

LOCAL NEWS



Fred Eichhorst is entertaining his sister from Sag this week.

Mrs. Swearingen spent a few days visiting friends in Chicago this week.

Mr. Kittell of Chicago was a visitor in Downers last Saturday.

List your real estate with the Reporter if you want it sold.

Miss Johnson was the guest of Miss Maud Manley for the week-end.

Miss Ruth Kidwell returned on Monday from a visit at Lafayette, Ind.

Mr. Dunn of East Grove is still very sick.

Mrs. Fickey has gone back to the sanitarium at Battle Creek.

Miss Ada Pinkel of Elgin spent Sunday with Mrs. L. L. Hannun.

Miss Winnifred Richards spent Sunday in Chicago visiting friends.

Mrs. Arthur French, of Clyde, spent Wednesday with Mrs. A. L. Lynch.

The Misses Ruth Diener and Dewitt entertained the Delta Sigma Phi girls last week.

Mrs. Laura Curtiss has fully recovered from her fall and is able to walk out and again be with her old friends.

Mrs. Jennie Cross has returned to her home in Ottawa, after an extended stay in Downers Grove and Chicago.

Miss Floss Watts entertained several girls from the office Tuesday night, it being her birthday.

Send in those little personal items you like to see published in your home paper.

Mrs. Hulbert Jones won first prize on Rhode Island Reds at the Aurora poultry show.

Poster Hubbard of Congress Park spent Sunday at the home of his parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Fickey entertained some friends from Chicago last Sunday.

W. H. Edwards has been confined to his home on Maple avenue by sickness.

Mrs. Chas. Bliss and Mrs. N. P. Perron spent Tuesday at a birthday luncheon in Chicago.

Miss Henrietta Wolfersheim entertained friends from Naperville on Sunday.

Miss Evelyn Brown entertained company from Indiana Harbor and Chicago last Sunday.

Mrs. Russell Davis and Mrs. C. E. Van Bynum spent Tuesday in Chicago.

Mrs. John Rutherford, Mrs. Huling and Miss Margaret start for California March 1.

Mr. W. E. Wharton, of Columbus, Ohio, was the week end guest of Frank and Harry Lynch, of Oakwood avenue.

Harlan Snyder visited with old friends and relatives in Omaha last Sunday.

Albert Nichte of Crown Point, Ind. and Albert Schuerman of Manilla, Iowa are visiting their aunt, Mrs. Geo. Selig.

Miss Cora Heitz spent a week with friends at Earlville having a most enjoyable time.

Mr. Jesse Frank of Aurora was the guest of his sister, Mrs. Fred Reese, of Oakwood avenue, last Sunday.

Mrs. Beck, of Berwyn, was a visitor at the Blackmann, Swearingen home the fore part of the week.

Mrs. Warren Devereux, of Aurora, spent Wednesday with Mrs. S. J. Perkin of Railroad street.

Mrs. Pack Hicks and Mrs. Leonard Hicks of Chicago spent Sunday at the homes of W. R. McGilgibey and T. H. Rayner.

Mrs. Alice Johnson, who was so seriously hurt at Berwyn falling down stairs, is slowly improving under the care of Dr. Bebb.

Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Olsen returned Sunday from Essex, Iowa, where they went to attend the funeral of Olsen's father.

The new curtain at the High School was installed last Saturday and will add greatly to the appearance of our new assembly room.

A sleighing party from the Northwestern College at Naperville stopped at the Wright Hotel last week and enjoyed an oyster supper.

Mrs. Russell Davis, of Janeville, Wis., visited with Mrs. C. E. Van Bynum last week, Mr. Davis coming for over Sunday.

The Social Committee of the M. E. Philatheas met last Tuesday with Miss Richards, to plan their work for February.

The many friends of Mr. Axel Blodgett of Waukegan will be pleased to hear he is improving after his illness, although still confined to his home.

Dorothy Clithero was operated on for appendicitis Sunday night at the West Side Hospital, in Chicago. She is doing as well as can be expected.

The Frenkenfeld family moved into the Miller flat on Forest avenue Monday. They will reside there until the new store building is completed.

If you are interested in children you should not fail to hear an interesting story of children's stories by Mrs. Gudrun Thorne-Thomsen next Wednesday afternoon.

Mrs. M. A. Sacksteder was called to Ohio by the death of her mother, Mrs. Emily R. Sacksteder, which occurred at Woodlawn Farm, Mechanicsburg, Ohio, January 24.

Miss Leona Beideman of Naperville was entertained very pleasantly on Saturday, Jan. 23, at the home of Miss Lena Hubbert on West Maple avenue.

Need some calling cards? Bring your order right here to the Reporter office, as we do either engraved or type printed society printing and can please you.

The Ladies' Aid of the Evangelical Church (Grove street) enjoyed a bob ride to Hinsdale Wednesday morning and held an all-day meeting at the Lehigh home there.

The play at the High School will have 125 of our young people on the stage and is the most elaborate home talent performance that Downers Grove has ever attempted.

Mrs. J. W. Brown entertained Mrs. John Smart and Miss Florence of La Grange and Miss Helen Hiser of Naperville and Mrs. Bert White and Miss Dorothy Tuesday evening.

Have you any real estate in Downers Grove you want to sell? List it with us; we will find a buyer for you. Send or phone for one of our description cards and we will do the rest.

The M. E. Philatheas will hold their regular business meeting and social for February at the home of Mrs. E. L. Dickerson. All members are invited to be present.

Rev. Mr. Allingham, superintendent of home missions of the Congregational Church at Denver, Colo., and formerly pastor of the local Congregational Church, was a caller in Downers last week.

What fairy tales should be told to children and what should not will be made clear in the lecture of Mrs. Gudrun Thorne-Thomsen next Wednesday afternoon.

Albert J. Nelson returned home from a trip through the South which has lasted since the holidays. He reports the thermometer in New Orleans registering from 60 to 70 degrees during his stay there.

John Riddler had the misfortune to fall, on Washington street, last Saturday, suffering injuries which confined him to his room for several days. We are pleased to hear he is able to be about again.

Jack White received an interesting letter from Mr. and Mrs. John Hawks, who are in Honolulu, T. H., telling of the balmy weather and about eating a variety of melon which grows on trees called papia.

Miss Lydia Mayer, daughter of Rev. J. J. Mayer, formerly of Downers Grove, who has been visiting with the Misses Clara and Laura Selig the past week, returned to her home at Niles Center, Friday.

The spectacular musical fantasy, "Fi-Fi in the Toy Shop," Feb. 5 and 6, is being rehearsed vigorously and our young people are fast becoming proficient in their parts under A. C. Meyer of Chicago.

Mr. Ralph Haggard, youngest son of Dr. Haggard, formerly of Downers Grove, died in Chicago at the Henrotin Hospital, Monday, Jan. 11, following an operation. Dr. Haggard and the young wife took the remains to her old home in Nebraska.

The 48 fairies in "Fi-Fi in the Toy Shop" represent our little people from all sections of the village, and if you want to see a sight worth looking at go and see them at the new High School assembly room, Feb. 5 and 6, where they will be in all their glory of youth and beauty.

A. C. Meyer is engaged in drilling the talent for the play, "Fi-Fi in the Toy Shop," that is to be given in our new High School assembly room Feb. 5 and 6 at 8 p. m. Mr. Meyer has had great experience in this work and comes to us highly recommended. He is making his home at C. E. Nevitt's on Gilbert avenue.

The Ladies' Aid, Men's Bible Class and the Fellowship and Philatheas classes of the Methodist Church unite in giving a shower to supply many needed dishes and cooking utensils in the church kitchen. Come and have a good time, Monday evening, Feb. 8, in the church parlors. A program will be given and refreshments served.

Miss Mary S. Diener returned Saturday from Asheville, N. C., where she had accompanied Miss Josephine Corcoran some months ago. The many friends of Miss Corcoran will be grieved to learn that her condition has not improved and that she is now at the Chicago Fresh Air Hospital, corner Howard and Western avenues, where she is being cared for.

The Ladies of the Maccabees held their installation of officers last Friday evening, a large number of members being present. Mrs. Manning, the District Deputy, acted as installing officer, assisted by Mrs. Hannun, after which the members of the hive—110—presented Miss Blodgett with a handsome pocketbook as a token of the years of good and faithful work done by her in this hive.

CARD OF THANKS.

We wish to extend our heartfelt thanks to our friends and relatives for the beautiful floral offerings and the sympathy shown us in the hour of our bereavement.

E. W. FOSTER AND FAMILY.

NOTICE.

"Trespassers will be persecuted to the extent of 2 mean mongrel dogs which aim never been overly sociable with strangers and 1 dumdell bull shot gun which aim loaded with no soft pills. Dam if I ain't tire of this heilraisin on my property." From the Saloon, N. J., Sunbeam.

COMMUNICATION

Chicago, Ill., Jan. 25, 1915.
Editor of Downers Grove Reporter, Downers Grove, Ill.

Dear Sir:—In the Jan. 15 issue of the Reporter there appeared a communication from Mr. H. D. Wylie in reference to the electric light plant of this village, which I thought would receive an answer from some one of our citizens through your paper in the Jan. 22 issue, but there not appearing any, I take the liberty of answering that letter, although I do so with apologies to those more able to do so than I am.

Taking up the first paragraph of Mr. Wylie's letter, he says in part: "Nor is our water pressure what it should be with our limited fire fighting apparatus." These words by themselves are a complaint against the water pressure and against the fire fighting apparatus, for I assume that Mr. Wylie does not want more fighting apparatus with the low water pressure that he complains of. The facts are to anyone who will investigate them, that neither is the water pressure lower nor the fire fighting apparatus less than in the past. It is true that while the new pumps were being installed conditions arose which made the pressure low and to everyone, annoying. Since the new pumps have been installed, 600 gallons of water per minute can be pumped as against 200 gallons per minute with the old pumps.

Now, as to the fire fighting apparatus, the village is better equipped for fighting fire than ever before. They purchased last year 200 feet of additional hose and two additional nozzles, although the village suffered a considerable loss in revenue, due to the vote on the liquor question last spring, so I do not think the statement can be proved that the water pressure is lower and the fire fighting apparatus less.

The balance of Mr. Wylie's letter deals with "A liberal offer for the old plant, furnishing us light and power for less money than we can produce it: the ability of the Village Board to install an up-to-date system; a criticism of voters for not voting to sell the plant."

Let us see if the real facts warrant any such indictments. In the first place Mr. Wylie, no doubt, knows that the village could not sell the electric light plant by means of a popular vote; that whatever action were necessary to dispose of the plant would have to be taken by the board. Taking, however, the sentimental vote which was cast for the purpose of determining how the people felt about selling the plant, the result was two to one against selling. If only a small number voted on this question with the above result, I fail to understand how a larger vote would have changed the results. I happen to have the good fortune to be with the board since President Backus went into office and have had a good opportunity to observe the "Village Board's greatest indiscretion to so unwillingly accept a responsibility that better informed men would have hesitated to assume." It is really unfortunate that better informed and more intelligent men cannot be elected to carry on the village's business, but, of course, those with a higher degree of intelligence and possessing the necessary ability cannot give up their time as they have more important matters to look after. Incidentally, perhaps, the money consideration is not at all interesting to those possessing the necessary wisdom and foresight to efficiently assist the Village Board in the discharge of its duties. When President Backus assumed office, it is common knowledge that he intended selling the plant, assuming that the board would be with him. An ordinance was prepared to that end. A prospective purchaser was invited to one of the board's meetings. No offer was made for the purchase of the plant. The board did figure with this representative as to what the would-be purchaser would charge for lighting our streets. Without going into detail, it would cost us about \$4,500 per year, and we did not have, nor were the new main street lights considered in this price. As against this figure from the prospective purchaser, the board appropriates \$2,400 annually for street lighting purposes and this appropriation is liable to be less in the future, although much more light is given the public now. The present street lights would have cost the village about \$8,000 per annum had we sold the plant. The total tax received by the village for 1913 was \$6,600, exclusive of sinking fund and road and bridge tax. After the board was informed as to cost of lighting streets, their wisdom was again called upon. What should they do? It was deemed that something had to be done or we would be without lights and water. The board instructed the Village Clerk, Mr. Burt White, to send out request for cost of current, there being three concerns whom the board understood would sell current at wholesale prices. It was the hope of the board that power would be sold them at a price delivered at the plant that would permit a small profit. No offers were received. The board assumed that two of these concerns who worked pretty close together and who saw our predicament and knowing that the people had voted a few months before against furnishing funds for rehabilitating our plant, were laughing up their sleeves. We could not buy current; we could not get money for rehabilitating. Their thought was that we would have to sell. It was at this juncture that President Backus and the board began investigating the oil engine. They spent many nights until 11 and 12 o'clock driving into this proposition. They wrote letters all over the country for information. They visited all

the places they could at a sacrifice to themselves in more ways than one. They were honest and conscientious. They were doing the duties assigned them by the voters. It was no pleasant task; there was no money in it for them. They hoped not to err. They recognized their limitations. They knew they were not infallible. They strove to give the village the benefit of their best judgment, and they did.

Their efforts resulted in the present electric light plant. It was their opinion that time would vindicate their judgment. There can be no question about the economical operation of the plant. Its efficiency is being demonstrated more every day. It is true that objections arose which the board did not and could not foresee, but they are being corrected. The failure on their part to foresee everything that might arise is, of course, due to the inefficient class of men who seek to get on the board.

I had almost forgotten to mention that had the village sold the plant, the necessity for pumping water would still have confronted them. Water does run uphill. As a matter of information, it requires approximately 15,000 kilowatts per month to pump our water. The would-be purchaser would have charged for this about 4 cents per kilowatt, and it would have cost the village about \$7,000 per year, and in addition to this expense, the village would have had to hire two or three men to take care of the pumps. Had we sold the plant, in addition to the above expense, the village would have been obliged to expend over \$4,000 to change the system of pumping from steam to electricity. The present new pumping system is electrically equipped. The present receipts from the water department would have been barely sufficient to pay for the current alone.

"Who is to blame?" No one should be blamed. Everyone has done his duty as his judgment and conscience dictated, whether he was "delinquent" or not in "not voting to sell the plant" or whether he served as a humble servant on the board. Yours very truly,
A. B. SNOW.

WOMANS CLUB

At the meeting of the Woman's Club next Wednesday Mrs. Gudrun Thorne-Thomsen will speak on "The Ethical Value of Stories for Children." Mrs. Thomson is so well known as an educator it is scarcely necessary to state that this meeting will be particularly interesting and helpful to mothers. A charge of 25 cents will be made to those not members of the Woman's Club. Miss Grace Tonsley will play.

If you are tired of the wearying round of housework treat yourself to an hour of recreation by listening to Mrs. Gudrun Thorne-Thomsen next Wednesday afternoon.

"LITTLE LOST SISTER."

The presenting of "Little Lost Sister," a "clean" play, widely endorsed by investigators, improvement leagues and anti-vice societies, has been somewhat hampered through natural confusion with the sensational offerings of certain producers who portrayed vice, vicious dens and vicious men and women, in order to "do" the most sensational thing ever. "Little Lost Sister" will be at the Imperial Theater for one week, starting Sunday matinee, Jan. 31.

But the efforts of the girl investigator (Virginia Brooks) were not misunderstood, for almost with the opening performance of the play at Chicago, a perfect deluge of endorsements began to flow in to her.

"Little Lost Sister" is not a grim, offensive portrayal of vice, but a sincere story, pointing the evils of the underworld and the ways to be avoided, showing seemingly innocent pitfalls, which too often prove so dangerous. In this way it is doing a world of good.

LEGAL NOTICES

ADMINISTRATOR'S SALE.
NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE TO PAY DEBTS.
State of Illinois, County of Du Page, ss.—In the County Court of Du Page County, in the matter of the estate of Arthur P. Hosmer, deceased.
James A. Wagoner, Administrator of the estate of Arthur P. Hosmer, deceased, vs. Inez Hosmer, Winifred Johnson and the unknown heirs or assigns, if living, whose name or names, address or addresses, residence or residences, are unknown and cannot upon due and diligent search and inquiry be ascertained, heirs at law of said decedent, defendants.
Order to sell real estate to pay debts. General No. 2558.
Public notice is hereby given that by virtue of a decretal order made and entered of record by said Court, in the above entitled cause on the 7th day of December, A. D. 1914, the said Administrator will, at the hour of 11 o'clock a. m., on Saturday, the 26th day of February, A. D. 1915, at the corner of Main and Curtis streets, in the Village of Downers Grove, in said Du Page County, and State of Illinois, offer for sale and sell at public vendue to the highest and best bidder for cash, to pay the debts of the estate of said decedent, all or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay the debts now due from said estate and the cost of administration now due and to accrue, the right, title, interest and estate which the said Arthur P. Hosmer, deceased, had at the time of his death in and to the following described real estate, situated in the County of Du Page and State of Illinois, to-wit:
Lot Three in Block Seventeen of E. H. Prince & Company's Addition to Downers Grove, Illinois.
The above described property will be sold free and clear of mortgage or incumbrances. No deed or deeds will be delivered to the purchaser or purchasers until said sale has been reported to and approved by said County Court.
Dated this 15th day of January, A. D. 1915.
JAMES A. WAGONER,
Administrator of the Estate of Arthur P. Hosmer, deceased.

Fi-Fi of the Toy Shop
An Operatic Extravaganza in Three Acts
Given under the Auspices of
THE DOWNERS GROVE WOMAN'S CLUB
by JNO. R. ROGERS
The High School Assembly Room
Friday, February 5th
Saturday, February 6th
8:15 O'clock, P. m

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