

WILMETTE LIFE

ISSUED FRIDAY OF EACH WEEK

by

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All communications must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer. Articles for publication must reach the editor by Wednesday noon to insure appearance in current issue.

Resolutions of condolence, cards of thanks, obituaries, notices of entertainments or other affairs where an admittance charge is published, will be charged at regular advertising rates.

Grade Separation will save life Let's have immediate action!

A dozen years ago next Tuesday, November 11, a document was signed that brought to a sudden and welcome close the greatest of human conflicts. The signing of the Armistice called a halt on the most momentous of wars. Next Tuesday puts between us and those tragic days a happy stretch of twelve long years.

Armistice Day

Millions were spent in dollars and lives. Youth with its ambitions and glowing prospects was sacrificed on the altar of liberty. Women were drawn into the awful contest to an extent surpassing that of any other military encounter. Civilization tottered on the edge of extinction, only to recover itself on the cessation of hostilities.

A dozen years have passed since that red letter day in 1918. The results of the war are still plainly visible. The wounded still vividly remind us of the price which the youth of our nation paid for the defense of the nation.

Armistice Day will best be celebrated by gratitude felt and expressed in material ways towards our soldier and sailor heroes.

Books admit children to new worlds of delight, contribute to their happiness, stimulate their imaginations, and leave life-long joyous memories. Good books owned and read in childhood transform existing into living.

When we were very young we welcomed a new book as cordially, as enthusiastically, as we welcomed a brand new pair of skates. And every boy knows the joy of receiving a new pair of skates. The only present that ever thrilled us more than skates was a Weeden stationary engine that would hold real water and manufacture real steam under the warming influence of a real fire. Moreover, it would really run, the running accompanied by a beautiful puffing sound and a damp steamy smell.

Numberless quotations attest the genuine value of good books for children. We had almost said good children's books. At that, the phrase wouldn't have been half bad, because only good children should be given good books. However, a good book might make a good boy out of a bad one.

All of this leads to the very good suggestion: Give books to children for Christmas! Books are worth their weight in gold. At any rate that's true of such

wonderful books as Robinson Crusoe and Treasure Island. And such books can be bought for so little money.

In this connection it may be appropriate to tell our readers that the Wilmette Woman's club in cooperation with other Wilmette organizations is sponsoring a Book Fair to be held at the club building on Thursday, November 20. Doubtless you will find there many good books for children.

Hitch-hiking, by others called thumb-touring, has been disapproved of by Boy Scout leaders. The Boy Scout ideal frowns upon all kinds of sponging, of which kinds hitch-hiking is among the most objectionable. According to Scout law each Scout is to pay his own way, indicating a belief in the old and honorable saying, "Pay as you go, for you go safely so."

Hitch Hiking Disapproved

Drivers who have had experience with thumb-tourists will agree that the Scout attitude is amply justified. Boys and young men who make a habit of soliciting free rides of autoists put themselves by so doing only a step or two above the class of charity seekers. And people can hardly be expected to entertain any considerable degree of respect and tolerance for those who indulge in the habit of begging rides.

Not infrequently boys who are refused rides show their displeasure by hurling at the unwilling driver a choice assortment of words not used in polite society. The autoist who for his own quite sufficient reasons does not grant a hitch-hiker's request, sometimes more like an assertion of rights, is made to understand that he is a near relative of Shylock.

We can see no objection to a walker's accepting a ride if he chooses to do so. Even a Boy Scout would not be blamed for taking advantage of such a voluntary offer. But we're glad to know that Boy Scout leaders have frowned upon hitch-hiking.

We can think of no better brain sharpener than debating. There are better ways of getting information, though in preparing for a debate one has great need of getting accurate and pertinent information. But for the sharpening of one's wits debating surely takes first prize.

Why Debate?

In getting ready for a debate the participants must haunt the libraries, private and public, in their search for relevant information. Books and articles must be attentively studied and their contents summarized and tabulated.

The debaters must then learn their speeches, after assigning to each member of the team his share of the material. Then come the days of careful practice, with their hours of work on effective presentation. And as each speaker grows in power and facility the day of the debate draws nearer, until at last the event itself tries out the varied abilities and weeds out the unfit.

It must gratify the parents of New Trier boys and girls to note the emphasis laid in the school upon debating. Older people know the value of close thinking and persuasive delivery. There is no walk in life in which the skill gained in debating will not prove to be a great advantage.

SHORE LINES

"CARRY ON"

(Reprinted from the magazine "National Defense" issue of November 1930.)

"The United States of America was made a nation by strong and reliant leaders. They entrusted to those who have followed after them, a vast land of limitless resources and potential opportunities.

"Today that heritage of national prosperity and peaceful security can be imperiled only by our pessimism and doubts and by lacking courage to proceed with determination.

"The faith and vision of Washington and Lincoln never faltered; they believed in and by courageous leadership assured the stability and progress of the nation.

"National security and national development are interdependent; any interruption to one jeopardizes the other. For men strong in their faith and confident in the destiny of our country, the command is

"FORWARD!"

The above, we considered, is particularly appropriate as a thought upon the occasion of the 12th anniversary of the Armistice. It is moreover, sound year-round doctrine.

Departed Heroes

*In Flanders Fields, where lie the dead,
I pause and humbly bow my head;
I breathe a simple fervent prayer
For those brave heroes lying there
In Flanders Fields.*

*In Flanders Fields the open sky
Looks down with a protecting eye,
While moon and stars their vigil keep
O'er valiant soldiers as they sleep
In Flanders Fields.*

*In Flanders Fields the poppies bloom;
Souls meet and linger to commune.
I wonder, when we pass their way,
Shall we, too, be as brave as they
In Flanders Fields?*

—Olivia Kingsley.

Herbie Televox, the mechanical man, has made his rounds of the schools in New Trier. Which prompts the brilliant idea that he might be utilized to good purpose in assisting distraught football coaches to overcome Knute Rockne's non-stop aggregation.

"He gained about five pounds on that play," announced the overly excited announcer at one juncture of last Saturday's Purple-Gopher melee; explaining an instant later that he (the announcer) of course meant five yards. Now if he had said "lost," the error would have escaped us entirely.

Without seeming to diet upon unripe fruit of the vineyard, may we venture to boast that we Republicans put over a great victory for the Democrats, a procedure for which we shall expect to receive some sort of recognition. Listening in at New Trier Democratic headquarters on Election night as returns were pouring in (and plenty wet) from various north shore precincts, we could not refrain from listening in on the local selections for a possible successor to Mr. Hoover in 1932. It's been many a year since we've had a President with facial plumage and we doubt very seriously whether we Republicans are going to permit anything of that nature two years hence.

Now that the election is a memory we'll take genuine pleasure in observing the Six-Day Bicycle race. Those fellows get just about as far as Cook county Republicans did last Tuesday.

—MIQUE.