

DOWNERS GROVE REPORTER

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DOWNERS GROVE, DU PAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, DECEMBER 31, 1918

Last Call

The Enrollment Books of the
First National Bank's
Landis Christmas
Savings Club
Will Close Soon

Don't miss this Last Opportunity
to become a Member
All of your friends have joined
and will have money for
next Christmas
Don't Wait--Act NOW

FIRST NATIONAL BANK
OF DOWNERS GROVE, ILL.

3 per cent. paid on Savings--Start with \$1.00

VACANT

This space, one of the most desirable in the paper, is vacant. You are reading this now, hundreds of others are doing the same thing. Your advertisement in this space each week will increase your business.

Reporter Advertising Brings Results!

THE FAIR STORE!

A Happy and Prosperous New Year
is our Wish to Everybody.

The past year, in spite of a general backward year, has been after all a good one for us and we wish to take this means in expressing our gratification to our many patrons for their support. We will try harder than ever this coming year to serve you even better, giving always the best for the least money and most courteous treatment.

ann & Michel

WHAT HAS 1916 IN STORE FOR US

Will He Be as Kind as the Year
Closing in a Few Hours?

What has the New Year in store for us as a country, and more particularly as a village? Will we, as a nation, join forces with either the one side or the other in the titanic struggle being waged across the seas? God forbid.

These and numerous other questions are uppermost in the minds of the village and of the nation. Let us hope, however, that the year which will be ushered in tonight will treat us as well as the one passing into eternity.

Let us take a hurried glance at the past year, and see what it has done for us as a village.

Our new high school building, of which we are all proud, comes first. It was completed last winter and used part of last term. It has all the conveniences usual to a building of its kind, and is a great help to the instructors and students alike in doing the best of work.

The new library building, just finished, is rapidly gaining a place for itself in our village life. Aside from its purpose in putting good reading in front of every one, at no cost, the building has other uses. The lower floor is used by the Woman's Club as a meeting place. It is also used for parties and dances. In the natural scheme of things there will be a time when this library hall will not doubt be used for community gatherings of all kinds, to benefit and make better our lives in the village.

A majority of the voters at the special election held in September decided that the village would adopt the commission form of municipal government. This has not yet gone into effect, so we cannot say as to its comparison with our present form. In the building line 1918 was a bumper year. One local contractor estimates that nearly \$1,000,000 worth of building was completed or started in the past year.

J. H. Frankensfeld's new building on Main street, and Philip Mochel's new building make great additions to the business section. A great many private dwellings have been built in the past year, and more are contemplated. For 1918 we can expect a mild building boom in Downers Grove, and the town is destined to grow ever larger as the years roll by.

The new Congregational church also is an improvement not to be overlooked. Downers' churches are well up in the building line, and are greatly improved over ten years ago.

CHRISTMAS MAIL BREAKS RECORDS

Local Office Handled Mail With
Comparatively No
Congestion.

About three hundred and forty sacks of mail, mostly parcel post packages, were handled at the local post office last Christmas week. This breaks all records for the local office, and compares favorably with offices handling a larger territory than this.

Two hundred and fifteen sacks was the total of the incoming and one hundred and twenty-five that of the outgoing. All this in the space of one short week.

The enormous amount of mail was treated with less confusion and flurry than at any Christmas time within the memory of the local residents. Mr. White has installed labor and time-saving methods and these with adequate help gave better service than ever before.

The outgoing mail was easier to handle than last year, because of a little scheme of Mr. White's to stamp and get it out of the way as soon as possible. Other years it was left to accumulate until train time, when a grand rush was made to get it sacked and down to the depot. This was a sack rail was fastened under the rail throw boxes and sacks opened. As soon as mail came in it was stamped and thrown, then when train time came it was a simple matter to tie the sacks and get them out of the way.

But at the delivery window was the greatest innovation. Here the many packages and parcels were handed out to their owners in record time. Christmas morning enough packages were called for to start a year department store.

Mr. White said: "You can say the Christmas mail this year was at least 40 per cent heavier than last, and I believe heavier than any previous Christmas. Even with this handicap, we worked with simplified methods of distribution and at no time were swamped."

The residents of the village are to be congratulated on having a man of Mr. White's caliber in the post office. He and his corps of able assistants are giving real "Uncle Sam" service.

MIDNIGHT SERVICE AT ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH

On Christmas Eve, at midnight, Father Lopper celebrated his first Mass at St. Andrew's church. The snow storm did not keep us from attending. The service was very beautiful. The choir sang "The Mass" and "The Gloria." The church was very full.

GOOD RESOLUTIONS

Some good resolutions for the New Year:

I hereby resolve to send to the Reporter office for publication any small item of news which comes to my notice during 1919.

I also resolve to get the said items of news in before Thursday morning. Also, I resolve that if a rich uncle dies and leaves me a million, or if a baby should be born unto me and Ye Ed. has no notice of the same, before "ousting" him out I will first look at the subscription label on my paper and then think back and see if I told him about my good fortune. Because if I don't tell him, how shall he know?

CHRISTMAS IN DOWNERS GROVE.

A Merry Christmas Was Last
Saturday Here in the Village.

In the words of a local resident, "I never saw a more beautiful Christmas Eve and Day than the one just past," and we agree with him. The softly falling flakes of snow, which started drifting down from the sky early in the evening, soon covered the mother earth with a white blanket. What is a Christmas if it isn't white?

Christmas Day itself was ideal—not cold and not too warm. Just right for the boys and girls to get out and try their new sleds and skates, which they joyfully received as gifts. Santa Claus, had left for them. Just how did he know, the old rascal, that Johnny wanted a red sled like his chum Willie's? That sister Mary wanted a doll with real hair and eyes which closed in sleep? How? Don't ask me. If I see any of his boys and that Johnny and Mary and all the other little boys and girls of Downers were not disappointed with his selections for them.

So far as we know, no family in the Grove spent the day without gifts of some kind. The Philanthropy Committee of the Woman's Club Sheds and distributed Christmas baskets to those whose circumstances were such they could not provide for themselves. The local churches and societies also made distribution of Christmas goodies and clothing.

Indeed, individual residents were very generous in their Christmas giving this year. One north side resident asked one of the village employees if he knew of any family in need, and if so he would send them some. He was assured that if any came to the notice of the office he would notify him. This is a spirit we delight in seeing in local residents.

The local stores all report a good holiday trade. The 1918 total being beaten by many hundreds of dollars. Local people are finding out that just as good merchandise can be purchased here at home, at just as small a price, as in the large stores of Chicago.

WOMAN'S CLUB NOTES.

There will be a meeting at the Woman's Club next Wednesday, January 2, the afternoon being in charge of Mrs. R. B. Bateman, musical director. The following artists will appear on the program: Miss Engelshel, violinist; Mr. Donna, pianist; and Miss Esther Muenstermann, vocalist. Miss Engelshel is well known in our community as a young violinist who is doing fine work. Mr. Donna is a musician of note, and Miss Muenstermann is sure to charm her hearers with her beautiful voice. Miss Muenstermann is not a stranger here, as she taught the fourth grade in our south side school about four years ago. Since that time she has devoted her time entirely to music and has achieved wonderful success. Club members should make an extra effort to attend this meeting.

The Philanthropy Committee, under the leadership of Mrs. Minnie H. Prince, has been very busy since the last club meeting. On Friday, December 24, these women packed several baskets with good things for Christmas. These baskets, appropriately and placed them in seventeen homes in our village, where they were highly appreciated. Nine dollars and forty cents were contributed toward the contents of the baskets by the people in the north side school.

Through the Philanthropy Committee two lists of girls' names were secured from the Home for Girls at Geneva, Ill. Forty-seven names were taken by the club women and their friends, and fifty-two by high school girls. Each girl whose name was taken received a personal letter and a little Christmas gift to make her feel that some one took a real interest in her welfare. Such Christmas work is surely commendable.

DANCING CLUB.

The dances given by the Dancing Club Committee for the young people Tuesday night, December 24, was attended by a large number of young people of the village. It was noticeable that all our young people who are attending out of town colleges were present. The young people report a dandy time and one of the best parties of the season, the hall being decorated very prettily and the music first class.

There will be another dance given by this committee for both the married and the young people at the Liberty Hall New Year's Eve. Three sheets of music have been ordered and the decorations in progress.

WHO'S WHO IN DOWNERS

Who is it came to Downers Grove and bought a rood of land and built thereon quite speedily a mansion large and grand; who opened the famous tavern of the raging old St. Joe with a most charming rustic bridge to walk on to and fro; who planted shrubbery and flowers, and also many seeds, and laid a path of gravel which to his doorway leads; who felled the forest giants and then buried up the stumps, and who in gardening asserts that spades are best of trumps; who added to his homestead, lots beyond the village line, where lima beans he raises and sweet corn that is fine; who has a garage and a car, but who would run a black before he'd miss the railroad train each morn at eight o'clock; who answers this description, and who is proud of it? Why, that is just none other than the genial John De Witt.

HALF HOLIDAY IS AL- MOST ASSURED IN MR. STANLEY'S HONOR.

Local Business Men Agree With
Reporter That "Something
Should Be Done."

When approached by a Reporter representative Wednesday morning on the subject of having a half holiday in the village on January 13, in honor of the birthday of our oldest citizen, "Cape" Stanley, who will reach the hundred year mark on that day, the local business men, almost to a man, agreed with the Reporter that this would be a fitting tribute to a man who has lived amongst us so long.

It is seldom a human being can live to reach the century mark, and when one does it is time for his fellow citizens to show him they are glad with him on his birthday.

Let us all, as residents of Downers Grove and as fellow townsmen of Mr. Stanley pull together and make this day memorable in the village. A tentative plan is now being formulated for this day. If you have any suggestions for a tribute to be given him to show our appreciation of his living in Downers Grove for such a long span of years, bring them to this office. We will see that you get the proper credit.

COUNTY HAS NEW CIRCUIT CLERK.

Attorney Frank Cross of Elmhurst was appointed circuit clerk of DuPage County Monday by Judge Maximi Shuster of the Circuit Court. He succeeded George W. Thoma of Elmhurst who gave DuPage county a Christmas present by resigning on December 24.

Mr. Clerk Thoma will continue his practice of law in Chicago where he has maintained an office for some time.

The resignation is one of the results of a wrangle between Thoma and the Board of Supervisors which has covered a period of several years. Thoma forced an audit of the books of former Circuit Clerk T. M. Hill, claiming that an audit would show many irregularities. This audit has not been completed as yet.

The new circuit clerk will take charge of the office on January 2. He is an attorney and is familiar with the work in the county office, having served as deputy under Circuit Clerk Lawrence, and has assisted State Attorney Hadley for the past three years.

DUPAGE COUNTY FARMERS' INSTITUTE

The annual DuPage County Farmers' Institute will be held at the Court House at Wheaton, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, January 13, 14, and 15, 1919. There will be exhibits of farm products, school work and bakery goods, with a child welfare exhibit as a new feature.

The program promises to be the best in the Institute's history. Speakers from the State University include Professor J. G. Mosler of the soil department, Professor H. A. Harding of the dairy department and Professor J. H. Hollock of the department of entomology. Mrs. Frank H. Mann of Gilman and Mrs. A. R. Dunbar of Chicago will lecture on household sciences topics and Supt. Geo. W. Brown of Pana will speak on vocational education. In addition to these lectures addressing will be given by noted agricultural and educational leaders and County Agricultural Agent E. S. Egan will have charge of the discussion. Evening sessions will be held Thursday and Friday, the one on Thursday night being in charge of the newly organized county good roads association and on Friday night State Fire Marshal W. E. Egan will lecture on fire prevention. Music for the sessions will be furnished by McArthur's orchestra of Chicago.

YOUNG MEN ENJOY "BELL"

The young folks of Miss Anna Hickey's class, of the St. Andrew's School, entertained the young men of St. Andrew's at a very nice party Monday night. They were very well entertained and enjoyed the party very much. The party was held at the school and was very successful.

THE OFFICERS, DIRECTORS EMPLOYEES OF THIS BANK

Thank the people of Downers Grove for their liberal patronage during the year just passed and wish you all a very
HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS YEAR
Farmer's and Merchant's Bank
Oldest Bank in a Downers Grove

Good Resolutions

About this time every year a number of people are busily engaged in making good resolutions--next week most of them are just as busy breaking them.

Our Resolutions

was made when we first started business in Downers Grove, many years ago; this was to give our customers the best service possible and to treat everyone in a fair, businesslike manner. This resolution has never been broken.

For 1-9-1-0

We wish our many friends and customers, the best only: Health, Happiness and Prosperity.

PHONE 20 FOR REAL SERVICE

LORD LUMBER COMPANY

Phone 20
Phone 21

1892

FOR THE TWENTY-NINTH