

Downers Grove Reporter

Issued every Friday morning from the office of the Downers Grove Publishing Company, Belmont and Forest Avenues, Downers Grove, Illinois.

C. H. STAATS, EDITOR

Entered at the Downers Grove Post Office as second class mail matter. Advertising rates made known upon application. Subscription rates \$1.75 per year. Single copies 5c.



"And The Star Spangled Banner Forever Shall Wave, O'er The Land of The Free and The Home of The Brave."

HARRY SLUSSER BUSY LEARNING SOLDIER'S GAME

With the Am. Ex. Forces in France. A. P. O. 714, April 28, 1918. Editor of Downers Grove Reporter: Mr. C. H. Staats: Friend Staats:

I have thought for some time that I ought to write you a few lines acknowledging your kindness in sending me the local paper. I have enjoyed it very much. I have been very busy during the last few months learning some of the many things which an officer in charge of troops must know in this war. I have had many experiences, some strenuous, some disagreeable and many pleasant ones which make me proud I am an American. The spirit, physique and learning of the American troops are magnificent. We officers are the only ones who need worry about making good. There is so much to learn about the highly specialized methods of modern warfare and so little time to learn it in. But when we are all ready there will be something doing on the front believe me.

I was greatly shocked to learn of the death of Alex Burns although I was somewhat prepared for it, because I saw his name in the casualty list back in March. While his regiment was not given I feared it was the 1st I knew and admired. I shall always remember him as I have seen him in his games at home, active, nervous and full of the immortal spirit of youth. Despite the fact that he was only a lad in years we know him now as a man who did his full duty. I think the lines written over the grave of a fellow soldier in France by his comrades cannot be improved on "Think of all a man should be. He was that."

I presume our village will be very active in all the work necessary in support of the war during this coming summer. Tell all the folks at home not to forget to write often to their soldier boys. They can have no idea how eagerly their letters are awaited. The rule for supply of ammunition to the firing line should be followed. Send three times as much as the line will need. If it all gets there no harm done. But in all probability so much will be lost or delayed that approximately the right amount will reach its destination when it is needed most.

With best wishes,
I am very truly yours,

T. H. Slusser,
1st Lt. Inf., U. S. R.
Waldorf Hotel,
London, England
April 9, 1918.

Dearest Mother:
My leave is nearly gone now and I am glad of it. As for London, the old, historic parts are wonderful but the new parts are just the same as New York and Chicago, only more so. I have not had a square meal since I came. Fish, never say that word again! I can never look another in the eye.

But take it all in all, it's not bad and the people are nice to a fault. I cannot claim exemption from homesickness or worry as the dear ones are so far away, but I try to keep a cheerful front most of the time.

Yesterday I went around town, to the Tower, Westminster and so on. They are wonderful. One cannot describe the Abbey. I never wish to see a grander thing; in fact, it would be impossible.

Today I went to Headquarters and reported. I go to camp tomorrow and take up my final training. I can't say for sure how long I will be in England, but it will be for some time, say a month or two.

I must close now and go to Headquarters for my final instructions. You know my love for you, dearest. I think of you always and hope when they are beaten to come home once more to you.

Royal Air Force, 70th Squadron
Beaulieu Camp, Hants, England.
April 20, 1918.

Dearest Mother Mine:
Your letters three arrived today from Cox & Company and if you wrote others in care of the Air Board they also will arrive. You may be sure I was tickled to get them for it was just like being with you.

I arrived in camp nine days since, and am living under a tent. The machines are excellent, the fellows better, and the camp ideal. We are located in Hampshire, near the Isle of Wight, which we fly over day after day. The weather is very "dud" and it rains most of the time, but we do not mind for they fly here rain or storm. I can't say much about the machine but I may say I'm attached to a small single-seater battle plane or scout which I will fly at the front, God willing. But if Sir Douglas Haig doesn't quit there won't be any more to kill.

Don't let the war news over in the

States worry you. Things are coming along fine and I'm proud and happy to fight for a country like England. Fight, Ye Gods! the bunch of vandals called Germans have no chance at all, and please tell any pro-German scum that you got it first hand. I'm very happy and content with things in general. I believe I'm doing the right thing and it gives me no end of satisfaction. In a month or so I will be in France.

As I said before, we are located down here in a beautiful spot. Bridges, byways, thatched huts, inns with old names and now, no sugar, and all the accommodations of the far north.

I can imagine brave men bedded in sheet-iron stoves roaring up and down this peaceful country yelling, "Have at thee!", etc. But now there are only airplanes smoking about, and a lot of noise and smoke.

Dearest, your letters are my only salvation, and your sweet thoughts provide them all. I'm proud and happy to be your son, and keep on the straight highway for your sweet sake. If war is hell, as they say it is, why I think they are wrong, for by fire men are purged and by hardship made better men to take up the burden of rebuilding a battered nation. If it should come to pass that I can not be of these, is not my small bit one stone in the new foundation?

Will write you often and keep you posted as to my goings out and my comings in. Must close with a loving thought for you and home and all my dear friends. Love to them all, and a world for yourself. Keep a candle burning for

Your loving son,
Gordon (Reid).

Camp Grant, Illinois.
May 18, 1918.

Dear Walter:
Although rather late, I take this opportunity to thank you for the Reporters that you have sent me and I can assure you they are very welcome, especially so during the time that we are confined in barracks or to their vicinity.

I have been very busy since coming over here, as has everyone else, but the majority of the men have been working at one thing most of the time, while I have had about a dozen different jobs in as many places. They say variety is the spice of life, and if that is so, I surely ought to be a lively individual since landing at Camp Grant.

Al Johnson and I were out walking around camp last Sunday. We were allowed to do so for that afternoon only, and we were fortunate to meet Robt. Darnley and family at the depot; we had a splendid little visit with them and were mighty glad we happened to go to the depot to watch the trains pull in. If on every stroll we should meet someone from home, we might be tempted to stroll all the time.

Since getting into the army I have begun to appreciate Company H. What I learned with them has helped me a great deal, if not in getting a non-com. warrant, it has in making drill, hikes, etc., easy compared to what it has been on most of the men. Again thanking you, I am

Very truly yours,
Alan G. MacLean,
3rd Co., 1st Training Battalion,
161st Depot Brigade,
Camp Grant, Illinois.

LACE NEWS

Mrs. Minnie Kempfert, nee Grauman, passed away at her home Wednesday afternoon after a long and painful illness. The deceased was born the 12th of July, 1862 in Germany and came to this country at the age of 20 years with her husband, C. Kempfert, and settled in the neighborhood of Lemont. She was well known in Lace and vicinity, where the family resided for many years. Funeral services were held in the Lace church, Saturday afternoon, Rev. W. Burmeister officiating. Pallbearers: friends and neighbors of Mrs. Kempfert, were Messrs. F. Wehrmeister, Geo. Klein, Fred Gansberg, Art. Miedel, John Karsten, Sr., and Hy. Sucher. Interment was at the Lemont Lutheran cemetery.

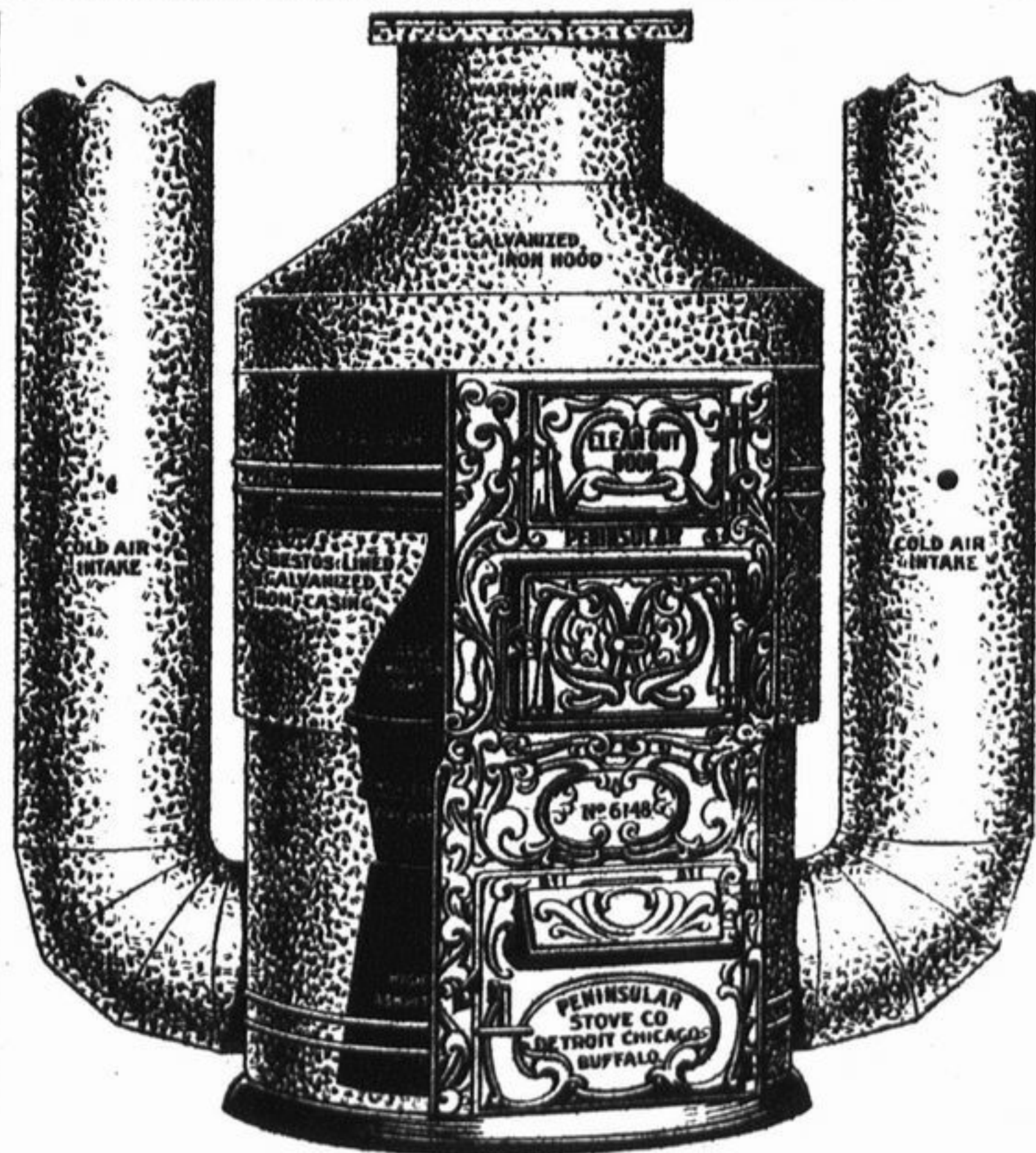
Miss Clara Zarn of St. Paul, Minn., was a visitor last week at the home of Mrs. Hy. Meyer.

Mr. Fred Schutt, Sr. was taken to the Oak Park hospital Sunday morning to undergo an operation. Latest reports are that he is progressing favorably.

A meeting of the Red Cross unit will be held on May 31. A full attendance is desired.

Telegraphing.
In overhead telegraph systems, under practical conditions, it is found that about 400 miles is the greatest length of aerial wire that can be operated by means of double current Reymorse apparatus. The highest permissible voltage in use is 120.

While someone gives his Life
—what are you giving?
—think a minute



The newest, cheapest
and most
satisfactory
Hot Air plant known.

We can refer you to a
number of
Satisfied Customers.

J. D. GILLESPIE & Co.

Telephone 30
Day or Night

61 South Main Street
(Duplicate Keys Made)

Telephone 30
Day or Night

POTTER MFG & LUMBER CO.

MANUFACTURERS AND DEALERS

BUILDING SUPPLIES, LUMBER, COAL, MILL WORK

"REDYBILT"

Portable Garages, Poultry Houses, Cottages, Poultry Equipment, Supplies, Etc.

Yard Entrance on East Curtiss street

PHONE 15

After 6 p. m. phone 83 J or 89 J.

PHONE 15

PLAN TO PRESERVE BY-GONE LOCAL HISTORY

There is a movement on foot in the village to form a Downers Grove Historical Society, whose object would be to perpetuate and cherish the history of the town and surrounding country. As this is Centennial year of our State and there is no organization of this kind, it seems particularly fitting that we should organize for this purpose. There are many interesting events and incidents that will be lost sight of as the years go by unless we have some means of recording them.

Let us hear from some of our old residents. What do you think of it? The following little sketch from the pen of one of the older ones will be of interest to many of our citizens. So few of us know the history of our beautiful little village.

"The first conveyance of lands within the limits of DuPage County was made by the Pottawatomie Indians to the United States, August 24, 1816. This conveyance included Lisle township and all of Downers Grove. In September, 1823, the Indians sold the entire north-east portion of Illinois. Running through the County are two streams, known as the east and west branch of the DuPage river. These streams took their name from a French trader who settled on the main river below the forks, prior to 1800. This trader was well known by the early pioneers and the county name came from the same source.

DuPage was a part of Pike County, until January 28, 1823, when it passed under the jurisdiction of Fulton County. Its next civil division was under Peoria County, June 13, 1825. The next change united it with Cook County on March 1, 1831. On February 9, 1839 the General Assembly passed an act defining the boundaries of a new county naming it, DuPage.

The first County seat was located at Naperville, June 1839 and the first election for County officers was held the first Monday in May, 1839.

HARRY H. MARTIN TEAMING AND FARM WORK

Downers Grove, R. 1. Phone 152-M-2

MINSDALE UPHOLSTERING AND REPAIR SHOP
Repairing and Upholstering done neatly and promptly.
Work called for and delivered.
Phone or drop postal. Phone 635



We Just Naturally Suppose

every time we see you headed in this direction, that you are coming in to have your car overhauled. You cannot enjoy a trip unless your car is in good condition.

Come in and talk with us about it.

Save the high cost of charging by paying Cash for your Gasoline, Etc.

ALWAYS AT YOUR SERVICE FOR
EXPERT REPAIRING
RELIABLE SUPPLIES-DEPENDABLE ACCESSORIES
- GASOLINE - OILS - TIRES -
OXY-ACETYLENE WELDING
STORAGE AT REASONABLE RATES
BATTERIES RECHARGED & REPAIRED
DOWNERS GROVE GARAGE
PHONE 22 - DOWNERS GROVE, ILL.

We are able to supply your wants in ICE CREAM & DRUG SUNDRIES

PHONE US AND WE WILL DELIVER THE GOODS!

HOUSEMAN DRUG CO.

Phone 6 Corner Main & Curtiss Sts.

PIANOS and FURNITURE Refinished and Repaired

Let us repair and tune your old Piano and make it just as good as the day it came from the Factory.

Estimates cheerfully furnished

Ed. Mackinsworth

S. Main street one door north of C. Penner

"International"— On a Corn Planter Means

- Even Check—
- Accurate Drop—
- Uniform Depth—
- Simple Operation—
- Durable Construction—



THE principal thing you are interested in is the crop yield. This is almost wholly dependent on the planter. The best seed in the world must be planted right before it will produce a satisfactory crop. For this reason we urge you to see our line of

International Corn Planters

There are six styles to choose from—and a seed plate for every kind of seed. Drilling, checking, and power hill dropping can be done with the same planter. Let us show you the line.

Hawkins & Hawkins

63 So. Main St.