

Downers Grove Reporter

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THEN AND NOW

Not so very many years ago the town was all "het up" about the library. There were meetings galore and everybody, or nearly everybody, said what a fine thing it would be if the village could have a real library building.

The labors of the Ladies Library Association, an organization of patient souls who year in and year out had struggled to keep a supply of books in circulation seemed to be appreciated and when the library building was finally erected there was great rejoicing.

On the opening night some very handsome things were said complimenting the ladies on keeping the torch of literature flaming and seeing the splendid fruition of their toil.

Did Downers Grove THEN appreciate its library. Yes, indeed and then some—But NOW—Well may be.

Perhaps it has become an old story. Perhaps it is annoying to hear from time to time that the books are getting out of repair and that new ones are needed.

But even books though they contain immortal thoughts, grow old and with added years develop distressing symptoms of age, such as dog's ears, broken backs, torn pages and other ills that books are heir to. So it is not at all surprising that in this year of grace one thousand nine hundred and nineteen there should be a crying need of rehabilitation for the much read volumes in the public library. The need is clearly apparent on the library shelves and for some months the library board has been doing the crying.

For two years the board has been silent while the library in common with all the other village agencies was devoted to war work, but now its lamentation will not be denied expression and like the voice of the prophet of old rise up to the heavens.

For further details concerning the why and the wherefore of the urgent demand for assistance inquire within the library or cross question any of the board of trustees of the Downers Grove Free Public Library.

THE SALVATION ARMY

If you haven't already been asked to subscribe to the Home Service Fund of the Salvation Army, you most probably will be. Never before have you been asked to give money for a cause more worthy than this. A cause where you know the money you give will not be used to pay fat salaries to some big "official" but will be used to alleviate suffering and pain among the unfortunate of Illinois.

The Salvation Army work reaches more people that are really in need than any other charitable organization. It helps more people than any other and helps them in a way which bodes good for the future.

The reason for this is not hard to find. Men and women enlist in this service to help their fellow men. They do not go into the work for any material gain. They find peace and happiness in SERVICE. The kind of service the Master spoke of thousands of years ago—unselfish service, with no thought of self.

It is to augment the work of folks like these, recruited from every walk of life, that you give money for this week. Your money will help furnish new equipment, buildings, beds, a thousand and one things for these people to do good with.

Be very liberal with the Salvation Army. You cannot work with your hands and brains for people as these Salvation Army lads and lassies do but you can furnish the wherewithal for their work.

Your help is needed. Thousands of unfortunate women, men and children ask for it.

\$500,000,000 IS A LOT OF MONEY

We understand that the U. S. Steel Co. has a fund of \$500,000,000, a half BILLION, with which to fight the unionizing of their business.

The strikers and their sympathizers say they will surely win the strike. The capitalists are equally confident that they will win—and there you are. Whatever the final result, this half billion, if there is such a fund and we don't doubt it, will eventually come out of the pockets of the consumer. How much better to arbitrate or give in by one side or the other.

OUR LOCAL SCHOOLS

Never before in the history of Downers Grove's schools have things looked so good at the commencement of the year as they do now. Every instructor, apparently, is deeply interested in the welfare of the students. Even they seem to be more than usually impatient to learn.

Professor George C. Butler is more than any other man responsible for the present efficiency of the high and grade schools. The criticism of last year was unwarranted. But we find a little solace in the fact that the same thing happened in other municipalities.

People forgot that we were at war. That instructors were hard to get on account of the shortage not only of teachers but of industry of every kind. That income was low and outgo high.

Let us all continue to work with Mr. Butler and the Board of Education toward keeping the schools up to concert pitch.

WE SEE BY THE PAPERS THAT

Although no rioting and no bloodshed was promised by the strikers of the steel industry, they could not prevent it and Pittsburgh has already had a taste of what the strike means. It is inevitable that men working with steel should take on some of the hardness of the metal. It is our opinion that there are more "hardboiled" men in the iron and steel industry in the United States than in any other occupation.

Belgium and Holland are getting into diplomatic difficulties over a treaty enacted in 1839. There are but two solutions to the European mess. One is to can all treaties and organize the United States of Europe along the lines of a democracy and the other is to let them fight it out until there are none left to fight and both solutions are impossible.

The war department has completed the casualty statements for the war and that 322,182 Americans lost their lives, by battle, accident and natural causes. One interesting item in the statement says, "All missing have been accounted for." If this is true then the mother and father of John V. Bryan and the entire village would appreciate authentic news of where he is if alive and if not, where he is buried.

The steel strike is a mystery. No one seems to know just how many men are out, just how many plants are running or anything else. The tone of the big papers seems favorable to the capitalists.

General Pershing has selected the officer personnel to close out the business of the A. E. F.

Sugar is expected to go to 20c a pound this winter. Dentists will be fairly occupied, if the prediction comes true, pulling out the sweet tooth of every mortal making less than one hundred smucks per diem.

NOTES OF THE DU PAGE COUNTY "Y" ACTIVITIES

The first Y. M. C. A. group in the rural section of Du Page county was organized Thursday evening, September 18, at Lisle. A number of boys from the Belmont section came down to Lisle to meet with the boys of that place. After a lively game of indoor baseball in which the Belmont delegation won by a large score a business meeting was held, and the Belmont boys organized with the following temporary officers: Chairman, Stephen May; Secretary, Herman Blankenburg. Mr. McKean, principle of the public school near Belmont, is leader of the group and will meet them regularly each Friday evening at the school house for a four-fold program of activities.

Hinsdale had a very successful play festival and community sing Tuesday evening, September 16, on the play-

ground where the electric lights helped to lengthen out the period of the games and races. The singing was led by Mrs. Gibson. It was voted a real success and plans are under way for another play fest Saturday evening, September 27th.

The County Secretary met by invitation with the boys of the Christian High Club of Wheaton on September 24th, and plans were discussed for the making of this club a real force for the moral as well as the social and religious life of the school. State Secretary for Boys Work, Mr. Boyd I. Walker, was also present and outlined some of the activities which similar clubs known as "Hi Y" are conducting all over the country. Preliminary steps have been taken with the school authorities and a few of the older boys at Downers Grove to organize a "Hi Y" club there to be affiliated with the national organization of which there are now over 800 working for the Christianizing of the secondary schools.

Thru the County Secretary a tennis match was arranged between Wheaton and Naperville last Saturday afternoon. The Wheaton men won three of the events, one of doubles with Dr. E. H. Oelke and Herman A. Fischer, and two singles won by Herman Fischer and Ernest Shaw. Naperville won one double and one single match. It is hoped that tennis may be revived in Wheaton and that thru its physical work committee the County Y. M. C. A. may be able to arrange for a county league.

DANGER IN RAPIDLY RISING LAND PRICES

Washington, D. C., Sept. 25—Prices of farming lands in many sections of the United States, especially in Iowa and the other Corn Belt States, have risen with such rapidity that serious consequences may be expected, especially with the return of normal conditions. This is a warning to farmers, issued by the United States Department of Agriculture.

Speculators, many of them business men of the cities, in many cases have reaped big profits by buying and reselling without making any substantial contribution in return. Farmers have sold land at prices that seemed high, and then have bought again at still higher figures, losing thousands of dollars in the exchange. The bona fide farmer who purchases land at present high prices may find the returns on his investment abnormally small if earnings should decline when normal conditions are restored, and may find himself seriously embarrassed if he has financed the purchase largely on credit.

That is a summary of the situation as it is viewed by investigators of the Bureau of Farm Management sent by the department into the regions of most marked speculative activity. The following is a summary of their advice which is broadly applicable probably to the majority of farmers in the regions affected, though it may not fit every individual case:

Much of the present speculative activity has been due to the fact that speculators have been able to catch some farmers unawares, buying their farms at a much lower figure than was justified in relation to prices in adjoining regions. Therefore you should be careful about selling to a speculator who is buying to sell again. If it is worth more to him it probably may be worth more to you. If you own a farm and desire to continue farming be very sure before selling that you can obtain out of the proceeds of your sale as good a farm as you have sold.

If you desire to purchase a farm you should be very sure that the price you pay is fully justified by the probable net earnings of the farm when conditions become normal.

Be careful that the buyer of your

farm is able to complete his payment on March first in case he fails to resell. In general it is safe to require an initial cash payment of one third the sale price.

Be cautious about speculating yourself. Especially do not buy on a narrow cash margin with the expectations that you will be able to sell and obtain the necessary means of settling your contract. You may not be able to effect a sale. A land "boom" may collapse suddenly.

NOTES OF THE WOMAN'S CLUB

The annual reception of the Downers Grove Woman's Club will be held Friday evening, October 3, at 8 o'clock in Library Hall. Members are privileged to invite guests as in former years.

Mrs. L. E. Jones, Mrs. Wm. Straube, Mrs. J. R. Foster and Mrs. T. F. Kelly, attended a meeting of the Municipal Art League at La Grange, Monday afternoon.

The 1919-1920 program which opens next Friday promises to be the best ever enjoyed by the local club.

ENTERTAINED FOR MR. AND MRS. LEON WORLEY SATURDAY

Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Henderson entertained last Saturday night at their home on Church st. for Mr. and Mrs. Leon Worley.

Games were played, furnishing much amusement for the guests and refreshments were served.

Among those present were: Mr. and Mrs. Howard Pfaff, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Staiger, Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Jenkins, Miss Mable Riel, Frank Dewey, John Young, Arthur Iehl, and George Staiger.

Optimistic Thought.
Talkative persons are like barrels; the less there is in them the more noise they make.

Save Fuel

WITH A GAS ROOM HEATER

Don't start the furnace when the first cold days come — there's a better way — a way that saves fuel, time and labor and moola — without sacrificing a particle of warmth.

Purchase a Gas Room Heater now — use it all through the Fall when the rooms are chilly and you need a bit of warmth.

The heaters are of portable type and may be moved from room to room wherever needed.

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CURTISS THEATRE

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THE CURTISS, THIS SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27th OFFERING YOU

Beverly Bayne and Francis Bushman in Their Latest Picture and Success

"Daring Hearts"

This is the return of Francis X. Bushman and Beverly Bayne to the screen in a strong, stirring picture of love and adventure. A refreshing rare treat. An unusual story of big events. ALSO "International News" and the next to the last episode of EDDIE POLO in "The Lure of The Circus." Do you know that the Curtiss Theatre is open every night but Mondays showing the very pick and cream of the movies?

Admission 10 and 20 cents

THE CURTISS, NEXT TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30th A Big Clearing House Production

A Romance of the Air WITH **Lieut. Bert Hall**

AND ADDED ATTRACTIONS

Admission 10 and 20 cents

CURTISS THEATRE WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1st WE PRESENT

EARL WILLIAMS IN HIS VITAGRAPH SPECIAL **A Rogue's Romance**

A movie complete with surprises and suspense and an unusual Dramatic Finish. If you think that love is blind don't fail to see Earl Williams in this big play next Wednesday at The Curtiss. We also have on Wednesday a regular two reel comedy for laughing purposes only. A complete surprise for you.

Admission 10 and 20 cents

THE CURTISS, NEXT THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2nd Four Acts of Loop Vaudeville and a 6 Reel Fox Special

Mr. Logan of the U. S. A.

Just think of it folks, an evening with two such attractions placed before you. Admission 10 and 20 cents

Now Comes the BIG Announcement, We Offer for next FRIDAY & SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3rd & 4th

Douglas Fairbanks in His Majesty, The American

Arrange your booking date so that you may review this Fairbanks picture at the Curtiss on the above dates. ALSO ADDED ATTRACTIONS.

We again call your attention to the fact that The Curtiss is now open every night but Mondays and also announce the following photoplays for presentation during the month of October. Perhaps never before has there been offered in any suburban village or city such a bewildering selection of High Class entertainment as that which may be seen at The Curtiss during the month of October. Following is a list of features and comedies — Friday and Saturday, Oct. 31, "The American," "His Majesty, The American," "The Jay," Oct. 7th, "LaFayette, We Come," Wednesday, Oct. 8th, Alice Joyce in "The Third Degree," Thursday, Oct. 9th, William Farnum in "The Jungle Trail" and Loop Vaudeville, Friday and Saturday, Oct. 10th and 11th, "The Miracle Man" the greatest picture ever made and Billy Burke in "The Missing Link," Wallace Reid, in "The Valley of Giants" Anita Stewart in "The Kingdom of Dreams" Elsie Ferguson in "The Whittaker for the Defense," Dorothy Dalton in "Market of Souls," Charles Ray in "Egg Crate Wallop" and Marguerite Clark in "A Widow by Proxy." The above list of features will surely give you cause for favorable comment and make you a regular patron of The Curtiss, where you will see the best at all times. The comedy attractions are the Mack Sennett 2 reel specials, the Fox 2 reel sunshines, the Vitagraph special 2 reels, the Christy 2 reel specials, the Billy West 2 reels, and all the new Charlie Chaplins and Fatty Arbuckles, Burton Holmes Travelogues and the new Briggs comedies, Chester Outings and Monkey comedies.

Have your own laundry and save your clothes by washing them the modern way and they will last you twice as long.

This washer does not rub or scrub your clothes in any way. They simply roll around in the cylinder making it impossible to injure the finest of linens or laces.

You can buy this machine either for cash or on time and the price is soon saved.

Come in and see these machines run and let us tell you all about them. It won't cost you anything and it is surely worth seeing.

Get your order in before there is any more labor trouble. It may strike this factory as it has so many others at this time.

These machines are guaranteed and hawill do. All you have to do is ask any one ve proven for many years just what theyner of a Thor, just how they satisfy and they will tell you the same thing.

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