know what to ask or where to go. When you get one of these slips you still do not know what you are guilty of. You have to take a day off to answer the summons and then take another day off to find out what violations you have and that might even take two days. Is this a reasonable procedure? We think it is entirely too harsh."

President Hanft said the association will be represented at a public hearing regarding Section 309 to be held sometime in November.

He also reported on the condition of streets in Ridgewood.

### RETIRED PATROLMAN FOUND DEAD

Carbon monoxide from a defective hot water heater was blamed for the death of Philip Coulter, 48-year-old retired patrolman, who was found Monday in his apartment at 60-80 Madison St. He was the 15th victim of defective heaters in the city since the arrival of colder weather.

## Hearing Monday on Proposed City Bus Service Changes

### Aid Christmas Seal Drive



Christmas Seal Sale volunteers at work for the Queensboro Tuberculosis and Health Association in the Joseph B. Garity American Legion Post headquarters, 776 Fairview Ave. Mrs. Viola King (far right) is Ridgewood chairman of the group who inserted seals into 32,155 envelopes. The seals are to be mailed Nov. 22. Others in the picture are Mrs. Henrietta Langsieb, Mrs. Helen M. Klahn, Mrs. Mae Zorovic, and Mrs. Edith Priebe, all of the Legion Auxiliary; Mrs. Anna Mathiessen and Mrs. Annabelle Pfister, both of Grover Cleveland High School Mothers Club; Mrs. Helen Rugis of the Bethany Society, Ridgewood Presbyterian Church; Mrs. Mary Muller, Mrs. Elsie Wahl, and Mrs. Kathryn Wolfe of the P. S. 71 Mothers Club; Mrs. Eleanor Riedinger of the P.S. 93 Parent-Teachers Association; Mrs. Helen Geiger; and Ruth Ann Delbaitis.

## Parents to Storm City Hall Hearing on Capital Budget

Parents' organizations in both Brooklyn and Queens are preparing to storm the Board of Estimate on the afternoon of Tuesday, Nov. 16, when a hearing is scheduled on educational items to be included in the proposed capital budget. The Planning Commission's final recommendations for the budget was turned over to the Board of Estimate last week.

Locally, particular interest is centered around the funds for modernization of Bushwick High School, Irving and Putnam Aves. The City Planning Commission, following a story hearing in which representatives of the Parent-Teacher-Student Association and local public officials cited the urgent need for prompt action, included in the proposed capital budget \$400,000 for 1955, \$2,000,000 for 1956 and \$80,000 for 1957, to take care of Bushwick High School's needs.

Mrs. Rose Vitale, president of the Parent-Teacher-Student Association, said this week that letters have been sent to Mayor Wagner and every member of the Board of Estimate calling attention to existing conditions and stressing the necessity for their being remedied without further delay. The letter reads, in part:

"What we would like to understand is just how you go about modernizing a school for \$400,000 when \$2,400,000 is needed. We are, of course, grateful that at least something will be done, but will only part of the leaky pipes be fixed? Will only some of the broken seats and desks be replaced? Will only some of the broken plaster be repaired so that in only some of the rooms children will be in danger of falling their heads broken from falling plaster? Will only part of the front stoop be fixed? Will only part of the cafeteria and gym be built. This is what we want to understand.

"Of course the amount needed is a lot of money, but this is only because of such long neglect. If this money is spent now, it will preserve Bushwick for the generations of young people to come and save the city money, as otherwise a new school will be needed. We have 2,500 students that are depending on you to give them a decent school in which to get their education. We have a wonderful faculty, cooperative parents, good students; we only need a decent building and we are counting on you and other members of the Board of Estimate to give us this."

Mrs. Vitale announced that Assemblyman Joseph Corso will also speak in behalf of the school at the Board's hearing next Tuesday. He is an alumnus of Bushwick and keenly interested. City Councilman Thomas Mirabile has also been active in the campaign. Various community organizations, including the 28th Ward Taxpayers Protective Association, Bushwick Civic Association, Broadway Merchants Chamber of Commerce, Bushwick Jewish Center, Bushwick Real Estate Board and Ridgewood Merchants Association have already sent or will send letters or telegrams soliciting the Board's approval of funds in the budget.

President Vitale is urging as many parents as possible to attend the hearing at 2:15 p.m. Nov. 16 in Room 16, City Hall, declaring "This is our last chance—if the Board of Estimate keeps Bushwick on the list, work will start almost immediately."

Various communities in Queens are also planning to make their demands known at the hearing.

### Finds Classified Columns Effective

Mrs. Knox of Ridgewood has found the Ridgewood Times Classified Columns effective, and she is very grateful. She placed a "For Sale" ad, listing machinery equipment, and disposed of it the first time the ad appeared.

She informed this newspaper that she has placed other kinds of classified ads and has always been successful.

The holidays are rapidly approaching and perhaps you could use some extra money for Christmas gifts? Look about the attic or basement for serviceable articles you no longer use but which might be desired by others, and convert them into cash through an ad in the Classified Columns. Just call at the newspaper office, 852 Cypress Ave. near Myrtle Ave., or telephone HEGeman 3-7500 and ask for the Classified Department.

## Metropolitan, Myrtle and Grand Street Lines Affected by New York Transit Authority's Recommendations

The New York City Transit Authority this week made available to the Board of Estimate and to interested business and civic groups its survey data on proposed changes in Brooklyn and Queens bus and trolley service.

Public hearings on the proposed service modification are scheduled for 10:30 A.M., Monday, Nov. 15, in the auditorium of the Board of Education Building, 110 Livingston St., Brooklyn.

The Authority said that three main points were considered by the operating personnel of the transit system in arriving at the proposed changes in surface routes and schedules:

1. Would service be adequate to meet public needs, on the basis of present degree of use?
2. Would passengers have adequate alternate or parallel transportation if changes were made?
3. Is the cost of operating the number of surface transit vehicles on questionable routes so much higher than revenue from riders that continued full-scale operation is economically unjustifiable for the riding public as a whole?

The Authority emphasized that no decisions or any changes would be made until all facts and views presented at the public hearings requested by the Board of Estimate are fully weighed.

Reasons for proposed modifications recommended to the Authority for specific routes are as follows:

### B-53 METROPOLITAN

The proposal recommended by the Transit Authority by operative personnel is that a portion of the Metropolitan Ave. B-53 bus line in Brooklyn and Queens be discontinued. The part involved is on Jamaica Ave. between Metropolitan Ave. and 171st St. in Queens, a distance of 1.6 miles. Three other lines now serve that route.

The proposal is based on results of a number of checks on the need for this portion of the line, plus the more-than-adequate alternate service available.

The Broadway-Jamaica line's elevated tracks run directly over the Metropolitan Ave. bus line, and during the period when use of the bus service is heaviest, traffic on the BMT line is light and accommodations are more than adequate for additional passengers. Moreover, the same street is also covered by two other bus lines, the B-22 (Atlantic Ave.) and the B-56 (Jamaica Ave.).

Passengers changing from the B-53 bus at its proposed new terminus would receive free transfers to other buses.

### B-54 MYRTLE AVENUE

Operating personnel have proposed that the Transit Authority discontinue service on the B-54 Myrtle Ave. bus line between 7 p.m. and 5 a.m., because adequate alternate service is available and the operation at night is running at considerable loss.

The Myrtle Ave. elevated line runs directly above the B-54 bus line. Over part of the route, between Vanderbilt Ave. and Jay St., the B-69 Vanderbilt Ave. bus will be operating at night. Two blocks north is the Flushing Ave. trolley coach line, the B-57 running parallel, and two blocks south is the DeKalb Ave. line, B-38.

Many checks were made of the use of the line to determine riding habits. A typical check made on Sept. 24 at Myrtle and Clinton—a peak loading point—showed that between 7 p.m. and 5 a.m., the line carried 733 passengers and the revenue was \$109.95. The bus covered 235 miles, with passenger income averaging 46.86 cents per mile. It costs 88.82 cents per mile to operate a bus. This represents a loss of about 42 cents per mile. The savings effected by this change would amount to approximately \$35,000 a year.

(CONTINUE ON PAGE 2)