

RAZE OLD HOME ON N. WEST SIDE AS FIRE HAZARD

Dickinson House Built 55 Years Ago.

If houses uttered "famous last words," the last words of the old Dickinson house, a historic landmark on Laporte near Belle Plaine avenue, would have been something like this:

"Bless my soul! What do you suppose those wrecking trucks are stopping here for?"

It would not have had time to say more before the sounds of tapping hammers, splitting wood, and falling boards drowned out all else.

The dilapidated old house had become a fire hazard and an incentive to mischief among neighborhood boys. Since last Halloween, when a fire started in its basement, the Portage Park Chamber of Commerce and Woman's club have united in an effort to have the home demolished.

Its owner, Arthur Dickinson, a pioneer builder of the northwest side, constructed the home on Milwaukee and Belle Plaine avenues nearly 55 years ago. It was one of the first homes in the neighborhood. It was later moved a block west to its present location.

Dickinson died six years ago, his widow now lives on the north side, and the home has been vacant.

Mrs. Herman Klock of the civic department of the Woman's club and Bernard S. Molay of the business

charge of the matter. He made arrangements with the heirs, the cost of demolition being put up largely by the business men.