Downers Grove Reporter

Issued every Friday morning from the office of the Downers Grove Publishing Company, 37 North Main street, 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 $2.00 per year. Single copies 6c.

Member Cook County Press Club

To Our Friends
An Appreciation

It is the season of Christmas cheer in all the homes where subscribers to this paper dwell.

Christmas also in the minds and hearts of you good friends of ours.

Christmas, with all that term implies as to universal fellowship, bounteous unselfishness and renewed recognition of the fact that to give is actually better than to receive.

As you have put into anything, that much will you get out of it. Out of the interest you have taken in this paper during the past year we hope you have derived an equal personal pleasure. Your appreciation has made this paper's issuance a congenial work to us of the staff.

And likewise in that same spirit which makes Christmas time what it is, we take this opportunity of expressing our thanks to the business men of this community, and of the territory within which this paper circulates, for their cordial co-operation in practical ways which has made it possible for us regularly to present our best editorial efforts to the community in a creditable manner.

May the kindly glow of this holiday season color life for you and yours throughout the coming year.

Downers Grove Publishing Co.

WHAT OF THE FUTURE?

We are on the eve of a New Year. Nineteen-twenty, loaded with the joys and sorrows, the fulfillments and disappointments of three hundred and sixty six days will be ushered in with appropriate ceremonies one week from tonight. What has it in store for us? Not as individuals, but as a community?

Downers Grove will enter the New Year with better prospects than ever before in its history. New industries, bringing with them new people, will make their advent. The value of real estate is steadily increasing and should continue to do so.

We are a home loving people and manage our individual homes admirably. We are, however, deficient in a proper Community consciousness. We do not think enough in terms of the community. We let petty jealousies, petty personal strife interfere too much with the management of community affairs. To sum up the case tersely, we are a "clique-y" town. There is the "church" clique, about sixteen of them, the "lodge" clique, at least that many of them, the "Old Guard" and the "Democratic" clique and the clique of women who read Ibsen and those who do not and so on, ad infinitum. When these various people get together in almost any enterprise that is for the benefit of the community, they look askance at one another, they do not let their petty differences die to do a great good for a great number.

As a rule we are not believers in New Year's resolutions. They are too soon broken. If we did, we would advocate this one, for every member of this community. "RESOLVED, during 1920 I will develope to the best of my small ability a community consciousness, I will work with any and all people of the village on any commendable project to better the conditions of every day for EVERYONE of this community. I will not let my personal feelings against an individual or group of individuals interfere with doing my full duty toward all in any community enterprise."

Sounds a little quixotic, doesn't it? But anything is possible if only we make up our minds to do things right.

Let's make this New Year such a one that when it comes to an end as a community we will have nothing to regret.

LOCAL PASTORS WRITE CHRISTMAS MESSAGES

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sents to one another and also friendly greetings. The latter were little verses inscribed on cards; and these are the prototypes of our Christmas rally cards. Though this was originally a Pagan fashion, it was a gracious usage, and the Christians did well in maintaining it. Nor should we ever let it die out."

And thus the observnace of the birthday of the Babe of Bethlehem has from the beginning drawn to itself the dearest and happiest ceremonies that have ever risen among men—Christmas trees, Santa Claus, holly and mistletoe, the ancient Saxon Yule tide festival and feasting—all these once Pagan festivities and customs are now blended in one to make Christmas day the happiest, dearest, most precious day of all the year. Thus does Paganism, like the shepherds and the Magi of old, bring its best gifts in adoration of the Babe of Bethlehem. And is this not a symbol of that happy day that is coming, when the ends of the earth shall own His sway, when to Him every knee shall bow, and every tongue shall confess Him Lord of all. To Him let our hearts bow today, gratefully, reverently, lovingly. And as the young knights in the days of Chivalry consecrated themselves to purity of life and the righting of wrong, so may we, if we have never yet done so, [illegible] dedicated from the Prince of Peace, and dedicate our lives to the doing of His loving and gracious will. Hail to the day of His perfect reign.

THE MESSAGE OF CHRISTMAS

By H. M. MacWhorter, Pastor of S. Andrew's Episcopal Church.

Dear Friends:

These are the times that try men's souls. A world with social sins almost unhindered and industrial injustice so often triumphant hardly looks like God's world. Sin and suffering and sorrow and death are seen now in sharper outline than ever before. Is it any wonder that sometimes men ask whether a world like this can be God's handiwork? What kind of a God is it whose universe is seamed and scarred with sin and sorrow?

It is not sinful doubt to question. Who that thinks can face these problems with an untroubled heart? We are jealous for the honor of God. We want a God of love, or we will not believe in God at all.

There are arguments with which we might answer such doubts. God's world is what man has made it. And men are what they are because God could not make us good and keep us good. He gave us **moral freedom**, and that means freedom to choose and the possibility of going wrong. If God had made us any other way our goodness could never have been moral goodness, however perfect our lives: it would have been merely the goodness of a well-made machine.

So would we argue. But argument is an insult to a heart that aches. We want more than arguments. And thank God, we have more in the story of Jesus Christ. Ih He is indeed the Eternal Son of God, there can be no question about the love of God. There always will be things in the world we shall never understand the mystery of evil: but whether we understand the mystery or not, we can believe.

If the story of Jesus Christ were better understood, it would be seen how this human craving for a human God has its answer in the Gospel. Not a finite God—that would be a contradiction in terms—but a God who struggles; who is willing to struggle, if only so men may be left in moral freedom; a God who cares and sympathizes.

For those who have thought long and deeply of the meaning of Christianity, this has been the real message of the life of Jesus Christ. He is the assurance that God does enter into the tragedy of human life and that He understands it. He is not a God of lovely majesty and self-sufficiency. Once upon a time He came visibly among men (the Child of Bethlehem) to tell them what He really is, and those who have read aright the story of His coming have light on life's dark mysteries—mysteries that will never cease to be full of clouds and darkness, though they show a silver lining to the eyes of patient faith. If the Gospel be only an "interpretation" of God and human life, though given by the Best Man the world has ever known, we have no certain revelation. In that case the Gospel becomes merely the story of one more good man—a surpassingly good man—struggling and failing: deserted by God at the last. It is only when we accept Jesus Christ as what the Christian Church has always proclaimed Him—very God of God—that the truth of the story holds. Then, and only then, can we feel sure of the God of love: for then we have not simply wonderful thoughts about God, but a picture, painted in human colors, to show us what essentially, He is.

What Christ was, God is. What Christ did, God does. What Christ said, God says. What Christ felt, God feels. Can there be any doubt about Christ's love? If he were only a good man, that would prove nothing. But if He is God's Son, then we have light on life's dark mysteries. We know that God Almighty, in the Person of Jesus Christ, once walked this earth. Does God care for men? See Him, in the Person of His dear Son, hanging on the cross. Does God love? He so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son.

That is not argument: it is fact. The statement of it is not dogma: it is life.

So the Christian believer walks thru the world with peace in his heart. He has learned the secret of all secrets, that God is love. He has looked into the face of Jesus Christ, and he remembers his Lord's words. "He that hath seen Me hath seen the Father."

There is the great fact for him: the fact which the Bible makes clear

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D. G. H. S. JUNIOR CLASS PLAY WAS A BIG SUCCESS

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ed his life in a Braino bombardment.

George Bunge as Peters, proprietor of the sweet shop, was good. With a bark worse than his bite, he threatened to chase the college crowd forever from his doors, only to be made to reconsider by the promises of more advertising from the facile pen of Horton.

Walker, played by Robert Knoblauch, was a splendid little business manager. He wasn't going to see his employer, Hicks, abused by any of these imupdent college chaps.

Elma Kelly took to perfection the part of Claire Angeline Jones, a stage struck girl. In costume and manners she was excellent ni the part.

Poor tearful little Susy Spriggins, a freshman with a crush on a senior, was well done by Jeanette Wells.

Daisy Armstrong, slangy and athletic, was very well portrayed by Adelaide Lynch.

Mary Curtis as Fluff Finley made a good "fusser," and helped a lot to keep Tom in college.

Ruth Waples as Mrs. Cobb, house mother at the boy's dormitory, made a very efficient one. She doted on the boys, and was as interested in their joys and successes as any of the college girls could possibly have been.

Marie Neilsen as Lily, the maid, was most attractive with her little black frock, jaunty little cap and apron.

The orchestra numbers are deserving of especial mention. Altho the director was unable to be present, the orchestra went through with its part of the program in a most creditable manner. Little Ivan Mansfield played two violin solos which were most enthusiastically received. Gwen Griffiths sang.

This play was the first of the high school entertainment course series which is given to raise money for the publication of a high school annual. It is under the direction of Miss Frances Hughes and it is to her untiring interest and work with the players that made it the unqualified success it undoubtedly was .

THAT CHURCH SUPPER

Near Year's Eve from 6 to 7 o'clock at the First M. E. church, supper will be served for 25 cents a plate as long as provisions last. Two hundred and fifty are expected.

After the supper, from 7 to 8 o'clock, a great Gospel Praise and Prayer service followed by an hour of informal visiting. You are invited to come and bring the whole family.

The menu

Pot Roast — Brown Gravy
Mashed Potatoes
Macaroni and Tomatoes
Pickles — Bread and Butter
Coffee or Cocoa — Pie

MASONIC LODGES HELD FIRST PUBLIC INSTALLATION

(Continued from Page 1)

Frisbie and Mr. Shepard prefaced the ceremonial work by recalling that he had been received into Riverside lodge by the new master of Grove Lodge.

It is seldom that the impressive charges to the lodge officials have been given with greater eloquence and impressiveness than marked the labors of the installing officers.

Much to the regret of those present William J. Beidelman, veteran tyler, who for twenty-five years has guarded the portals of the lodge was unable to be present, though it was announced that he was on the road to recovery from the illness which he has suffered.

The new officers of Grove Lodge are:

W. M.—F. W. Frisbie
Senior Warden—J. B. Jenkins
Junior Warden—M. A. Sullivan
Senior Deacon—D. Harry Jenkins
Junior Deacon—Dennis Jenkins
Senior Steward—B. C. Downes
Junior Steward—A. R. Whitehorn
Secretary—F. E. Dowe
Treasurer—Geo. O. Prickett

In the intermission between the installation ceremonies an orchestra under the direction of Guy Camp rendered several selections.

ALL IS SET FOR COMMUNITY TREE TOMORROW EV'NG

Downers Grove's church bells will ring out the glad Christmas tidings of invitation to gather at the Community Christmas Tree in depot park at 5:45 tomorrow evening. At this signal people from all over the village will gather around the tree for a fifteen minute song service.

Songs of the Christmas season, so dear to the hearts of all, will be the only part of the program. Led by a small orchestra these strains telling of "Peace on earth and good will toward men" will swell out on the wintry air, carrying a message to Him who watches over our destinies.

The singers will gather around a living evergreen in the park, north of the tracks. From top to bottom this tree will be ablaze with electric lights and during Christmas week their rays will shine so that all who travel by on the "Q" will be aware of the fact that Downers Grove is celebrating the Christmas season.

It is hoped by those in charge that every member of the community able to be out will gather tomorrow evening. Fifteen minutes given over to the praise of God on the birthday of His Son, is not too much to ask at Christmas.

WELLS—THULIN

Miss Louise Burton Wells, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Burton Wells of 51 Saratoga avenue, and Mr. Benjamin G. Thulin of Logan Square, were quietly married in the Logan Square Evangelical church on Friday evening ,December 19th. The Rev. G. Pahl, formerly pastor of St. Paul's church here, officiated.

Mr. and Mrs. Thulin will make their home for the present with the bride's parents.

XMAS PARTY BY ODD FELLOWS GREAT SUCCESS

The Hall of Downers Grove Lodge No. 750, I. O. O. F. was the scene of much gaiety last night at the Christmas party given by that lodge to the children of the members. Nearly fifty happy "kids" gathered around the beautifully decorated tree while listening to the music and waiting for Old Santa to make his appearance.

There was a whoop of joy when he finally did come with his bag of presents on his shoulder through the chimney which was fixed up for that purpose. After each child had received his gift old Santa left and general good time was enjoyed by all.

Following is the program:

Prayer ..... L. F. Edwards
Wonder Mother of Mine .. Quartette
Carolina Sunshine ..... Wm. Smith
Holy Night .. Miss Helen Beidelman
When the Dew is on the Rose ..... Quartette
Alabama Lullaby ..... Wm. Smith
Santa Claus
Perfect Day ..... Quartette
Merry Christmas

S. Andrew's Church

THE NATION-WIDE CAMPAIGN FOR THE COMMUNITY

To my friends throughout the community:

MAY THE BLESSINGS OF THIS HOLY SEASON OF CHRISTMAS BE UPON YOU AND YOURS NOW AND THROUGH ALL THE DAYS OF THE COMING YEAR.

Faithfully Yours,
HUGH M. MACWHORTER.

December 28 to January 28

Evangelistic Services

at

First Evangelical Church

J. Alfred Nansen
Evangelistic Preacher

Rudolph F. Joop
Soloist and Chorister

7:45 SONG SERVICE
8:15 PREACHING
EVERY EVENING EXCEPT SATURDAYS

The type of evangelism which challenges you to make more of your life by recognizing the claims of Christ upon it.

WELCOME!

Fred D. Heinke
PLUMBING
Steam Heating - Sewer Building
Gas Fitting
Telephone 53-R

Christmas Gifts

in great abundance for "HIM" or "HER" will be found in our store. We have stocked up with the finest of gifts for the Christmas trade, gifts which will be appreciated not alone for their utility, but for their beauty.

MANICURE ROLL SETS, Leather & Silk Lined
Full line of Delicate PERFUMES
STATIONARY
FOUNTAIN PENS
EVERSHARP PENCILS
KODAKS AND KODAK ALBUMS

You will have to visit our store personally to realize the splendid assortment and value of the gifts we have on display.

ZINDT'S PHARMACY
Day and Night Service.
34 S. Main Str. Telephone 282

Nowhere in the village can be found a greater profusion of "Gifts for the Home" than in this store. When one stops to think th emost appropriate gift which can be purchased is one that the whole family ca nget the benefit from. A practical gift, which can be used, not only on special occasions, but all the year through.

Under this head could come Vacuum Cleaners and Washing Machines, which tho primarily for mother, really belong to the whole family. These up-to-date electrical appliances give mother just so much more time to do the little things "Daddy" and the Children appreciate. They keep her from wearing herself out with the monotonous drudge of daily housekeeping duties. They save her from many a cross spell because she is over-tired.

Give Only Practical Gifts

We have listed below a few of the many things on display.

Fine Table Cutlery
Razors
Manicure Sets
Flashlights
Carpet Sweepers
Vacuum Sweepers
Floor Brushes
Peninsular Coal Ranges
Peninsular Comb. Ranges
Peninsular Gas Ranges
Peninsular Furnaces
Winchester Rifles
Single Barrel Shot Guns 12G
Single Barrel 16 gauge
Single Barrel 401 gauge
Disston Saws
Stanley Planes
Millers Falls Drlils
Electric Sewing Machines
Electric Sewing Machine Motors
Electric Irons
Electric Washing Machines
Aluminum Percolators
Aluminum Kettles
Aluminum Roasters
Aluminum Rice Boilres
Aluminum Fry Pans
Aluminum Cake Pans
Aluminum Spoons
Casseroles, Plain
Casseroles, Fancy
Hand Painted Dishes
Vases
Jardineers
Fine Pocket Cutlery
Rose Trowels
Yankee Screw Drivers
Yankee Drills
Stillson Wrenches
Nicholson Files
Axes, Hatchets, Hammers
Pliers
Oil Heaters
Fancy Market Baskets
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Food Choppers
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Lunch Boxes
Pyrex Glass Ware
Bath Room Fixtures
Boy's Wagons
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J. D. GILLESPIE & CO.

Telephone 30 Day or Night — 61 South Main Street — Telephone 30 Day or Night

Retailers of High Grade Merchandise