

# COUNCIL GROUP REJECTS BONDS FOR AVONDALE

## Adds Air Field and Police Signal Boxes.

Reversing itself for the second time, the city council finance committee, in its formal report to the council yesterday, disapproved three out of four of the bond issues projects recommended by the Chicago plan commission and decided on a bond issue program sponsored almost solely by the city administration.

The improvements discarded were Avondale avenue, \$5,000,000; South Park avenue, \$2,000,000; extension of Wacker drive, \$3,000,000; and a new west side boulevard, \$3,000,000.

The committee retained Pershing road \$2,000,000 bond issue, as work already has started there. All of these improvements, especially the Avondale project, and except the west side highway, were urged by the plan commission. Chairman James Simpson called the Avondale project "the cheapest and most justifiable" of the plan commission group.

### Present Status of Bonds.

As it now stands before the council, the list is as follows:

Unfinished street projects.....	\$48,532,000
Pershing road .....	2,000,000
Street lights .....	1,500,000
Fire and police alarm systems..	1,000,000
Playgrounds .....	1,000,000
Refuse dumps .....	500,000
Fire stations .....	500,000
Stop and go lights.....	500,000
City air field.....	500,000

Total.....\$50,032,000

The \$48,000,000 item includes continuation of work on the widening of Ashland avenue from Pratt boulevard to 95th street, \$14,929,475; Western avenue from Lawrence avenue to 31st street, \$10,391,800; Ogden avenue from Roosevelt road to Clark street, \$8,814,844; La Salle street from Washington to Eugene street, \$9,234,311. The La Salle street project would include double decking.

To salve the feelings of the plan commission and hundreds of improvement clubs which had demanded the new street improvements, the committee voted \$500,000 from the corporate fund to pay for studies for the plan commission projects by the board of local improvements with a view to submitting them to the voters at the election in June.

### Action Up to Council.

What the council will do with the committee report is a question. It was charged repeatedly that the bond issues have been made a political football.

The council meets in special session at 11 a. m. Saturday, the last minute legal deadline, to take final action. Several councilmen, not on the committee, already have announced they will rebel.

"They can't kick the Chicago plan commission in the face and get away with it," Ald. S. W. Govler [9th] declared. "If they don't put South Park avenue back, I'll arouse the whole south side. The northwest and west sides will be just as angry and we'll sink the entire lot."

Ald. L. G. Grossman [5th] said he also feared for every issue on the list. To cancel the sectional highways now, he said, is "like setting a fine dinner before a man—then jerking it away."

The committee action was a compromise. As a previous meeting a Democratic bloc insisted on the departmental bond issues, while the Thompsonites wanted only the unfinished and new street projects. Thus the plan commission projects went overboard.

### Attacks Avondale Backers.

The Avondale project was attacked yesterday by Ald. Max Adamowski [38th], who on Saturday had been for its appearance on the ballot.

"I hear," he said yesterday, "45 per cent of the cost will come from special assessments. My people won't stand for it. To hell with the subdividers, I say."

"The crowd here Saturday did look like subdividers," Ald. B. A. Cronson [4th] agreed.

"Say, you could have tossed a stone at random and hit one of them on the nose," Ald. George Maypole [28th] added.

Under the plan commission's program, the bond issues for the new street improvements were for initial plans and preliminary work, though the detailed studies have been completed. If the bond issues are not put on the ballot, all of them will be at a standstill indefinitely, they declared.

Cook county will decide at the polls in June whether to levy a tax of ap-

(Continued on page 8, column 3.)

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(Continued from first page.)

proximately one mill on each \$100 for the establishment and maintenance of a veterans' memorial cemetery in the forest preserves. County commissioners, in answer to petitions of various ex-service men's organizations, yesterday ordered County Clerk Robert M. Sweltzer to put the proposition on the ballot.

## WEST SIDERS UNITE

The united west side forward movement, a campaign for civic and business development sponsored by the west town chamber of commerce, was started last night at a meeting of 2,000 business men and citizens held in the John Marshall high school, 3250 West Adams street.

Some of the improvements proposed by the new organization are the widening of North, Western, and Cicero avenues and Roosevelt road; promotion of elevated extensions along North and Belmont avenues, securing of a public library for the North avenue district, development of freight terminals, establishment of west side airports, better street lighting for the entire west side, and the comprehensive widening of Madison street from the river west to Crawford avenue.

"Our organization is endeavoring through this movement to realize the unlimited future that lies before the west side," Mark Shanks, general chairman of the association, said at

the meeting. Others who spoke were Michael J. Faherty, president of the board of local improvements, Ald. John Clark, and Frank S. Rigeimer, attorney for the board of education.

## RED IGNITES, HE DIES.

Thomas Norkus, 41, was fatally burned yesterday morning when the bed in which he was sleeping at 1720 South Union avenue was ignited by a cigaret.