

DOWNERS GROVE REPORTER

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CHRISTMAS, 1904

This glad season of the year will soon be with us, and so that all may enjoy it we will have some special bargains for each and every one. Our store will soon be overflowing with Holiday Goods. Come and see them. Take your time and examine the great values we will offer for a little money.

Downers Grove Fair

Telephone 611

28 and 30 South Main Street

COAL · COAL COAL

This is the season of the year when your coal bins should be renewed. We have all kinds of coal for sale. Leave your order early so that you will be provided against a sudden cold spell.

STOVES OF ALL KINDS

We have the best makes and can suit your taste, we feel sure. Our prices are the lowest for the best goods.

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MERTZ & MOCHEL

Downers Grove, Illinois

SOUVENIR OF DOWNERS GROVE JUST ISSUED

An artistically arranged booklet of forty pages, containing a sketch of the early settlement, growth and development of this beautiful suburban residence village, together with many attractive views of its streets, public buildings and residences, and the charming natural scenery of the village and vicinity. Every resident of Downers Grove should possess a copy and send several to friends. Enclosed in envelope, ready for mailing. Price twenty-five cents. For sale at Bush & Simonson's and Carpenter's drug stores, and at The KelmScott Press.

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DOWNERS GROVE, ILLS.

Gossip of the Town

Mrs. Thomas Stevens returned from St. Louis on Monday.

Mrs. B. M. Muzzy and little daughter left last Friday for Los Angeles, California.

Elmer Hartnoff and wife, of Naperville, were guests at A. H. Barnhart's on Thanksgiving day.

Miss Stewart, of Franklin, New Hampshire, will spend the winter with Mrs. J. M. Burns, of Prince street.

On Saturday, November 12, the marriage of Alfred Proctor and Miss Laura Burke was solemnized.

Mrs. Louie Hall and family, who have been living with W. E. Wells and wife, have gone to the city to spend the winter.

On the property of J. M. Burns, 162 Prince street, can be seen an apple tree in full blossom. Quite a unique Thanksgiving visitor.

George Hoffert, of this place, and Miss Anna Pelling, of Lisle, were married on Thursday of last week. They will take up their residence here.

By a decision of the supreme court the city of Elgin must pay Louis Nors \$15,000 and interest as damages for injuries received from a defective sidewalk.

Miss Jeanette M. Dougherty, who spent the fall at the home of senator L. S. Chapman, of Jerseyville, Illinois, is once more at the home of her sister, Mrs. Walker, of this place.

F. W. Farnilo, wife and family, M. Lee Gross, wife and family, of Chicago, and Wesley and Charles Farnilo, of Elgin, were guests at the Methodist parsonage on Thanksgiving day.

Towns and cities are having hard luck with their ordinances regulating the speed of automobiles, the courts usually deciding in favor of the autos because of some radical defect in the law.

This is the time of year when subscribers begin to remember the local newspaper in a substantial manner. Harvest is over, the crops abundant, and everybody feels good, "or fair to middling."

The meadow lark, turtle dove, bluebird and yellow hammer are yet with us, long may they wave! No decent sort of a person would desire to dwell in a land where there are no song birds or woodpeckers.

Much tender home grown beef may be expected during the winter months. Doves of feeders are being brought here that have the frame work upon which to build a vast amount of steaks, stews and roasts.

The Fox river butter company, of Aurora, claim to be the largest shippers of butter in the world, with twenty-six selling branches in the largest cities and 267 country creameries in Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota.

Aurora is to have a new hotel to cost something over \$100,000. It is to be erected on the present site of the Hotel Evans, and Colonel Evans, the owner of that property, turns it in for \$40,000 worth of stock in the new enterprise.

G. N. Remington, of Springfield, Illinois, was a visitor in town last week. Before he left for his home he went to the village president's office and attached his name to the sewer improvement petitions, for properties he owns here.

Entering a burning barn at Riverside to save his automobile, Jerome Ellis, who has records for road running, was obliged to abandon his effort, on Wednesday night of last week, and flee for his life. The barn and its contents were destroyed.

The old chair factory building at the corner of Belmont and Poote avenues has been fitted up as a temporary boarding and lodging house for the gas company's trench diggers. There are upwards of a hundred of them, mostly of Italian nationality.

Thousands of barrels of apples are going to waste this fall, farmers permitting many of them to rot on the ground. This year, while the crop of apples is large, the fruit is not all perfect, and the ground in some orchards is covered with windfalls.

This was a week of entertainment, without doubt, beginning on Monday night with the McClary lecture and followed with the firemen's ball, the Thanksgiving holiday affairs, and the various other attractions, there was crowded into the week a good deal of merriment.

Only one month of shortening days remains in the 1904 calendar. The evenings long and nights longer, will give you plenty time to read current events, romance and history, all of which you can find in the Reporter. Drop into our office and become a subscriber as well as a constant reader.

Only four weeks till Christmas.

John Nash has returned from his southern trip.

John Bond, of East Grove, has moved to Milwaukee.

The little daughter of J. B. Huling is stricken with scarlet fever.

Three weddings in one day—Thanksgiving, is the record for this week.

Some repairs to the roofing will be done at the south side school building.

Obstruct a street and then notice how every team seems to be coming that way.

There are a couple vacant houses in town, but no doubt they will be filled soon.

Mrs. I. S. Reed, of Albion, Michigan, was a guest at Captain Rogers' last week.

D. G. Graham spent Monday at the county town attending the court in session there.

Who broke those "hitching posts" on Main street? Ask the winds that whistle around the corner.

The array of turkeys at the local meat markets did not lead one to think there was any scarcity of the birds.

Mrs. Graham, of Fremont, Indiana, who has been visiting here with relatives, has returned home.

President Tope and cashier Simonson, of the bank, have been visiting at Mount Clemmons, Michigan, the past week.

Miss Courtney E. Dale, of Omaha, Nebraska, came to attend the wedding of her cousin, Miss Kathryn Wermuth.

Prepare to save up your nickels and dimes for those Christmas presents you have been promising for some time past.

The past few weeks of good weather has been very favorable for the contractors who have buildings under way.

Miss Edith Miller, of Chicago, attended the Wermuth Innes wedding and spent Thanksgiving at the home of Mrs. Wermuth.

E. L. Shears left Tuesday with a party for Oklahoma. Some of them will buy land and move if they secure satisfactory propositions.

If you want to see the St. Louis fair you will have to hustle. There is some talk of keeping it open for a few weeks longer, but there is no certainty of it.

Full particulars of the Thanksgiving weddings will appear next week. From what we have already learned, the local pastors were doing a "land office" business in that line.

Reverend H. Booth Hazen preached to the congregations of the Baptist, Methodist and Congregational churches, on Thanksgiving morning, in the Congregational church.

If the open weather prevails for a few weeks longer the gas pipe laying operations from Joliet north and westward from here to Naperville and towards Elgin will be completed.

The new residence on Maple avenue built for J. M. Nargney is one of the prettiest structures erected this year. The Swiss architecture makes it very striking in appearance.

A "Don't Care" shower was given for Miss Kittie Wermuth, Saturday afternoon, at the home of Bessie and Ina Hall. A large number of Miss Wermuth's girl friends met and "showered" her with many useful and dainty gifts.

The Thanksgiving ball at Carpenter's hall on Thursday night was well attended and the young folks tripped the "airy, fairy valse" and "enchanted" two-step till far into the wee small hours of morn.

All who hold tickets for the entertainment course should make the correction on their ticket in the date of the next event, the entertainment to be given by the Chicago Lady Entertainers. It will be on December 17 instead of December 15, as tickets read.

The Firemen's Ball

The firemen held their annual ball on Wednesday evening. They have been having these balls every year for the past seven, but this was the greatest success ever experienced. The old auditorium was lighted up brilliantly, not only by the electric lights but by the many bright and smiling countenances of the joyous crowd that was present. When the grand march was announced, chief Wolfersheim proudly led ninety-eight couples about the floor to the good music provided by Mertz's orchestra. About one hundred and fifty couples in all were in attendance. The firemen from Hinsdale, La Grange and other eastern suburban towns came out and enjoyed themselves immensely. A neat sum was netted by the local fire "laddies," which will be greatly appreciated by them.

Highways are in excellent condition for light driving or hauling heavy loads. The main pikes are solid and comparatively smooth, while the side tracks are velvety and free from dust. Any young man can now guide a horse with one hand, while the other is resting on the lazy back of the buggy seat.

Ninety Miles An Hour

The Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railway company has some very fast engines, as a test showed last week, but it takes better bridges to stand them. A quiet test was made on two different days last week, on a piece of road just east of Hinsdale. A clear right of way was given the two engines, 2908 and 2520, the former having at the throttle R. Dickie and the latter, George Brady. The purpose was to get as high speed as possible out of the engines and then run them over a bridge which is near the Terminal railroad crossing, about four and one-half miles from Hinsdale, and see whether it would stand the test. There was only one car, fitted up with the scientific tools and instruments for the speed testing and other processes. Engine 2908 reached a speed of eighty-one miles per hour for four miles, but engineer Brady opened wide the throttle of 2520 and in two tests made eighty-five and ninety miles per hour. On examination it was found that at the ninety mile test the rails were twisted on the bridge and nearly every tie was split. A staff of men are now engaged in putting in the new rails and ties on the bridge. The test was carried out with the greatest secrecy, and very few of the officials knew of it and not a newspaper man was near.

Among the Churches

St. Andrew's Episcopal Sunday school are contemplating giving an entertainment early in December for the benefit of their annual Christmas festival. Particulars in next week's paper.

At the Methodist church tomorrow Doctor Hart, of Chicago, will preach in the morning and Reverend Charles Reynolds in the evening. The pastor will be at Rockford, where the Methodists are dedicating a new church.

The Woman's Christian Temperance union will meet at Mrs. Batterham's next Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. Mrs. Muench, of Naperville, will give in a report of the state convention. All are cordially invited to attend.

St. Andrew's Episcopal church will celebrate the anniversary of their patron saint by a special service on St. Andrew's day at eight o'clock in the evening. The Reverend John A. Carr will preach and special music will be provided for the occasion. Come and bring your friends. A cordial invitation extended to all.

The subject for the morning service at the Baptist church will be "Burden-bearing." In the evening Reverend Mr. Hazen will give an address on Martin Luther, illustrated by stereopticon views. Mr. Hazen made a special study of this subject while at college and has handled it several times.

Bear in mind that on December the eighth the woman's guild of St. Andrew's church will hold their annual bazaar in Oldfield's hall. An unusual display of pretty and practical articles will be on sale. Light refreshments will be served during the afternoon and supper in the evening. A cordial invitation is extended to all.

On Thursday evening, December 22, at the auditorium, will be given the Christmas cantata, "Mother Goose's Trip to Santa Claus Land." Mother Goose will be accompanied on this trip by "The Old Woman in the Shoe" and her numerous family, "Old King Cole and his fiddlers three," "Jack Sprat and Wife," "Doctor Foster," "Jack and Jill" and many other familiar "Mother Goose" friends. This entertainment will be given under the auspices of the Baptist ladies' aid society, and all who enjoy a hearty laugh and bright, catchy music should not fail to be in attendance. Admission: adults, twenty cents; children, ten cents.

An evening of sacred song will be given in the Downers Grove Congregational church on Sunday, November 27, commencing at five o'clock in the evening. Seats free and all are invited to attend. The program will be as follows:

Organ voluntary.
Song—Congregation.
Prayer.
Anthem, "Seek Ye the Lord"—Choir.
Solo—E. F. Ellert.
Collection.
Song, "If I were a Voice"—Girls' chorus.
Duet—Misses Chambers and Downer.
Anthem, "The Lord Is My Shepherd"—Choir.
Solo—Mr. Griebonow.
Remarks by the pastor.
Song—Girls' chorus.
Duet, "The Voice Divine"—Messrs. Griebonow and Ellert.
Anthem, "Praise the Lord, O My Soul"—Choir.

THEY WANT SEWERS

Interviews With Property Owners
Bring out Many Ideas
About Sewers

BOTH SYSTEMS AT SAME TIME

The Reporter has investigated the sewer proposition pretty closely and finds a unanimous desire on behalf of the property owners for it. Of course tenants want it, too, but they can only offer advice at this time. We find that the general desire is that the two systems should be installed at one time. We have interviewed many and below we print what they say. Those who have not signed the petitions can find the same at Nash's store or at Mertz & Mochel's store. The time is short, so get your name down so as to give the board a free hand to go ahead with the court proceedings.

G. H. Bunge—Am in favor of the sewer improvement. The time has certainly come when Downers Grove should have improvements of this nature. It will bring more people here and the more we get the greater value is added to our property. People will only locate where improvements are made.

C. H. Dicks, of Dicks Tool company—Yes, I'm for it. I have 500 feet that is affected. I am ready to sign any day. As a business man I know what a sewer system and other improvements mean to a town, and as an owner of residential property I believe it will greatly raise the value of property. Many people will not build till they can have sewers. By all means, Mr. Editor, advocate sewers. You can undertake nothing of more general benefit.

A. J. Dent—Yes, I am in favor of the sewers. Have already signed. Consider it would increase value of property in general.

Charles B. Blodgett—I have been cited as opposed to sewers. This is not true. I am in favor of sewers. I have had some recent experience at the county buildings at Wheaton where the sewers were put in some three feet above the "cellars," and therefore there was no drainage. Am in favor if the two systems are put in together. Have not been favorably impressed with the proposed plan of the sanitary sewer proposition, but don't know as I can suggest a better one. If the two affairs are carried out at once I think I shall be in favor of it. Yes, we have got to have improvements.

Jonas W. Tucker—I am particularly in favor of the storm sewers. The others we'll have to build some time, so we should do the job all at once. Our streets then would not be torn up twice. It will cost me about \$700 for my share of the assessment, but I am willing to assist any way I can towards improvements.

W. J. Herring—I certainly am in favor of the sewers. I have about 700 feet frontage. Have always advocated it. As a builder of many years know what it means to property. The two systems should be put in together. The storm water system is just as important as the other. Malaria is just as dangerous as sewer gas, and if sloughs and bogs are allowed by no storm sewerage we are in great danger. I know there are many just like myself. We want the sanitary sewers, but we shall insist on the storm sewer going in also. There need be no delay now and the two contracts can be let at the same time. We don't want to put a straw in the way of those wanting sanitary sewerage, but we want the storm water system at the same time. If this is not done I believe there will be some who will impede the work with injunctions.

Illinois Lumber and Construction company, per W. J. Herring—Allow me to say, Mr. Editor, that my sentiments expressed on my own behalf on the sewer matter are the same as those held by this company. We have 500 feet frontage and feel the same here as I do in regard to my own property. We want sewers, but we want both systems and the jobs done at one time.

Mrs. Ella Childers—Yes, I will sign the petition when it is brought to me. I have 100 feet. We should have modern improvements here.

C. F. Davis—I have always stood for modern improvements ever since I came to Downers Grove. I made a long fight for the improvement of Main street, and we all know what it has been to the village. Do your best, Mr. Editor, for the sewer system and you will be helping along a much needed improvement.

W. S. Carpenter—I am in favor of the sewer project. I have only 75 feet and have signed the petition. Wish I could get them and would be willing to pay my share tomorrow if there was no

Continued on Page Four