

## *Government & Politics*

A petition was presented to Honorable Mason B. Loomis, Judge of the County Court of Cook County, by the required number of legal voters of the proposed Village of Melrose for the incorporation of the Village. An order was issued by the Court that "an election be held at the Chapel" (the space for meetings at a local store) on the 29th day Of July, A.D., 1882.



**Melrose Park Village Hall in 1908 also housed the Library and Police**

At this election, the question was submitted to the legal voters within the limits of the territory proposed to be incorporated whether they would organize a village under the General Law and under the name of Melrose.

The area considered was the south half of Section 3 and all of Section 10 north of the Chicago & Northwestern RR; i.e.. Ninth

Avenue to Twenty-fifth and the railroad tracks to Division Street.

The votes cast were as follows:

For Village Organization..... 23  
Against Village Organization... 15  
Majority for Village Organization under  
General Law..... 8

Upon the full report of the election (the above being a summary of the report), which was submitted to the Court, Judge Mason B. Loomis ordered "that the said proposed Village, with boundaries mentioned in the petition, therefore on file in the County Clerk's

office, shall henceforth be deemed an organized village." and to be incorporated September 11, 1882.

The Village went under the name of Melrose until 1893 when a movement was inaugurated to have the name changed to Melrose Park. A petition to make that change was presented to the Board of Trustees on the 15th day of February 1893.

This petition was accepted; and the clerk was instructed to advertise for three weeks in the Proviso Vindicator that action on the petition would be taken on the 13th day of March 1893, in the Melrose Christian Association Hall.

It appeared at this meeting that a majority of the citizens were in favor of the change, and an order was passed that the name of the Village of Melrose be changed to Melrose Park. But the Secretary of State did not legalize the name change until May 21, 1894. Since that date, the Village has gone under the name of Melrose Park.

The first President of Melrose Park elected in 1892 was Daniel C. Gojen. He automatically became President of Melrose Park when the Village Board authorized the change of name on March 13, 1893.



**The Melrose Park Village Council in Chambers in 1910**

\*\*\*\*\*