



*Thomas S. Young, Fanwood's first mayor, was truly one of the town fathers and his son Horace later became the postmaster of the town. Prior to his death at the age of eighty six he had been honored by the Central Railroad of New Jersey as the oldest commuter to New York on their line.*

The purpose of the club was to oppose the formation of any kind of borough government in Fanwood while the ownership of property and the burden of taxation in Fanwood Township were so unequally divided. They pledged to work for good government without regard to person or parties. Both political parties were represented in the club and all citizens who were in sympathy with the clubs objectives were invited to join."

When Fanwood was a part of Scotch Plains and residents needed street lights installed and roads improved, Mr. Young and George Kyte, father of John Kyte, who was then a member of the assembly, attended a municipal meeting in Scotch Plains. The desired improvements, however, were not approved. Kyte and Young then decided to break off from Fanwood Townships rule and form an independent borough.

In 1894 a Fanwood citizens committee met at the home of F. W. Quereau to talk about the formation of a borough. In 1895 the move culminated in a special act of the state legislature that separated the square mile now comprising Fanwood from the township of Fanwood, which is now called Scotch Plains. The question to establish a borough separate from the Township of Fanwood was debated for almost two years before it came to a deciding vote on Saturday, May 18, 1895. The polls were open from two to seven o'clock and the election was hotly contested by the pro-boroughites and the opposition, led by Captain Benjamin Tuzo. Captain Tuzo and his son, Louis, were not residents of the proposed borough but, since they owned property on either side of King Street along Terrill Road, felt that they were entitled to a vote. Election laws at the time dictated that only residents of the proposed new borough be entitled to vote.

The officers for the first election were H.P. Robinson serving as Judge of Election, A. D. Beeken and William Stanbury as Inspectors J. J. Ellis as Clerk. The board had been chosen so as to divide the positions evenly between those in favor of the proposed borough, Messrs. Beeken and Ellis, and those opposed, Messrs. Robinson and Stanbury.