

# DOWNERS GROVE REPORTER

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DOWNERS GROVE, DU PAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, FRIDAY, APRIL 9, 1920

WHOLE NO. 1886

## WINNING SCOUT ESSAY WRITTEN BY PAUL WENZEL.

Crescy Woehrl and Wm. O'Neill  
Take Second and Third  
Money Respectively.

On Saturday, February 13th, the boy scouts of the Suburban District had a very interesting trip to Chicago. During the day they saw many wonderful things and as a result of this trip C. H. Staats and F. N. Davis offered \$10.00 for the best essays on the day written by the boys.

Scoutmasters Heintz, Brevillier and O'Neill were selected as the judges of the contest and have rendered their verdict. Paul Wenzel of the second troop receives the first prize of \$5.00; Crescy Woehrl the second of \$3.50 and Wm. O'Neill the third, of \$1.50.

So good were the papers that it was hard to decide which was the best. We print below the winning essays:

### SCOUTING AROUND WITH BOY SCOUTS

By Paul Wenzel, Troop No. 2.

On the morning of February 14, 1920, during the scout's tenth anniversary week, Troops No. 1, 2 and 3 assembled at the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad Street at Downers Grove, Ill., and entrained for Chicago, arriving at the Union Station in that city at 10:07 a. m. From there we hiked to Montgomery Ward & Company's Plant.

We saw a good deal for the little time we were there and it is well we did not tarry any longer as I fear little work was accomplished during our stay. They seemed to be as much interested in us as we were in them. Many of the clerks wore roller skates but even with skates I do not believe they can make as good time as do the Scouts while hiking.

From the Montgomery Ward's Plant we hiked to the docks at North Ave. and Chicago River, where the S. Gunboat Wilmette was stationed. The Wilmette was formerly the Eastland, an excursion boat plying the Lakes. We went aboard the Gunboat but did very little sight-seeing before the cry of the hungry scouts became "Eats!" In a short time the Mess Call sounded and we were well prepared as we had knives, forks, spoons and cups with us, as well as fine, large appetites. At mess were given veal cutlet, mashed potatoes, gravy, bread butter and Pie a la mode and there was not a scout but who did full justice to it.

After mess we continued our explorations and if there was a nook or corner of the boat that was not peeped into I miss my guess. Everything on the boat had its own special place with a view of taking up the least possible room. The coffee pot hung on a wire from the ceiling. It seemed as though the entire boat from engine rooms to the Crow's nest had just been scrubbed, it was so spotlessly clean. The machinery also looked interesting but we were not allowed to go very close to it and it was so complicated that a person could tell very little about it. Only a few of us were permitted to climb to the Crow's nest but it was so cold and windy getting up there that we did not stay long enough to see much. The guns had their winter jackets on so we couldn't see much of them.

From the gunboat we walked the gang plank to the ex-German U-Boat U. 97. This boat was one of those surrendered at Scappa Flow. It operated for about six months from Ostend to Zeebrugge before the armistice was signed and has the credit of sinking six Allied ships.

The interior of the boat appeared to be a mass of wheels, levers and lockers of all kinds and descriptions. It was impossible to tell the meaning of various levers etc., as the descriptions or directions were printed in German. We were roped out of the Torpedo and Engine Rooms so didn't get a look at it. The woodwork and furnishings were well made and of good materials. There was a disappearing turret on either end with a gun mounted on each.

After inspecting everything of interest—that is, everything we were allowed to inspect—we were ready to visit the Armour Grain Elevators, which are situated a short distance

## MRS. BLODGETT, OLD RESIDENT, PASSES AWAY

Mrs. Charles B. Blodgett, aged 76 years and six months, died at the Blodgett homestead on East Maple avenue, Tuesday night after a protracted illness.

Funeral services will be held from the home this afternoon at three o'clock. Bishop Samuel Fallows, an old-time friend of the family will officiate and the remains will be taken to a vault in the Hinsdale cemetery.

Mrs. Blodgett, nee Emma Caroline Brooks, was born on a farm near Glen Ellyn, Ill., October 24, 1843. The youngest child of David and Ruby Brookins, and is the last of the family of six sisters and three brothers to pass to the other side.

As a young woman she attended Wheaton College, after which she taught school in this vicinity for two years.

On March 28, 1866, she was married to Charles B. Blodgett. They came immediately to the old Blodgett homestead on Maple avenue, where they have lived continuously for over fifty-four years, loved and respected by all.

She was for many years a member of the First Congregational church, and until prevented by failing health a faithful worker in its various departments.

Mrs. Blodgett leaves to mourn her loss her husband and three sons, Harry L. and William H. of Downers Grove, and David P. of San Francisco, besides many friends and relatives.

The passing of Mrs. Blodgett marks the severing of another link in the chain which binds the present generation to the past. Born when DuPage County was still a wilderness, still the habitat of the Indian, the bear, wolf and other animals of the field and forest, she grew with the country. Thru the many years she has gradually seen the changes which time alone can work. The stagecoach has given way to the automobile. The old mires called roads have been replaced by broad bands of concrete. All this has happened in the span of her life.

Like the older generation she was a home lover, a loving wife and a gentlewoman. She will be sorely missed by her family and many friends.

## FINE PROGRAM PRESENTED AT EASTER MATINEE

The annual Easter matinee given under the auspices of the Civics and Philanthropy department of the Woman's Club was held as has been the custom in the M. E. Church on Saturday, April third.

An especially good program was presented, each number of which beautifully and fittingly expressed the spirit of the Eastertide.

Local and out of town talent gave the following program:

Piano Duet.....  
Misses Marion Lower and Thelma Roe  
Vocal Duet—"Awake Dearest One"..... Ball

.....Misses Grace Stover and Lillian Washburn  
Saxophone Solo.....George Bunge  
Accompanied by Frances Hughes  
Vocal Solo.....

Miss Alice Schliesmann  
Reading—"Jean Val Jean and the Bishop".....Victor Hugo  
Mrs. N. R. Feasley

Vocal Solo with Violin Obligato—"The Day is Ended".....Bartlett  
Miss Avis Lempe accompanied by George Nargney and Miss Grace Towsley

Violin Solo.....George Nargney  
Accompanied by Miss Grace Towsley  
Organ.....Miss Mariana Roe  
Accompanists—Mrs. Ralph Boaz and Miss Marion Lower

## AFTER YOU'VE READ THE NEWS

are you through with your paper? You may be through with it but haven't gotten all the good out of it until you have read the advertisements carefully. They not only make this paper possible, but they have an instructive value all their own. Always read all the ads.

## CHAS. ROE WINS OVER ROY KLEIN ALMOST 2 TO 1

Downers Grove Polled Large Vote  
In Contest for Highway  
Commissionership.

Chas. K. Roe was returned as Highway Commissioner for Downers Grove Township at the election held Tuesday in one of the hottest fights ever seen locally. He polled almost twice as many votes as his opponent, Roy Klein, who ran as an independent candidate. The total figures for the township are—Roe, 898 and Klein, 465.

Roe carried every precinct with the exception of that of Lace where Roy Klein led him by 25 votes.

## WOMEN TO VOTE AT PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY TUESDAY

County Clerk Kuhn has Prepared the  
Ballots and They Will  
Be Voted.

DuPage County women will have the chance next Tuesday, April 13th, to make their choice for the man to lead the Republican party in the Presidential election in November. This was decided by County Clerks as to the preparation of ballots for women. Each county will do as they see fit and Mr. Kuhn has wisely decided that women have an equal chance with men to state their preference.

There are but two names on the Republican ticket, Frank O. Lowden,

## OSCAR H. SNYDER DIES ON EIGHTY- FIRST BIRTHDAY

Oscar H. Snyder died at his home on Oakwood avenue early Monday morning, April 5th, on the eighty-first anniversary of his birth.

Funeral services were held at the home on Tuesday afternoon. The Rev. Hugh M. MacWhorter, pastor of S. Andrew's church, officiating, and the body was sent to Mr. Pleasant, Iowa, where he was buried on April 7th, his 51st wedding anniversary.

Mr. Snyder was born in Mt. Pleasant April 5th, 1839 where he spent the first thirty-four years of his life. A part of this time he was engaged in newspaper work and he never lost his fascination for the business.

On April 7th, 1869 he was married to Ida L. Evans and a short time thereafter gave up the newspaper profession and became a pharmacist. During part of his sojourn in the Grove he followed his profession here.

He was a life-long Republican and an ardent member of the I. O. O. F. for fifty-three years having joined that organization in Mt. Pleasant in 1867.

Mr. Snyder is survived by his wife, two sons and one daughter, Henry E. of Fairfield, Iowa, Harlan E. and Edith E. of Downers Grove, two sisters, Miss Mary Snyder of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, and Mrs. Frank Hatton of Washington, D. C.

## C. B. BLODGETT HOST AT BAN- QUET SATURDAY

County Officials and Friends Gathered  
to Honor Retiring Assis-  
tant Supervisor.

Last Saturday afternoon, following the custom of years, C. B. Blodgett, gave a dinner to the members of the Board of Supervisors and the officials of the County. Included in the invitations this year were friends of Mr. Blodgett and men who had served with him on the business of DuPage.

The occasion was "Charlie's" swan song as he refused this year to be a candidate for the office of Assistant Supervisor from Downers Grove township, an office which he has capably and honorably filled for thirty-two years.

Following the dinner State's Attorney Chas. Hadley acted as chairman and introduced the host of the afternoon. With emotion which he could hardly conceal Mr. Blodgett told of the many years he has served as a representative on the county board. He referred to things which are now a part of the history of this commonwealth, recalling persons and events which have stood out from others during his tenure of office.

The speakers who followed were all unanimous in telling of the devotion and real public spirit with which Mr. Blodgett performed the duties of his office. The central theme of all was the honesty which he has displayed in his duties.

At the building of the present courthouse, and later at the construction of the county farm, he was superintendent of the work. For every dollar the county spent in these public improvements, it received one hundred cents worth of good work. This is attributed to the foresight and overseeing of Mr. Blodgett who was on the job every working hour.

One little incident is given to illustrate how watchful he was. The tower at the court house had been built about fifteen feet. Mr. Blodgett noticed that the steel support under the wall was not as large as the specifications called for. He made the contractors tear out the unfinished wall, put in the proper size support and then go ahead with the job.

Unquestionably he has behind him a record in public office which is unique. For thirty-two straight years he served this township and never in that time has any question about his honesty, integrity or fitness for the office been raised.

Among the speakers Saturday who extolled his virtues and told of incidents in his official life, were: States Attorney Hadley, Judge Rathje, Judge Batten of Chicago formerly DuPage County State's Attorney, former State's Attorney C. L. Cooper of Glen Ellyn, Judge Mazzini Slusser, County Clerk Kuhn, Supervisor McClinton of Hinsdale, Superintendent of Schools, C. B. Bowman, Thos. A. Verdenius, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, Wm. Hamerschmidt.

## YEAR'S WORST SNOW STORM EASTER DAY

All Day Blizzard Piles Snow in  
Drifts Three and Four Feet  
in Height.

Easter Sunday saw one of the worst blizzards which has visited this section of the country all winter.

Snow, driven by a forty mile gale, in a fashion which reminded one of the stories of the blizzards of the Dakotas, started falling early in the morning. As the day increased so did the force of the wind and the snow fall.

By night, when the snow stopped, drifts three and four feet in height were common. The snow plows made their, we hope, last run of the season and in sheltered places can still be seen the results of the storm.

Easter finery was put on the shelf and the old winter garments sufficed for church goers.

The only thing that mitigated some what the storm, was the fact that it wasn't cold. With zero weather, it would have been awful to face the wind.

Folks who vowed they would buy no more coal have been ordering it in half ton lots and the coal dealers are as busy as ever.



The vote was as follows:

Downers Grove	515	303
Hinsdale	318	72
Lace	65	90
Total	898	465

Here in Mr. Roe's home town, the contest waxed the fiercest. Both sides had automobiles going all day carrying the voters to the polls and the number of votes registered, 818, showed that they met with success.

### No Other Contest.

The other places on the township were elected without contests. These officers are: Assessor, George E. Ruchty; Town Clerk, J. A. Hall; and Assistant Supervisor, William H. Blodgett.

Mr. Blodgett takes the place of his father, Chas. B. Blodgett, on the Board of Supervisors, which the elder has held for thirty-two years.

## LOCAL COMPANY TIES OAK PARK IN RIFLE MEET

The local machine gun company of the Reserve Militia shot a tie with Co. L of Oak Park on Wednesday evening at the 2nd Regiment Armory, in Chicago.

This is something unusual in the annuals of the rifle matches, and every shot counted. The match was for the silver cup which the local company has defended so often since first winning it.

Fine scores were the rule. The total was 1141, an average of 142 5/8 per man, out of a possible 150.

The tie score will be shot off on April 28th at which time the locals expect to cop.

Scores of the men from Downers Grove were: Tholin, 146; Briggs, 145; Caird, 139; Mejdrich, 138; Chambers, 139; Henderson, 142; Rigabee, 146; and Carpenter, 146.

Illinois' War Governor and Leonard Wood, a General Officer of the Army. No Democratic candidate has filed in the State and those voting this ticket will be forced to write in the names of their choice. Neither party has a candidate for Vice President.

There are two delegates and two alternates to be elected to each convention. William E. Wire of Hebron and John Lambert of Joliet, are the regular nominees, with Frank M. Lasher of Elgin and Joseph A. Reuss of Naperville, as alternates. Munzio DiLorenzo of Joliet and Edward M. Herber of Elgin are running independent for delegates. All of these men are pledged to the support of Frank O. Lowden.

The only other candidates on the tickets are for precinct committeemen.

In the opinion of many old time politicians the vote next Tuesday will be a light one. We, however, are of a different opinion and think that the people of the State will flock to the polls in large numbers to register their preference for the man to head the tickets.

## ANNUAL MEETING OF WOMAN'S CLUB NEXT WEDNESDAY

The annual meeting and election of officers of the Woman's Club will be held Wednesday the 14th. The meeting will be open at 11 o'clock with a cafeteria luncheon at 1 o'clock. Members are asked to contribute what ever food they choose also to bring their own fork and spoon. A large attendance is desired as the reports of various officers, departments and committees will be given showing a complete summary of the years' work.

## LOCAL COLLEGE BASEBALL STARS OFF FOR JAPAN

"Ted" Curtiss and John Mochel to  
Sail for the Land of the  
Cherry Blossom.

"Ted" Curtiss and John Mochel left Chicago on Tuesday evening en route for Japan.

With ten other baseball players from the University of Chicago, they are on their way to cross the broad Pacific for a series of games with the crack nines of the Orient, mostly college teams.

Leaving tonight over the "Q" they will make a short stay in Denver and then will go to Salt Lake City, Utah, where they will play a game with the University of Utah nine. This game will be played Friday or Saturday.

From Salt Lake they will go to San Francisco arriving there Monday. A week from tomorrow, April 17th, the party will board the Tenyo Maru for their ocean trip of thousands of miles. Stopping for a short sight of the Philippines, they will land at Yokohama, Japan.

About twelve games have been scheduled with the best teams of Japan and these will take about six weeks to play. They expect to be back in the States about the first of July.

Already great preparations have been made by the Japanese to entertain these athletes and fetes will be given in their honor wherever they stop. It will be a wonderful experience and trip for the boys.

Traveling with them as their manager is Coach Fred Merfield and with the twelve players makes up the party.

Curtiss plays first base on the team and Mochel third. They have been among the stars of the organization since making the team.

It is quite an honor to Downers Grove to have two out of twelve men on this team hail from our village. Just think the team of the University of Chicago, one of the biggest educational institutions in the United States makes a trip to Japan and of the twelve players, two are from here.

Almost as soon as they return Curtiss will go to Belgium as a representative of the United States at the Olympic games.

## THOSE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

are without doubt the best paying little investments one can make. We know of three pianos they have sold in the last three weeks, an unlimited quantity of household goods, chickens, eggs, buggies, live stock, etc., etc. The cost is small, the results big. Try one.