

DOWNERS GROVE REPORTER.

EIGHTEENTH YEAR.

DOWNERS GROVE, DuPAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1901.

NUMBER 5.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

FEBRUARY MEETING HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL MONDAY.

Session a Short One Only Routine Business Being Considered—Proceedings of the Meeting.

Absentees from the February meeting of the village board Monday evening made it almost impossible for the meeting to be held. However, Trustees Bunge, Klein, Woelfersheim and Waples were present, constituting a quorum. President Root and Trustee Pearson were of course absent owing to their business elsewhere, Clerk White was sick and Trustee Kuenzel was otherwise engaged.

Trustee Woelfersheim was made the chairman pro tem; Trustee Waples officiated as clerk, and the business of the meeting proceeded.

The reports of village officers were read and placed on file. Treasurer Rogers' report showed a balance on hand at last report of \$1069.97, received since, \$290.25, expended \$459.52, cash balance on hand, \$1600.70.

Superintendent Sloat of the water and light department reported having pumped 1,803,533 gallons of water during month of January. Coal consumed at the plant was 74 tons, together with 33 gallons of oil.

Claim ordinance No. 100, providing for the payment of claims aggregating \$1,011.37 was read and passed. From water and light fund \$813.37, general fund \$153.37, streets and alleys \$44.63. This includes the payment of \$37.50 semi-annual interest on general improvements Nos. 1, 2, and 3 for \$500 each for purchase of air compressor.

Trustee Bunge, of the committee appointed in the matter of placing an electric light on the lake, reported that the committee did not deem it advisable to do so in view of the fact that the skating season was practically closed.

The same committee also reported against placing an additional street lamp on North Main street, between Warren ave. and Franklin street, for the reason that lamps are now needed in many places and the funds of the department are very low, therefore it was thought best to place no additional lamps at the present time. Trustee Klein reported on having examined the liquor registers of the druggists and having found same to comply with the ordinances. In view of some contention with the local manager of the Chicago Telephone company regarding village use of the lines without toll charge, Supt. Sloat was appointed as representative of the village to use same on business pertaining to the village free of charge as provided by the franchise granted the company. There being no further business the board adjourned.

OFFICIAL JANUARY PROCEEDINGS

Downers Grove, Ill., Jan. 7, 1901

The regular meeting for the month of January, 1901 called to order by Clerk White. President Root being absent it was moved and carried that Trustee Woelfersheim act as president of meeting. Roll call noted present Trustees Bunge, Kuenzel, Klein, Waples and Woelfersheim. Absent, Trustee Hearsall. Reports of Village Treasure Collector and Supt. of Water and Light were read and ordered placed on file. A petition was read from Mr. F. D. Lindley asking permission to take water from Mains on Highland Ave. to his houses on Warren Ave and Rogers street. The matter was referred to Attorney Slusser to draw necessary papers. The following communication addressed to the Clerk was then read: Owing to business arrangements which will necessitate an extended absence from the Village and the probability that I will be unable to attend any further meetings of the Board during my term of office, I beg to tender this as my resignation of the office of the president of the Village of Downers Grove and request you to communicate it to the Board of Trustees at its next regular meeting. I very much regret the necessity of this action and desire to assure you of my continued sincere personal regards. Yours respectfully, (signed) F. A. Root.

Owing to the ordinance providing for special election in cases of vacancy and the short time until regular village election the Board not deeming it wise to call special election upon proper motion resignation was laid on the table. Claim ordinance No. 99 providing for the payment of certain claims was read.

S. Hoffert.....	10.40
Hugh M. White.....	9.20
Bert C. White.....	6.50
M. E. Stanger.....	5.00
Thos. Stanger.....	4.42
Geo. C. Barr.....	1.75
P. A. Lord Lumber Co.....	20.54
W. H. Meritt.....	30.00
M. Slusser.....	15.00
F. J. Kearney.....	20.00

George Hoffert.....	45.00
V. Simonson.....	7.26
Bush & Simonson.....	1.35
E. L. Sloat.....	75.00
Dan Lattimer.....	40.00
Chas. Bitney.....	46.50
Peter Conroy.....	6.24
Mgale Bros.....	8.71
E. W. Slachford.....	66.37
Aldea Electric Light Co.....	21.85
Mertz & Mochel.....	35.20
National Refining Co.....	43.95
General Electric Co.....	2.14
Hughes & Gallup.....	2.29
Neptune Meter Co.....	14.25
Manhattan Steel Const. Co.....	86.18
M. K. Brunson.....	1.00
Burlington Coal Co.....	200.00

Local and Personal Paragraphs.

Sage cheese at Nash's. Additional local news on fifth page. Mrs. R. W. Bond is able to be out after her long illness.

New York buckwheat flour. The same old kind at Nash's.

Thos. Potter received the news of the death of a brother in the west Tuesday. J. L. Ward of Chicago was here yesterday looking after his property interests.

Wilbur Anderson was in the village over Sunday, the guest of his uncle N. DeMila.

A number of the friends of Master John Huling Tuesday night gave him a surprise party.

Miss Payne, who has been a guest of Mrs. O. J. Daily, has returned to her home at Ivanhoe.

Miss Elsie Patterson has been attending the bed-side of her brother in Chicago, who is dangerously ill.

Tom Drew, Chet Kellogg, Oliver Baidelman and Frank Zimmerman are employed at Fullersburg cutting ice.

Geo. Hoffert held the lucky number which won the horse raffled off by Edwin Frank. His ticket was number 28.

The Ladies of the Congregational church will give their regular luncheon at twelve o'clock Thursday, the 14th. All are invited.

The Hinsdale and Downers Grove Basket ball teams will play a game at Assembly hall, Hinsdale, tomorrow, Friday afternoon.

Two sleigh loads of Eighth Grade students enjoyed a sleighing party last Wednesday evening, to the Lacey farm, where a party was given.

Glenn W. Edwards and Will H. Biogdatt attended a Welsh rarebit party at the home of the Misses Wunder at Naperville Tuesday evening.

Several polishers, tapers and varnishers have been temporarily laid off at the piano factory on account of the wood workers being behind with their work.

John Ward, a former resident here and who moved to Oregon, Ogle county, a few years ago, is now a resident of Chicago and occupies a good position in the Cable Piano factory.

Misses Lula and Anna Heintz left on limited Tuesday evening for Denver, where they will make their future home, in the hopes that the mountain climate will benefit the former's health.

The Knights of Pythias will entertain its members and prospective members and ladies with a dancing party in Carpenter's Hall this Thursday, evening. Lauletta Bros. of Chicago will furnish the music.

FOR SALE—CHEAP.—Singer Sewing machine, good as new; latest improvements—drop head; all new attachments warranted good as new and in first class condition. A bargain in every sense of the word. Inquire Reporter Office.

Anton Olsen of Gostyn, is quite sick and gradually growing weaker. He is a sufferer from Bright's disease and has been confined to his bed all winter. Later—Death relieved the sufferings of Mr. Olson this morning. He died at six o'clock.

At the official board meeting of the M. E. Church, Monday evening, a committee was appointed to confer in regard to making some general repairs on the church such as putting in electric lights, frescoing, and renovating the carpets and pews.

Sabbath services at the Congregational church, morning—"The Debt of Love." Evening—"Annual Lincoln Memorial Services."—7 o'clock. Members of the G. A. R. and Downers Grove Guards have been invited. Miss Anna Watten will sing. Special music by the choir.

Saturday was "ground hog" day and not till then according to tradition, could the weather question for the next six weeks be settled beyond dispute. Residents here are at variance as to whether the animal saw his shadow or not. Some maintain that he did and that we will have the full six weeks more of hard winter, while others declare not. The present indications, however, favor the outlook for considerably more winter.

The young people of the Methodist church are to give an Epworth League sleigh ride and social to-morrow, Friday evening. They are to meet in the small lecture room of the church which will be warmed, promptly at 7:30. Sleighs will be provided and take the merry crowds to La Grange and return. We understand that no charge is made for the ride and that all young people will be welcomed until the sleighs are filled. Those who desire further information inquire of Miss Emma Fletcher.

JUDGMENT FOR FIFTY DOLLARS. Quirin Schmidt secured a judgment for \$50 and costs from a jury in Justice Mackie's court Saturday against Bernard Vix for the value of a horse injured while being driven by Vix some weeks ago, and which resulted in the death of the animal. The case was originally brought before Judge Graham and was taken to Justice Mackie on a charge of venue. M. Slusser was attorney for the plaintiff, while Gray & Bunge represented the defendant.

ZENDA ORCHESTRA CONCERT.

Third Concert Given at the Auditorium Tuesday Evening.

The third concert of the Zenda Orchestra was given at the Auditorium on February 5th. The program, as published, was rendered complete and every number was worthy of applause which the small but appreciative audience gave them.

The selections by the Orchestra were harmonious and entertaining; played in a style which exhibited talent, accomplishment and pleasure.

The one vocal number by Mesdames Puffer and Frey was well sung. Fred Sodeburg, solo cornetist of La Grange Orchestra, was introduced to the audience by the Leader, to fill the part given John Shurtz, who is confined to his bed. Sodeburg was given a hearty encore for the artistic execution of his solo.

The "elocutionist, Harold J. Green was a decided hit. He won his audience entirely and gracefully responded to three encores, each of which were so well given, that they were an evening's entertainment of themselves. Mr. Greene desires all the praise given him for he is an artist in his work.

Merry Minstrels, by Voecker was a high class orchestral piece and was well given.

James I. Rounds played with his usual ease. "The Holy City" by L. R. Puffer, as a trombone solo, was interpreted to the pleasure of all.

The program so well rendered was deserving of better patronage.

RIVERSIDE DEATH MYSTERY.

Lying in clump of bushes by the Desplaines river a mile north of Riverside the body of Elmer K. Mills, No. 2124 West Congress street, was found Sunday afternoon. From the appearance of the remains the man has been dead several days. The discovery was reported to the marshal of Riverside, and he notified the parents of the young man in Chicago after having the body taken to an undertaking establishment in Riverside. The body was found by Charles Southward, while the latter was hunting rabbits. He stumbled upon the remains in the shrubbery. The body was in a reclining position and in the lap was a revolver. There was a bullet wound in the temple and the remains looked as if the man had been dead for at least two weeks.

SEW FOR CHARITY.

A number of East Grove ladies have for some time met at each others residences semi-monthly to prepare clothing for distribution among the needy poor of Chicago by the Salvation Army and at Christmas a generous shipment was made and another is nearly ready. Clean cast off clothing of any description will be thankfully received by the ladies and any such contributions may be left at the office of D. G. Graham. That this charity reaches a worthy class may be seen from the following letter to Mrs. H. E. Saunders from A. M. Damon, the general secretary: The barrel of clothing which you sent was received for which we thank you very much; let me assure you they were very welcome and were distributed among the slum dwellers.

CARD TO THE PUBLIC.

The Zenda Orchestra as men of Downers Grove have striven to please their people with pure uplifting evening entertainments, asking only sufficient compensation for the cost of music and expenses. The small audience in attendance at the third concert in the Auditorium, Feb. 5, proved there is very little appreciation of such efforts. As musicians we have devoted time, talent and money to form a musical organization which would find response in enjoyment and encouragement. When such efforts are not supported they will be directed to other ends. We certainly appreciate the patronage given Feb. 5th, and sincerely thank you for your attendance. Yours Truly, S. H. Frey, Director.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS.

There will be a masquerade ball given at Oldfield's hall Saturday evening, Feb. 23rd for the dancing class and its friends. Admission 50 cents a person. Dancing will begin at 8 p. m. Prize march at 10 p. m. sharp. Ladies' and gentlemen's prizes will be awarded for the following, in the order named: Two most elaborate, two most comical, two most original. The class meets every Saturday evening at Oldfield's hall. Instruction from 7:30 to 8:30. Reception 8:30 to 11:30. Admission 30 cents a person, 50 cents a couple. Children's class meets every Saturday 2:30 to 4:30. Admission 25 cents.

For modern monumental work see or correspond with T. Otto Park, 20 Downer Place, Aurora.

FOR CONSOLIDATION.

CONSOLIDATED COUNTY SCHOOLS BEING URGED IN ILLINOIS.

Enlarged School District Proposed with Central Graded Schools where Pupils can be Brought.

The consolidation of school districts in the rural communities, and the creation of larger and better schools, is a subject that is receiving consideration in Illinois and one that deserves general attention. If in each township, or some other territorial division of a county, there could be established a larger graded school with a commodious building well equipped for the purpose, to take the place of the numerous small country schools, the change would be a desirable one if the difficulty of getting the children to and from such a school could be overcome. It is easy of demonstration that such a school, while much better and more desirable, can be conducted much cheaper than several small schools, so that economy as well as a betterment of the opportunities for acquiring education renders the change desirable.

In some states this change has been made and it is giving much satisfaction. Covered wagons, provided with oil stoves to make riding in them comfortable, are used with which to convey the children to and from school. The wagons are large and accommodate twenty or more children. They are propelled with four horses when the road make the draft too heavy for two horses. The expense of running these conveyances, including the pay of the drivers, is defrayed by the enlarged school district, but this cost is saved in despatching with the many small schools. The plan has passed the experimental stage but in Illinois it has not been put in use. The need of it is very apparent.

There are 837 districts in the state where the enrollment of pupils is less than ten to each school; seventy-eight of them where the enrollment is less than five pupils. In Downers Grove township there are twenty districts where the enrollment ranges from five to ten pupils, while in many counties, a poorer showing is made. In some districts the number of children is so small that no schools are maintained during some years.

There are over 400 teachers in the country schools of the state where the average attendance at each school is less than six pupils. It is impossible to advance education with any degree of satisfaction in such small schools, and the money invested in the school buildings and what is required to pay the teachers and maintain the schools, is almost an absolute waste. The subject of consolidating school districts and giving the children of the rural communities the advantage of graded schools, where the higher studies can be economically taught, is one of deep interest, and deserves to be taken hold of earnestly by the law-makers and all persons who want to see Illinois placed on a par with New England and other parts of the country where the improved system is in vogue.

SUNDAY'S BIG STORM.

Downers Grove shut its doors Sunday, shored coal into her stores and furnaces and then sat down to wait the passing of one of the worst snowstorms that has visited this part of the state in recent years. From early in the morning until bed-time the snow fell, almost without interruption, and people not obliged to be on the streets or about their business were well content to stay in their homes and let the driving wind and swiftly falling snow fight out their battle for the possession of all our doors. In consequence, the size of church congregations suffered and several pastors found less than a score of people in their staid audiences. Fully eleven inches of snow fell Saturday night and Sunday, and driven before a northeast gale filled every crevice and piling in huge drifts which made walking nearly impossible. Monday morning, passengers on the early trains, were compelled to wade through drifts almost two feet in depth before the snow plow and shovellers cleared the walks.

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY.

The tickets for the patriotic banquet to be given at the Auditorium will be on sale at the drug store the first of the week. The number of table tickets placed on sale will be limited to 150 and sold at 50 cents each. Tickets for the program only and not including the supper will be sold at 15 cents each until all the seats are taken. The full program will appear in next week's Reporter.

See the Currier, the Graham, the Barr, and other monuments placed by T. Otto Park, 20 Downer Place, Aurora.