

DOWNERS GROVE REPORTER

VOL. XXIV.—NO. 14.

DOWNERS GROVE, DU PAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, APRIL 6, 1907.

\$1.50 PER YEAR

News of the Neighborhood

James Adams is building a house near the lake.

Mrs. F. W. C. Hayes has moved back to town.

F. N. Lucore is building a new house on the south side.

John Weemer, a former citizen, has moved back to town.

Dr. Tope is able to be out again, after a few days' illness.

C. H. Wells has leased the Hawkins house next to the postoffice.

Miss Ella Baker, of South Washington street, is on the sick list.

C. V. Wolf's new residence on Prairie avenue is about completed.

C. K. Roe has been treating the streets to a much needed scraping.

John L. Rand, of Bowen, Ill., is visiting his sister, Mrs. C. A. Bush.

Mrs. Mary Lyon celebrated her eighty-eighth birthday on Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Smith spent Easter with Mr. Smith's parents in Paw Paw, Illinois.

Mrs. Esther Smart is having the lawn about her house graded down in conformity with the walks.

F. N. Young has leased the house recently vacated by C. V. Wolf, until his new house is completed.

W. H. Barnhart is having his residence on Curtiss street raised up and a furnace put in the basement.

L. Moyer will move to La Grange, and his son, H. L. Moyer, goes to New York, where he has a good position.

The house on East Curtiss street known as the Venard house is being repaired. A new front will be added.

Mrs. J. N. Modaff has gone to Aurora for a few weeks. Her little son is not very well and a change of air is being tried.

The contractor for the extension of water mains on Randall, Lyman and other south side streets has begun operations.

The Arcadian club will meet at the home of Miss Edith Chestnut to-night (Saturday). All members are requested to be present.

All the Dunne buttons that were in evidence in town the past week have gone out of sight, like the carry robin caught in a snow storm.

Mrs. M. Veard, of Main and Lincoln streets, will entertain the members of the St. Anthony Society on Wednesday afternoon, April 10.

George Hendrickson will leave soon for Oregon, where he has four hundred acres.

Ed. Huntington, as the story goes, has been trying on hats in several stores in town and in Chicago, and all are too small—cause, a boy. Mother and son are doing well and their many friends join in congratulations.

George M. Allison has moved into his new home recently purchased from J. W. Tucker, on Warren avenue, next to Capt. T. S. Rogers' residence. Mr. Tucker has bought the John Moore house on North Main street and has located thereto.

The board of education held a meeting on Tuesday night and transacted business. B. C. White was made election manager. He is to arrange for a caucus. The election occurs on April 20. Messrs. Dove and White are the directors whose terms expire.

The official board of the Methodist church held a meeting on Monday evening and accepted the invitation to the union services to-morrow at the Baptist church, where Rev. Dr. B. L. Prescott will preach to the old soldiers in memorial of the battle of Appomattox.

The village board held a meeting on Friday evening of last week and transacted the business that had accumulated and would not go over till the regular session. An ordinance was passed to compel the C. B. & Q. to put in a subway and overhead bridge on East Maple avenue.

On Thursday evening of last week, Mr. and Mrs. John Moore were entertained with other friends at the L. M. Cook home. Progressive "flinch" was played and an enjoyable evening spent. Mr. and Mrs. Moore have sold their residence on North Main street and leave this week for La Grange, where they will make their future home.

The bill collector for the Chicago papers has made his rounds of a portion of the village is still at the balance of it. If you were not at home or did not have the money be sure to bring it to the office, 24 South Main street (rear Naramore & Foster's office) to-day as payment must be made before the tenth of the month to the Chicago publishers and we must ask our patrons to do likewise, as we have not the capital to carry accounts over.

It is hoped that the election that is to be held on April 16 for the village will be one that will have no "mud slinging." This paper takes no part in political affairs when there is no crisis on hand. If the town was in danger by the election of any person or persons we would so tell our readers. All the gentlemen nominated at

dred acres of land and a lot of stock. Mr. Hendrickson leaves a lot of friends.

The Harmony orchestra will give a dance to-night, Saturday, at Modaff's hall. This will be their last one this season and everybody is invited to attend.

John Rutherford is moving to La Grange to live. Mr. and Mrs. Rutherford have lived here for twenty-two years and they leave a host of friends behind.

Public hearing will be held at the village hall on April 11 for the pavement of Warren, Highland, Belmont and part of Foote street with a brick pavement.

The pupils of Miss Lockwood's room at the schools gave a rendition of a play entitled "King Arthur's Court," at the auditorium on Friday afternoon. All did well.

Rev. Dr. Farniole has closed his special services at West Pullman. Nearly thirty people united with the Methodist church through his and the labors of Rev. Dr. Gale.

A number of little girls met at the home of J. M. Hiel, on Wednesday, to celebrate the birthday anniversary of his young daughter. A genuine good time was spent by all the young people.

Naper Post, No. 468, will assemble at their hall at seven p. m. sharp, on Sunday, April 7 and march in a body to the Baptist church to attend a patriotic service in commemoration of Appomattox day.

Moyer and company's goods have been shipped to Chicago and it is reported that V. Tholia will lease the store formerly occupied by them and handle ready-made clothing as well as men's furnishings.

Tickets for the Baldwin illustrated lecture on April 18 are on sale now. Members of the ladies' library association and women's club will supply you. The purpose is a good one and all should patronize it.

A new weekly will soon be started at Wheaton. It is to be known as the DuPage County News. John B. Norman, a newspaper man of merit, will be its editor and proprietor. We wish Mr. Norman success.

Mr. Lempe will move to the house now occupied by H. L. Moyer and Dr. Roberts will move to the present home of Mr. Lempe. W. H. Barnhart and his son, Allan, will move to the Barnhart house on Curtiss street.

Not only did some of the voters "scratch" Mr. Neidig's name on the ballot on Tuesday, but Mr. Roger and Mr. Webster and Mr. Ruchty were treated likewise. The name of John Mohr was written in on one ballot.

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THE TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL.

The question of establishing a township high school is now before the voters of the township. The election for or against such school will take place at the same time and place as the election of township school trustees, April 13. All of the necessary steps have been taken.

The villages of Downers Grove and Hinsdale agree on the desirability of establishing a single high school in the township which shall amply meet the wants and needs of all, but these villages have never been able to agree upon a location. The people of Downers Grove village and the township agree that Greggs is the proper location for such a school, while some of the people of Hinsdale, who have had control of the matter, have insisted that the school should be located at Hinsdale and at no other place. The location of the school at Hinsdale would be illegal, as the statute requires that such township school shall be located centrally. The statute is as follows: "It shall be the duty of the township board of education to establish at some central place, most convenient to a majority of the pupils of the township, a high school for the education of the more advanced pupils."

When the township board of education have located the school, their choice must be approved by the voters of the township. It is plain from all this that the contention of some of the people in Hinsdale that the school should be located there, is illegal and in propriety should never have been presented. It is only just to say that the board of education of Hinsdale did not present this claim.

The arguments that have been presented against the location of the school at Greggs have been and are founded upon prejudice and ignorance and were presented to confuse and prejudice the minds of the people. A good illustration of an ignorant and captious argument is that presented on the question of center of population. The statute quoted above, indicates where the school must be located. The statute is mandatory. One who carefully reads the statute ought not to have much to say about "centers" of population.

Equally as absurd is the argument on "insurance," "sanitary arrangements," "the cost of construction," "roads and sidewalks." All of these items can be provided as well at Greggs as at any other point in the township and at less cost. The idea that it will cost more to build at Greggs than at Hinsdale or elsewhere in the township is an argument based upon anything but good sense and knowledge. The suggestion that insurance could not be obtained on a building at Greggs is an imposition upon the intelligence of the readers of the Hinsdale report.

The statement has been made that the site at Greggs is not suitable. It has been said that it is low. The fact is that it is the highest point between Chicago and the Mississippi river, according to the surveys of the Burlington railway and the United States survey service. There is not a man, woman or child in Du Page county, or anywhere else, but would be struck with the natural beauty of Greggs. The drainage is perfect. It is right on the divide between the Mississippi system and the basin of the great lakes. The surrounding landscape is surprisingly beautiful. Notwithstanding all that has been said against this place as the location of a township high school, it must be acknowledged that it is an ideal place for such school. Here every want of pupil and teacher could be provided for with the least possible expense. The fact that the school would be located outside the villages is one of the strongest points in its favor. When one understands that the country is the place for a school of this sort, where the pupils can come into close and constant contact with nature under such beautiful environment, he will appreciate the strength and reason of the argument here made, and the utter ignorance of the argument presented in the Hinsdale report.

A great deal has been said about the matter of transportation. There is just one thing about transportation that must be admitted, and that is, it will cost money. In some cases this will be a burden, but it is a burden that is being borne by many another. The school cannot cross your threshold but you must go to it. By so doing you gain advantages which compensate for the trouble and expense.

All the other arguments in the matter of transportation about few trains, etc., are hardly worth noticing. They were only presented to fill out the report.

Another argument has been presented by Hinsdale to prejudice the minds of those interested in the establishment of a township high school. They say that Downers Grove is forcing the issue upon Hinsdale. It is time that Hinsdale called upon Downers Grove and presented the question of establishing a township high school. That hardly looks as though Downers Grove was "forcing the issue upon Hinsdale." Downers Grove board of education called upon the board of education at Hinsdale to talk the matter over with them. They were cordially received, a petition was presented at this meeting and it was agreed then and there that a petition should be circulated in both villages. Downers Grove went ahead in good faith, secured the requisite number of names, when all at once word comes that Hinsdale will not circulate a petition, but they will accuse Downers Grove of "forcing the issue upon Hinsdale."

Downers Grove raised this question for the purpose of establishing a township high school according to the provisions of the law. According to the report of the committee at Hinsdale the Downers Grove people consider themselves generous. This may be another error that has crept into that altogether untrustworthy and prejudiced report, but they do want a fair hearing and are entitled to it. They do not think it a fair deal that some of the people of Hinsdale should make one sided reports, and call up an election on a school matter that involves practically the same question as the election on the township high school question, when they had agreed to circulate the petition. It is submitted that it is not fair to accuse Downers Grove of "forcing the issue upon Hinsdale."

The desirability of a modern and well supported high school which would meet the demands of all the pupils of the township of Downers Grove is admitted by everyone.

Such school should be furnished instruction of such a nature that the young men and women would be equipped for the battle of life. To establish such a school required a certain amount of generous self-sacrifice and the application of the principal "one for all and all for one."

Such a school cannot be established if selfish motives control. There must be concession on all sides. In the long run each man who does something that helps some less favored boy or girl secure a better advantage in life, is compensated, and such a school established midway between Hinsdale and Downers Grove would be a credit to those two villages as well as to the whole township. It would be a much better solution of the school problem of the township than the selfish and inefficient maintenance of separate schools in each village.

The maintenance of such a school would be much less costly than that of separate schools, while the advantages gained would far exceed those of separate schools.

One of the many convincing arguments against maintaining separate and independent high schools in each village, is that the valuation of taxable property is not sufficient to maintain each school. This has been proved each year for ever so long. There is no use of telling any one that fact, though the Hinsdale committee have tried to make it appear otherwise. If further argument were necessary it could be given.

For the benefit of some who may not have given the matter attention it may be well to state that the valuation of the school township of Downers Grove is about one million dollars. The township high school board of education, when elected, would have power to tax this valuation as high as 2 1/2 per cent for the purpose of running the township high school. This same board would have power to bond the township to build the high school and purchase site to an amount which the people of the township must sanction by a vote. The state law places a limitation upon the amount of bonds that can be issued upon any valuation.

The whole matter of establishing a township high school is wholly within the discretion of the people of the township. The law is so framed that the people must place their sanction upon the whole matter. The whole question is this—Would a township high school located at Greggs meet the requirements in every respect, better than any other arrangement? When this question is decided by a voter, he should place all selfish and temporary considerations aside, and think of his own career in the past, how such a high school would have been to his advantage, and then determine whether he is willing to do all he can for the boys and girls of to-day.

It is time that provision is already made in our high schools for instruction for all who present themselves, but it is not true that our courses of study offer such branches and in such a way as to meet the demands of a large number. There should be no discrimination in the matter of branches. For the people of Downers Grove township there is no other present situation of the school question, so safe and satisfactory as the township high school.

Among the Churches

The ladies of the East Grove Methodist church will hold an "experience social" to-night at the home of Mrs. Collier. The proceeds are to be used for a carpet for the church.

There will be the usual services at St. Andrew's Episcopal church on Sunday, April 7, Sunday school at two p. m. Evening prayer at three p. m. A cordial invitation to all. Strangers especially welcome.

At the Methodist church to-morrow, Sunday, April 7, class meeting at ten a. m., preaching services at ten-thirty a. m., followed by reception. Sunday school at twelve, junior league at three p. m. Epworth league at six-thirty. No evening service. All members will please go to the union service at the Baptist church.

At the Baptist church, Sunday, April 7, the pastor, Rev. B. L. Prescott, will preach a short sermon at the morning hour. Reception of members and communion will follow this Sunday school and B. Y. P. U. at the usual time. A seven-thirty will be commemorated the forty-second anniversary of the surrender of General Lee at Appomattox. Rev. Dr. Prescott was present at this occasion and will give reminiscences of the important event. Everybody invited.

The Easter services at the Methodist church were well attended and appreciated. C. K. Roe had the children well trained and rendered a delightful program in the morning. The sacred concert in the evening was a great success. Professor Eliert had charge and each member in the choir did well. Rev. Dr. Farniole gave a short discourse, on the Easter idea. During the day's services special offerings were made for mission work and about two hundred dollars was realized.

Next Sunday morning at the Congregational church the morning subject will be "The Angel's Rebuke to Certain Galileans." At the close of the morning service the rite of baptism will be administered, after which there will be admission to membership immediately followed by sacrament of "Lord's Supper." A men's club is under way of organization. A leader has been secured who promises this new organization will be both helpful and instructive. First session next Sunday morning. You are welcome. Come and see for yourself.

St. Andrew's Men's Club. T. B. Baldwin will continue his descriptive story of "Two Men and a Camera in Mexico." In the club room of St. Andrew's church on Thursday evening, April 4th, at 8 o'clock. The story will be illustrated by a fine collection of stereoscopic views. The first section of Mr. Baldwin's interesting narrative was given a few weeks ago, before the Men's club. Mr. Baldwin is a pleasing and fluent talker and is especially entertaining in dealing with the humorous side of his experiences. A good time is assured to all who attend.

Easter with the Evangelists. The Easter services this year at the German evangelist church were well long to be remembered by both old and young. Splendid music was provided for the occasion and consisted of vocal duets, trios, quartets and anthems and the rendition was good. In the evening the services were in both the German and English languages. The church was beautifully decorated for the occasion.

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