

DOWNERS GROVE REPORT

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DOWNERS GROVE, DU PAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, JANUARY 22, 1913.

WEDNESDAY

GIRL'S PHYSICAL CULTURE LEAGUE

On Monday evening of this week nearly fifty girls responded to the invitation extended to them last week through these columns, and unanimously voted to become a permanent organization for the advancement of physical culture.

Maud Mertz acted as chairman of the meeting, while Ruth Boydston as secretary made good use of her "short hand."

First, there was a short discussion of the purpose and scope of the proposed organization, resulting in a unanimous vote that a committee of three be chosen by acclamation to retire for fifteen minutes and draw up a simplified set of by-laws. With a very slight amendment these by-laws were accepted by the meeting, and the "Young Women's Physical Culture League" was launched.

The next business in order was the election of permanent officers as provided for in the by-laws, and the independent spirit with which the girls voted for intimate friend or comparative stranger justified election by acclamation. The result is a representative group of which we are justly proud:

Harriett Prince, president.
Elizabeth Willis, vice president.
Hattie Bryce, secretary.
Ella Mertz, treasurer.
Madaline Hughes, business manager.
Nora Lusher, assistant manager.
With the chairman as cheer leader, nine tabs were given for the officers. Next, a petition drawn up previous-

ly was submitted by the chairman for consideration and discussion. This was, in form, a request to be presented at the next meeting of the board of education, asking that the League be allowed a certain use of the school gymnasium.

This petition was approved as read, and after adjournment was signed by the forty-two charter members.

Will not the men and women of Downers Grove stand with the young women of this organization? We hope so.

FIRE DESTROYS BARN ON VENARD FARM.

A fire starting from an overturned lantern destroyed the large barn, silo, other outbuildings and burned two young helpers on the farm of Chas. Venard, north of town, Monday noon. Mr. Venard was in the baywood hunting eggs and had started to climb down the ladder with the lantern over his arm when the handle came off, scattering burning oil over the hay. He made heroic efforts to quench the flames but could not get water quick enough.

The entire contents of the barn, including hay, grain, harnesses and farming implements besides a large straw stack, a silo built last summer, one-third filled with silage, and two heifers are a total loss. He had insurance amounting to \$1,400 on the barn and contents, but this will not cover one-third of the loss.

His neighbors and a few town people responded to the telephoned alarm but could not save anything from the burning structure. They kept the roof of the house saturated with water, however, to keep it from catching fire from sparks flying from the barn and straw stack.

ATHLETIC CLUB IS A SUCCESS

That unusual interest is being shown in the Downers Grove Athletic Association was proved by the large attendance at a meeting held in the high school room Monday night. Over fifty representative young men of the town were there, and the organization of the club was completed. By-laws and a constitution were adopted. Professor Butler and L. B. Wells of the school board being satisfied with one or two minor exceptions, that the association, as organized, would prove a big benefit to the young fellows and would interest older men in athletics. There have been thirty-one entries at this writing and more are pouring in every day. Get in the band wagon and push this project along. An application blank filled out and signed, handed to one of the officers of the association would be the best way to do this. One dollar and fifty cents is all that is necessary, 75 cents for initiation fee, and 75 cents for the first quarter's dues.

It is planned to engage in all branches of outdoor and indoor athletics, besides having a social side to the association. Basketball, indoor baseball and other teams will be organized and begin practice at once. Any male resident of the school district is eligible for membership, and is extended an invitation to join.

Messrs. Robinson and Hawley will have complete charge of the gymnasium at all times while occupied by the association, and will pick candidates for teams and direct all athletic sports. They are members of the high school faculty and well fitted for this work, Mr. Robinson having coached the high school football team to numerous victories in the season just passed.

Let's all get out and swell the membership.

OLD RESIDENTS PASS AWAY

MRS. WM. H. MERTZ.

Louise (Grass) Mertz was born in Dalhousie, Alsace-Lorraine, France, on Jan. 11, 1843. On the 28th day of May her father, Philippe Jacques Grass, his wife and infant daughter, Louise, who was then 16 months old, sailed from the port of Havre de Grace to America. They eventually settled at Lisle, Ill.

On Dec. 21, 1866, Louise Grass was married to William Harrison Mertz. Three daughters were born to them. Mrs. Mertz united with the Congregational Church at Lisle when a young mother and continued an active member. Upon taking up her residence at Downers Grove her membership was transferred to the Congregational Church here. Although her life was devoted to the welfare of her family and her home, she was a woman of strong character, and her interest in the events of the day, even in her prolonged illness, never flagged.

Her remarkable memory, her keen convictions and her bright comments made her most interesting to her friends. In January, 1909, her health failed and an active life was brought to a pause, awaiting the call of the Master. On last Wednesday morning—Jan. 13—at the age of 72 years and 2 days—she entered her peaceful sleep.

Her husband, William H. Mertz; her three daughters, Miss B. M. Mertz, Mrs. A. F. Bordwell and Mrs. L. E. Jones, and a sister, Mrs. George Willard, survive her.

The funeral services were conducted by Rev. Paul G. Viehe at the residence and interment was made at Lisle cemetery.

The floral tributes were many and most beautiful.

MRS. D. G. GRAHAM.

Peacefully, calmly, with a faith that knew no faltering, another of the village's loved ones passed into the larger life last Thursday noon, when death claimed the mortal frame of Mrs. D. G. Graham of Gilbert avenue.

A resident of Downers Grove since 1889, Mrs. Graham had a large circle of friends, and mourning was general when the tidings of her death came.

From childhood she was identified with church work and was an earnest member of the Congregational church, with which her late husband, Judge D. G. Graham, was also connected. She was in the best sense of the word a true Christian, firm in her belief with an unshakable faith and yet with a broad tolerance which could always see the good in others. Her deeds of kindness were many and those in distress often received the comfort of a helping hand and a cheering word from her.

Her death came after an illness of six weeks, which expert specialists could not overcome, although an operation was resorted to, and for weeks she was attended at the Presbyterian hospital. Her malady was deep seated and gradually sapped her strength so that the end came like an infant falling asleep, tired of the long day.

Funeral services were held Saturday morning in the First Congregational church—the church she loved so well within whose walls she had worshipped for twenty-six consecutive years. The Rev. Paul G. Viehe officiated and spoke feelingly of the example set by the life of the one who had passed from worldly ken.

Interment was in the family lot in the Plano, Ill. cemetery, beside her husband and her children, Adelbert Graham and Mrs. Jeannette Henning. Mary Ann Graham was born Nov. 3, 1844, in Reynoldsburg, O., and was married to David Gordon Graham, May 3, 1865. With her husband she came to Illinois in 1872, settling first in Sandwich and a year later moving to Plano, where they lived until 1889. She is survived by her daughter, Mrs. Edith G. Blodgett of this village, and five grandchildren, Clara, Ruth, Edgar, Gordon and Effie Henning, of Plano.

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY BANQUET

The ladies of the Methodist church have already made their plans for the annual banquet on Washington's birthday. As the anniversary comes on Monday this year, it will be possible to use the exact date for the banquet.

The address will be given by Judge McKenzie Cleland of Chicago, who will speak on "The Newer Justice." This is a subject on which the judge can speak with authority, and one on which he very frequently lectures under the management of the Redpath Lyceum Bureau. A gentleman who heard the lecture recently says it is well worth more than the price of the banquet.

There is every evidence that the annual banquet, which has come to be one of the time-honored institutions of our village, will be fully up to the standard set in former years.

CHILD LIFE STUDENT LECTURE

Mrs. Gudrun Thorne-Thomsen, Formerly Head of the Children's Story Department of the University of Chicago, to address the Downers Grove Woman's Club Wednesday, February 3.

Downers Grove has for many years taken a wonderful interest in its children, how they are housed, how clothed and how taught. Its people have insisted that there is and can be nothing too good for the little ones. Further emphasis will be put on the importance of the child life of the village in the lecture of Mrs. Gudrun Thorne-Thomsen, who is to address the Woman's Club Wednesday afternoon, Feb. 3, on "Stories for Children—Their Ethical Influence."

Mrs. Thomsen is one of the few women in America who have made a life study of the child particularly of the effect which stories and tales have on the infant mind. For years she was at the head of the child story department of the University of Chicago and there made folk tales and children's stories her special province.

Last fall she spoke at the kindergarten in Grove street and her auditors then will be glad to have an opportunity to hear her again on another phase of the child study which she makes so interesting and instructive. In order to help defray the expenses of the lecture an admission fee of twenty-five cents will be charged to visitors.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

Having been requested by a number of citizens of this county to make the announcement, at this time, I take this opportunity to publish, through the press of Du Page County that I will be a candidate for Judge of the Circuit Court to succeed myself at the coming judicial election.

At the same time I wish to express to the voters of this county and judicial circuit my sincere appreciation of their past generous and loyal support. The people themselves must decide whether I had merited that support. My record in office shows whether I have served the people as a judge in a manner befitting that office.

I have tried to perform the duties imposed upon me conscientiously and impartially toward all, and I have decided all cases which came before me in the light of the law as I understood the law.

If my service during the past six and one-half years as Circuit Judge have been satisfactory, I respectfully ask to be re-elected to that office. Trusting that my past experience will be an assurance of greater efficiency.

Respectfully,
MAXIMILIAN SLUSSER.

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50c 63 in. quality Damask, per yard	.42
65c 64 in. quality Damask, unbleached, per yard	.45
85c 68 in. quality Damask, bleached	.65
1.25 70 in. quality Damask, bleached, per yard	.95
22x22 in. 2.50 quality napkins, per dozen	2.19
22x22 in. 3.15 quality napkins, per dozen	2.65
22x22 in. 3.25 quality napkins, per dozen	2.75
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