

THE PRAIRIE DU ROCHER COMMONS.

ALBERT HANSEN

Chicago Daily Tribune (1872-1963); Jul 13, 1933; ProQuest Historical Newspapers Chicago Tribune (1849 - 1985)
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THE PRAIRIE DU ROCHER COMMONS.

Chicago, July 7.—An article published in **THE TRIBUNE** on Friday, July 7, pertaining to the disposal of the commons at Prairie du Rocher, in my opinion, should be worthy of an editorial in your paper.

The six thousand acres of land at Prairie du Rocher belongs to the village, to all the people of the village, and the revenue derived from this land goes to the village. The bill, as passed by the Illinois general assembly, is to permit the sale of the land, subject to the leases now held. This would mean that the people who have leased the land would be able to buy the land at a bargain at the expense of the other people of the village. The money that is now received from the leases is used for the Prairie du Rocher schools. Under this bill, if the land is sold the money from the sales will go to the schools. The sum of money obtained from the sale may aid the schools temporarily, but more is to be gained by the people of the village from leasing than by selling the land. The leases now held expire in 1952. Therefore the village should keep this property until the leases have expired and then lease the land on short term at the highest price obtainable. By doing this the village would hold title to the land and would be money ahead in the long run. The farmers who have leased this land knew they were leasing common property, and that they had no title to the land, nor by leasing it had any option on it. **ALBERT HANSEN.**