

### MASONIC LODGES JOINT MEETING WELL ATTENDED

Wonderful Talk Made by Rev. R. R. Lloyd of Chicago, Well Known Bible Student

A joint meeting of Grove Chapter R. A. M. and Grove Lodge, A. F. & A. M. held at the Masonic Hall Saturday night was well attended. It followed an afternoon meeting of the Chapter.

The first part of the program was filled with patriotic songs, songs which have been sung on every battle field from the Civil War to the present day. Howard Jones, chairman of the entertainment committee had charge of the evening and introduced the speakers in his own inimitable way. Geo. Prickett, W. M. and H. E. Tank, E. H. P. of the Lodge and Chapter respectively, welcomed the visitors.

Four members of the Columbia Com mandery band of Chicago, furnished music for the occasion. On two bugles and two drums they gave all the army calls from First Call in the morning until Taps at night. Their rendition of these calls was absolutely true and gave those present an insight into army life. "Taps" that beautiful call which ends the day at all posts and camps was especially enjoyed.

The second half of the program was a talk by Rev. Rhys R. Lloyd, of Chicago. For years Mr. Lloyd held the chair as professor of Greek at Berkeley, California and is well known in educational circles. He is a profound student of the Bible and gave his hearers a little idea of his vast knowledge of those great books. He has studied them in the original Hebrew and Greek and taught their import to many who now do the teaching from pulpits from all over the land. In the time he took on the program every eye was centered on his expressive countenance and every ear tuned to his words. The unanimous feeling of those present that he should come again and give another talk won from him a promise to do so in the near future. This is his second talk here and those who missed hearing him Saturday night will want to be present when he comes again.

### TELEPHONE CO. RATE INCREASE PLEA HEARD

Last Friday before the Utilities Commission in the Insurance Building in Chicago the Telephone Company's plea for a local rate increase was partially heard and adjourned to December 10th.

There was a representative gathering from all districts watching local interests. No opposition was offered of any character, and it is expected that when the information has been furnished as asked by the Commission, some increase will be granted at the next hearing.

The war has hit the telephone business, like nearly every other, making a raise in rates necessary. The company hopes that with conditions coming back to normal that the rate increase, if granted, will be but temporary.

### "LOTUS CLUB" MET AFTER MANY YEARS

Not "twenty-two years ago today," but thirteen years ago, there was, in Downers Grove, a double male quartette known as the "Lotus Club."

These men sang together, giving public entertainments in Chicago and vicinity for several years, when they disorganized because some members were called away from Downers Grove.

Last Friday evening, these men, with their wives, were invited to the pleasant home of Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Towsey, on East Maple avenue and only those present can realize the more than pleasant evening spent together for the first time in thirteen years.

All felt that it was quite remarkable that, after so long a time, every member should be present.

They were: F. B. Towsey, W. B. Towsey, B. L. Kellogg, L. F. Beidelman, J. R. King, Emil Anderson, Walter Hodgeman and Leonard Puffer.

The men enjoyed the singing as much as the ladies enjoyed hearing them, and after repeating parts of their old repertoire, they retired to the dining room for delightful refreshments.

All present felt it to have been one of those evenings, in a life time, which makes life worth while.

### CHECK TO BE MADE ON THE SERVICE FLAG

How many stars should there be on the Downers Grove Service Flag?

This question has been much debated ever since the flag was first flung to the breeze last fall and no one has found a satisfactory answer. There are those who contend that the flag has too many stars and those who are just the opposite in their opinion, but what we want is the exact number. Several agencies are busily engaged in trying to compile a correct list of the Downers Grove men and boys who served in either the army or the navy, among them the Community League and The Reporter.

It has been suggested that a house-to-house canvass be made of the village and of the surrounding territory in order to miss no one. We are of the opinion that this would be the only way to get an absolutely reliable list.

We want the name of every Downers Grove boy who served in any capacity during the war to be displayed in some prominent public building here. Help us to get this list and have it correct.

### ILLINOIS WAS 100 YEARS OLD DECEMBER 31

On December 31 Illinois celebrated its one hundredth birthday. But little notice was taken of this momentous event in the history of our state locally.

In the schools talks were made by the teachers explaining briefly the admittance of Illinois to the Union and how it was done. The eighth grade has been making a special study of the history of Illinois during the past month and to these students the day had more significance.

It was just one hundred years ago the 31 of December that President James Monroe signed the bill that made Illinois a state. In this year of telegraph and fast flying news, extra papers and telephones, news of such importance would be to know to every resident of a state even as populous as Illinois, in just a few hours. However, 100 years ago no such modern conveniences were at hand and it is doubtful if the pioneers who then made this state their home knew of the change from a territory to a state for a month or more. When the news finally arrived however, parades, speeches and a general celebration was held in every village and city.

### INTERESTING BOOK ISSUED BY EMMERSON

A very interesting document issued by Secretary of State Louis L. Emmerson has been received in this office and contains much valuable information regarding the election held in Illinois on November 5th, 1918. Included in the information in the book is published a table showing the number of votes cast on the various propositions that were submitted at this election.

The prominent proposition submitted was that providing for the calling of a Constitutional Convention and as this proposition called for a majority of all votes cast it took considerable time and effort to secure the figures so that the official report as to whether the proposition carried or not could be determined. The total number of votes cast in the State was 975,545. Of this number the question carried by a majority of 74,240.

The Private Banking Act required a majority of all votes cast for or against it and the returns show that 403,458 votes were cast for the act and 83,704 against it.

The Hard Roads Act required a majority of all the votes cast for members of the Legislature and the canvass shows that a total of 898,921 votes were cast for members of the Legislature. The votes for the proposition were 661,815, while 154,396 votes were cast against it. The majority in favor of the proposition is figured at 212,405.

### EDWIN DEWEY DISAPPOINTED AT WARS END

All ready to start "over" and then the word of the signing of the armistice, was the disappointing experience of Edwin Dewey and other members of an ambulance unit trained on the south side of Chicago.

Edwin enlisted as an ambulance driver on October 3d and received his training at 61st and Cottage Grove Avenue, Chicago. His unit had been issued overseas equipment and had received their final inspection and were all ready to entrain for Camp King, Sound Beach, Conn. when word came that they were no longer needed. He with other members of his unit were discharged on November 28th.

### SERG. BARRE TO SPEAK AT WOMANS CLUB

Old Soldier Who Has Been Through Several Campaigns Will Tell About "Over There"

The regular meeting of the Woman's Club will be held on Wednesday December 11th at Library Hall. This will be a lecture, "Over There", given by Sergt. Sam P. Barre, U. S. A. Sergt. Barre has been in the United States Army 30 years and has a varied experience. He was in Cuba with General Shafter; went to the Philippines with General Pershing in 1912; to Mexico with General Funston and in 1918 to France with Pershing. He was gassed at the Battle of Chateau Thierry, invalided to the United States and is now speaking for the State Council of Defense. The Woman's Club is very fortunate in securing this noted speaker and all members will wish to attend this meeting.

Miss Norpel will sing and she will be accompanied by Miss Engelschall. The Club is inviting the relatives of all our boys in Service to this meeting.

Mrs. H. S. Sherman and Mrs. W. H. Blodgett attended a luncheon given by the Wheaton Department Club on Tuesday afternoon.

### D. G. H. S. STILL ACCREDITED BY ILLINOIS U.

The following letter from the University of Illinois shows what high regard is our local high school held by the State University.

November 15, 1918.  
Mr. G. C. Butler,  
Superintendent of Schools,  
Downers Grove, Illinois.

My dear Sir:  
On my recommendation, without visitation, as previously agreed, the Council of Administration has approved the renewal of accrediting of your high school as fully accredited for a term of three years, or until June 30, 1922. This means that in our judgment you have an efficient high school. The enclosed card, showing 23 1/2 units, should be permanently filed in your office and also made a matter of record by your Board for future reference.

With a sincere wish for the continued prosperity of your school, I am  
Very truly yours,  
H. A. Hollister, High School Visitor.

Not the Road to Wealth.  
"Time is money," said Uncle Eben; "but jes' de same de man dat finds himself wif a lot o' time on his hands has made a pore investment."

### RED CROSS TO RESUME SEW- ING ACTIVITIES

Sewing activities of the Downers Grove Branch of the Red Cross will be resumed next week. Sessions from 10 a. m. to 4 p. m. will be held each Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, commencing December 10th, until further notice.

A quota of 50 garments for war sufferers has been assigned to the village and an effort to get these out before Christmas will be made.

Much more of this sort of work will probably be done. In his message to Congress, President Wilson called attention to the humanitarian necessity of care for war sufferers in Europe and Downers Grove, through the agency of the Red Cross, will receive and do its share of such work.

The last of the Christmas boxes for soldiers overseas was wrapped, sealed and shipped last Saturday afternoon. Altogether the local Red Cross handled 91 of these packages.

### ANNA GARDNER NEAR

Mrs. Anna Gardner Near, wife of the late Edmund S. Near of Chicago, and mother of Edmund S. Near Jr. of Downers Grove, after three years of patient suffering due to paralysis, on receiving a second stroke passed from earthly suffering to heavenly rest, November 28, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Anna G. Baker of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Her body was brought to Chicago and laid to rest in Forest Home cemetery Saturday, November 30, Rev. J. B. Little officiating.

She leaves to mourn her departure, three sons, two daughters, six grand children, other relatives and a host of friends.

Life's race well run  
Life's work well done.  
Life's crown well won.  
Now comes rest.

### COAL CONSER- VATION BOOKS FOR CONSUMERS

The Director of Conservation for the State of Illinois has prepared for general circulation and placed with the Public Libraries and Civic War Councils, bulletins covering the following subjects:

1. How to burn Soft Coal in Base Burner Heating Stoves and Kitchen Ranges and other Heating Stoves.
2. How to change a Hard Coal Base Burner Stove into a Soft Coal Heater by installing the Liberty Soft Coal attachment.
3. How to burn Soft Coal in Hot Air, Hot Water, Steam and Vapor Heating Plants, including Hot Water supply Heaters.

Meaning of Name "Rachel."  
The Jews were at one time a nation of shepherds, and it was probably for this reason that the Hebrew word for a mother sheep, or a ewe, was given to some of the Jewish women, Rachel meaning "a ewe."

### TAG DAY SATUR- DAY FOR DESTI- TUTE CHILDREN

Camp Fire Girls to Collect Money for County Charitable Institution For Needy

Downers Grove Camp Fire Girls will have charge of a Tag Day Saturday in an effort to raise money for the Destitute Crippled Children's Home which is located at Prince Crossing, between Wheaton and West Chicago.

There are being cared for in this home sixty-five youngsters, two from DuPage County and the absolute need of these unfortunate children should open wide the purses of our residents.

Being destitute is hard enough for the little ones to bear, but to be crippled in addition is surely a cross. These little ones, we understand are cheerful and happy in spite of their misfortunes and the care they receive at this home is what keeps them so.

Downers Grove has ever been open handed when a real need was met and we venture to say that in this instance the Camp Fire Girls will have but little trouble in pinning a tag on everyone they approach.

### LETTERS FROM DOWNERS GROVE SOLDIER BOYS

(Continued from Page 4)

night some of the fellows mentioned that they had never seen me look better and they said I must be made of iron as I was always active and they never heard me complain. Be sure and give my regards to all my friends, and don't forget grandma and grandpa. Tell them to be sure and write even if I don't write. This afternoon the aeroplanes were as thick as bees near our camp. I sure would like to get a chance to go in one. Goodnight, with bushels of love to you all. I remain as ever, your loving son,  
Mel (Binder).

### FRED K. HOWE GETS ACROSS, SEES SUBS

October 26th, 1918  
At last I am in France. We left the U. S. on October 7th and touched dry land on October 21st. We got on the boat on Sunday (6th) and left Monday afternoon. Then all we saw was water, water everywhere and not a firm place to stand on.

It was real stormy when we left and about two hours later the soldiers began to give up their dinner. We had salmon that day and I never want to see any more as long as I live for it brings back a funny feeling.

There was not much doing the first four days as it rained most of the time and everybody was pretty sick. We weren't bothered much with Subs the first week but saw plenty the second week. Altogether we sighted six of them and they sighted us, but a Sub never had a chance as the seven boats and the cruiser would all start firing and he would sink without looking twice.

We sighted France October 20th and pulled into Brest that night and unloaded Monday morning. We went to a so-called Rest Camp about four miles from the town and stayed two days. These "Rest Camps" are jokes for they spell rest, W-O-R-K over here.

A half a dollar goes as far here as a nickel in the U. S. The women sell lots of stuff and charge about four times what it is worth and the kids all ask for money. You ought to see the wooden shoes they wear here. From their feet everyone must have pretty big feet. All the houses are made of brick and stone over here. All the time I have been here I have seen only one wooden building and that was a depot. The land is all divided by dirt fences. The whole country is hilly and very beautiful.

After being at the "Rest Camp" two days we started across France in a box car. You should see the little cars and the tiny engines. They have a number of U. S. engines and cars here also and I suppose they will have more before long. We traveled two days and nights and though we were slightly crowded in the cars we enjoyed the trip. It was especially interesting when we came to a big town. At every big place we stopped they gave us coffee, and believe me, I don't care for some. It has a funny taste. One can buy all the wine and stuff like that over here real cheap but so far I have never even tasted the stuff.

We arrived at the town here Friday (I don't know its name) and believe me, the beds sure did look good

to us. We are just about a twenty minute ride from Paris and I expect to get a pass tomorrow and travel to town and see what that city looks like.

We are with the 5th A. B. An and the major of this Battalion is one of the finest fellows you would want to see.

I don't know whether I can get one of those soldier slips or not but if I can't you try your best to send me a box of solid, sweet chocolate. That will be my Christmas present, that and the Downers Grove Reporter. November 10th.

I went to Paris last Sunday and again yesterday, Saturday, and it is some city. It is hard to find your way around as the streets run in all directions except straight. You follow a street for a way and you come to a place where four or five streets meet and then you don't know where you are. There are two dandy subway systems, you can go anywhere on them and they are speedy. They also have a big bunch of taxis here and they remind you of Doc Yak's 348. But whenever you get lost the only thing to do is to nab one of them and tell the driver where you want to go.

Every third building is a wine and Cafe place. They are the same over here as soda fountains in the United States but are twice as numerous. Everybody drinks, all the shops have tables out in front and they are always crowded. In Paris you see soldiers from all the Allied Armies. Some of them are covered with medals. At Brest we saw a bunch of German prisoners.

We went to a place where the German trophies are kept and saw them all. Guns of every caliber, fighting and bombing planes, rifles, helmets, great tanks and everything pertaining to war.

On the way from Notre Dame Cathedral to the Eiffel Tower we rode along the Seine river for a distance. It seemed to be a fashionable district and on the way we passed the great Bronze Bridge over the river. A captured submarine was lying there. We were not allowed to go up in the Tower but we could look from the outside. It is immense. It would take 20 minutes to walk all around it and six thousand persons can be accommodated on the first floor. The largest Ferris wheel in the world stands near the Tower and we went up in that and saw the whole city. It was a grand sight.

I will tell you more in my next letter. Be sure and send me the Downers Grove Reporter.

### "GETTING READY FOR THE RED CROSS BAZAAR"

Several months ago the M. E. Philanthropia discovered they had quite a bit of historic ability concealed among their members and demonstrated that fact in a little playlet. They have decided to give another of those and have chosen as a vehicle "Getting Ready for the Red Cross Bazaar." Needless to say it is funny and they have practised the various parts until all are letter perfect and ready for the big night, Thursday evening, December 12th, at the Methodist Church.

The cast of characters follows:

- Mrs. Roberts, Who wants to be chairman
- Mrs. C. M. Ricker
- Mrs. Henry, young, fond of novels
- Mrs. M. A. Sullivan
- Mrs. Jackson, chairman of the society
- Mrs. E. L. Dickerson
- Mrs. Brett, on the dinner committee
- Mrs. H. C. Chambers
- Mrs. Lewis, the minister's wife
- Mrs. John Brown
- Mrs. Lawson, plump
- Miss Emma Mills
- Mrs. Brown, anxious to get church attendants
- Mrs. O. Potter
- Mrs. Addison, very inquisitive
- Mrs. Harry Rigsbee
- Mrs. Rigely, sensitive
- Miss Mary Fletcher
- Mrs. Otis, on the dinner committee
- Mrs. Walter Rogers
- Mrs. Thompson, decidedly close
- Mrs. Frank Lower
- Mrs. Drew, just married
- Miss Eleanor Schnabele

### W. C. T. U. NOTES

Local W. C. T. U. will meet at the home of Mrs. Frankie T. Raby, 42 E. Curtiss Street, Friday afternoon, December 13th at 3:30. Leader, Mrs. T. T. T. Scriptural Teachings regarding Temperance, by Members.

People no longer say, "What does the W. C. T. U. do any way?" But "What will the W. C. T. U. do next?" Our work is not yet done. We must win the war against Germany and against autocracy and against the liquor traffic which is intertwined with both.

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

### SHE KEPT THEM ON THE JOB

