

DOWNERS GROVE REPORTER

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DOWNERS GROVE, DU PAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1920

WHOLE NO. 1923

VILLAGE ATTORNEY TAKES EXCEPTION TO NEWS STORY

Says Reporter Missed the Point at Issue in Arrest of Theatre Owner.

Dec. 22, 1920.

Downers Grove Reporter,
Downers Grove, Illinois.
Gentlemen:

In your issue of December 17th you undertook to tell about the arrest of Mr. Elmer Uhlhorn for violation of an ordinance prohibiting moving pictures on Sunday and what took place in connection therewith following his arrest, but as you did not state the point in issue, nor give a correct statement of what was involved I give you this information for the benefit of those who would like to know just what happened. The following statement may, therefore, be of interest:

Under date of November 8th, the Village Council passed an ordinance prohibiting certain classes of entertainments and among them moving pictures on Sunday. The commission form of government under which we operate provides in Section 48 that an ordinance of this kind does not go into effect until thirty days after its passage. It also provides that if within the thirty days mentioned a petition is presented to the Council with the required number of voters, protesting against the passage of said ordinance, it shall be the duty of the Council to reconsider the ordinance and if they do not repeal it it must be submitted by the Council to the voters at a special or general election as provided by the Act.

It will be noted that I have said the Law provides that the protesting petition must be "PRESENTED" to the Council within thirty days from the time of the passage of the ordinance. Mr. Uhlhorn delayed the presentation of the petition until the thirtieth day; that was on December 8th. He then brought it to the Clerk's office and presented it to him. The clerk advised that the petition had to be presented to the Council within thirty days and that the Council was not in session and, therefore, the petition was offered too late. I concurred with the Clerk on this point.

Assuming then that the petition was not filed in time Mr. Uhlhorn violated the ordinance by running the theatre on Sunday, the 12th. He ran it on that day because he assumed, and was advised, that his petition was filed in time.

In view of the Village's interpretation of the question as to whether or not the petition was filed in time there was nothing for it to do but to endeavor to enforce the ordinance. Mr. Uhlhorn's arrest followed. Monday evening of the same day of his arrest he came to the Council meeting and took the position before the Council that his petition in all respects had complied with the law, to which position the Council differed. It was agreed, however, that I should talk the matter over with Mr. Bunge, his Attorney, and see if we could not agree on the point involved, namely this: Was the petition presented to the Council within thirty days as required by the Act?

The law on this point is barren. By that I mean there are no Appellate or Supreme Court cases that decide this particular question. In one case the Supreme Court seems to make a distinction between "Filed" and "Presented," for it said referring to that case "Petition was filed in the office of the Clerk on May 5, 1916 and was presented by the clerk to the Council the same day." I merely quote this to indicate that the Supreme Court apparently distinguishes between "filed with the clerk" and "presenting to the Council." Our point was not involved because there (Continued on page 8)

Mr. and Mrs. Lew F. Edwards and daughters leave next Wednesday, January 5th, for Los Angeles, Calif., where they will make their home. Herbert leaves on the 6th going by train for Denver, Colorado.

MERCURY HITS TEN BELOW ON "COLDEST DAY"

First Frigid Spell of Winter Produces Some Real "Snappy" Weather.

Ten below zero was the tale the mercury told in most thermometers around the village on Tuesday morning. However, if you like it a little warmer or a little colder all you had to do was listen to the story told by some one else for the weather tubes registered all the way from seven to twelve below.

When it gets that cold, however, we really don't believe a degree or two makes very much difference. Sufficient to say it was real snappy weather and made one glad to seek the shelter of dwelling houses.

Let 'er come, we've still a little coal in the old cellar.

A LITTLE LOOK BACKWARD THRU REPORTER FILES

A Compilation of Births, Marriages and Deaths of the Year About to Close.

This is the last number of The Reporter for the year 1920. It has been a wonderfully swift year bringing with it we suppose the usual number of births, marriages and deaths.

Monday an examination was made of the files for the past year with a view of ascertaining the number of each. This showed that in our fifty-two issues past we have printed the announcement of sixty-two births, thirty-six boys and twenty-six girls. Of this number all but a few were new arrivals in Downers Grove homes, the rest being former residents.

In the same time the marriage announcement of sixty-four couples have found their way into our columns. Of the sixty-four, five were of people who formerly made their home here.

Seventy-three death notices were printed in 1920. Almost fifty per cent of these were of people who had moved away from the Grove or of relatives of people who now live here.

Summing it all up there have been a great many more births in the village during the past twelve months than deaths. The great number of marriages we believe is due to the war. While it was in progress most of the eligible young men were away from home and since their return have been making up for lost time. More real estate transfers were listed than in any other two years and by the same token more new people have moved away and more new people come in than ever before.

This little story conclusively shows that the home newspaper is simply a mirror held up so that the life of the community can be reflected therein. It is an up-to-date history of the events of the community which it serves and should receive the whole-hearted support of every resident of that community.

Theodore Roosevelt once said, "There is but one star - Geraldine Farrar." See her at the Curtis New Years Day.

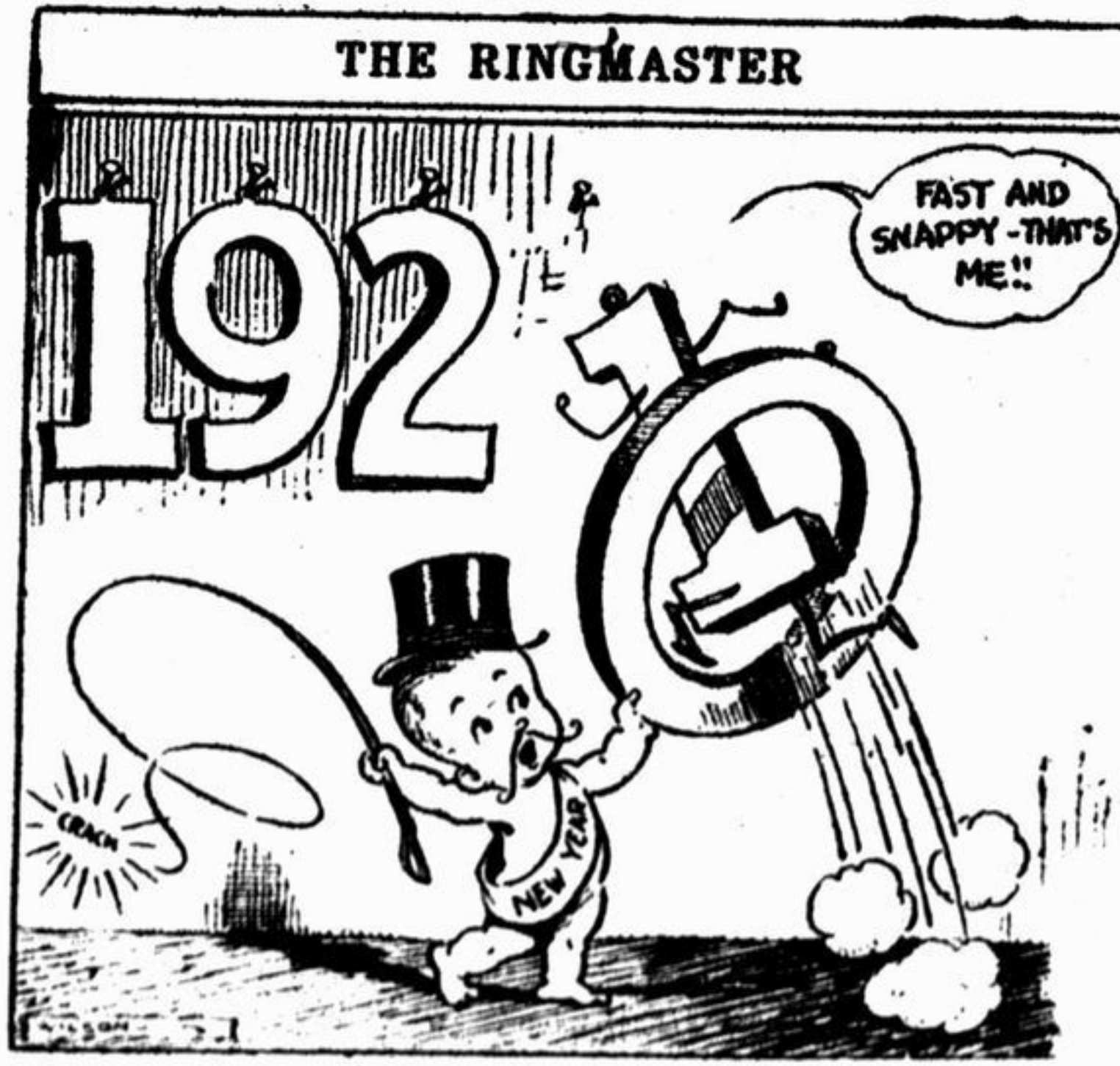
RESOLUTIONS FOR THE NEW YEAR

RESOLVED - That I will send in every week to The Reporter office the little items of news I know about myself and family so that our home paper will be more interesting not only to myself but to the thousands of other readers.

RESOLVED - That whenever possible I will notify the editor of The Reporter of anything I think he should publish in the interest of the community and that I will keep always in the forefront of my mind the fact that it is my duty as a citizen of this village to work for the interests of all the people of the village. That if everyone would take this viewpoint Downers Grove would be better and bigger.

Nobody Wishes You A Happy New Year

more than we do.



TWO CHRISTMAS WEDDINGS SOL- EMNIZED HERE

Binder-Grotefeld and Christy-Diener Nuptials Celebrated at the Yuletide

CHRISTY - DIENER

The marriage of Miss Bertha Diener, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Diener of 109 Ross Court, and Mr. Paul I. Christy of LaGrange, was solemnized at the home of the bride's parents, at 3:00 p. m. on Christmas Day. The Rev. J. Alfred Nansen, pastor of First Evangelical Church, officiated, reading the impressive ring service.

The bride and groom were attended by Miss June Heideman and Mr. King. The wedding professional was played by Mrs. Nansen. Following the ceremony, dinner was served to the guests of the occasion. A host of friends join in extending best wishes to this happy pair. Mr. and Mrs. Christy will make their home in LaGrange, Illinois.

BINDER - GROTEFELD

On Christmas Eve a very pretty wedding was solemnized at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Binder of W. Curtis street, when their daughter, Miss Esther Catherine Binder became the bride of Mr. Theodore J. Grotefeld, son of the Rev. and Mrs. Wm. Grotefeld of Grove street.

The bride, wearing white satin charmuse and a veil caught with a wreath of orange blossoms and carrying a bouquet of bride's roses, was attended by Miss Esther Klein, a maid of honor. Miss Klein wore silver net over apricot satin and carried pink roses. The bridesmaids, the Misses Lucille Heintz, Dorothy Near, Mae Binder, of the Grove and Miss Naomi Juby of Elgin, wore the rainbow colors and carried sweet peas and narcissus.

Mr. Gilbert Binder, a cousin of the bride, acted as groomsman.

Lohengrin's wedding march was played by George Bunge and Ray Klein on the piano and violin and the wedding party marched to an arch of evergreen and white in a corner of the parlor where the questions and responses of the beautiful double ring ceremony were used. The Rev. Wm. Grotefeld, who is pastor of St. Paul's Evangelical Church, officiated.

One of the events of the evening was the cutting of the beautiful bride's cake a present of her uncle, Mr. George Volkman of Chicago, by (Continued on page 4)

VILLAGE VICTOR IN SUIT AGAINST SURETY COMPANY

Will Receive Compensation for Poor Sidewalk Work on Gilbert and Other Streets.

\$1,000 IS INVOLVED

The Village of Downers Grove has emerged the victor from a long drawn out litigation with the American Surety Company of New York, over the settlement of the village claim on poor work done on cement sidewalks on Gilbert avenue and other streets in the village.

It was in October 1914 that the Council passed Special Assessment Ordinances Nos. 49 and 50 calling for the construction of cement sidewalks on Webster street, Church street, Summit street, Gilbert avenue and Carpenter street. Bids were asked for and Kent R. Wylie was given the contract to do the work being the lowest bidder. He gave a penal bond with the American Surety Co. of New York, two bonds, one for \$1,000 and the other for \$500.

On August 2, 1915, the work had been completed and Engineer Ott filed his final certificates of acceptance.

It was in July, 1916, that it was apparent to the most casual observer that something was wrong with the walks. They began to crumble and fade away as if the rains and snows had melted them. On March 1, 1917, the Village notified the surety company that the work was faulty and asked that they replace the walks with new blocks as needed. This the company refused to do and suit was brought against them in the County Court. After much legal wrangling and fencing on both sides, starting in November, 1917, the case came to trial on October 17, 1919, before Judge Mazzini Slusser and the jury found for the Village awarding them \$500 damages in each case.

The Surety Company was not satisfied with the verdict and appealed to the Appellate Court of the Second District of Illinois. The case was reviewed at the April term and the verdict of the trial court was upheld. Again the case was appealed, this time to the Supreme Court of the State who refused to hear it because the amount involved was too small.

Kelly, Hale, Damman & Coolidge were retained by the Village to assist Village Attorney A. B. Snow, to prepare and fight the case and Bunge Harbour & Schmid were the attorneys which represented the American Surety Company.

WOMANS CLUB HEAD THANKS SEAL BUYERS

Mrs. Alice M. Paine Says Success of Sale Due to Efforts of Mrs. Perron.

The President of the Downers Grove Womans Club wishes to express her appreciation of the cooperation of the public in selling \$140.35 worth of the Red Cross Seals in the Village. The success of the campaign is due to the untiring work of Mrs. N. J. Perron, Chairman of the Committee in charge of the sale, and also to the publicity and practical assistance given by The Reporter. The Club wishes to thank the editors for the space given the campaign, also for the purchase of 1,000 seals.

Alice M. Paine, President.
Downers Grove, Illinois.
December 29th, 1920.

BAPTIST EVANGEL- ISTIC MEETINGS START JANUARY 2

Rev. Joseph C. Dent of Chicago, Has Charge of Special Meetings for Next Two Weeks.

The Rev. Joseph C. Dent, of Chicago, who begins Special Meetings at the Baptist Church here, next Sunday morning, to continue until January 16th, has had remarkable success in the meetings conducted elsewhere this season.

He closed meetings at Walnut, Ill., on Wednesday of last week and the "Walnut Leader" of December 17th in an editorial had among other good things, this to say of him: "Rev. J. C. Dent of Chicago is delivering splendid sermons. He also leads the singing and nearly every night sings a solo. If you have not been at these meetings you are missing more than you can imagine, for Rev. Dent is a splendid speaker and a man of pleasing personality."

We consider ourselves fortunate to have secured the assistance of a sane and sensible evangelist. It is our hope that these meetings may prove very helpful to the people of our community.

The list of sermon topics for the first week is as follows:

Sunday, 2 p. m. "A Clarion Call."
Sunday, p. m. "A Last Love."
Monday, p. m. "Among the Missing."
Tuesday, p. m. "The Weakest People."
Wednesday, p. m. "Two Kinds of Intoxication."
Thursday, p. m. "Keep the Home Fires Burning."
Friday, p. m. "The Best Recruit."

In addition to the able work of Dr. Dent, good chorals and special singing will be provided for each service, that will add interest to the meetings. Sunday services will be at the usual hours and the week evening meeting at 8 o'clock.

Come and bring your friends, you cannot do them a better service.

Prof. and Mrs. O. B. Anderson came from Minnesota to spend the holidays with Mrs. Anderson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Nadelhoffer.

RESOLUTIONS FOR THE NEW YEAR

RESOLVED - That during 1921 I will let no opportunity go by of doing or saying anything which will help Downers Grove and the folk who make it their home. I realize that everyone should work for the common good of all.

RESOLVED - That there are in the village now, always were, and probably always will be certain people known as "knockers" whose main object in life is to belittle the efforts of the rest of the people of the community. During the coming year whenever I hear them "carrying on" I will lead them gently aside and whisper in their ear the better way of boasting, not only the town but all the people in it.

EX-MILITIA MEN GREATLY ENJOY FIRST RE-UNION

To Form Permanent Organization of Veterans of Co. H, at a Banquet, Soon.

Responding to an invitation of the old civilian committee of Company H, Illinois Reserve Militia, the militia company composed of local men who did so much during the war to keep down the spirit of "anti's" of all descriptions, about sixty men, formerly on the company rolls gathered in the G. A. R. Hall Monday evening for a re-union.

Growing out of this re-union will be a permanent organization to be styled "The Veterans Association of Company H." There will be one regular meeting each year to be the annual meeting at which time the election of officers will be held and such other business transacted as may come before the association. Special meetings may be called by the executive committee as provided in the by-laws adopted Monday evening.

The first annual meeting and banquet will be held sometime in the latter part of January. At this time the first officers will be chosen, a permanent organization formed and plans made for the future. The committee in charge of this banquet is Howard P. Jones, E. H. Huntington, Jr., Stanley J. Brown, Ed. Otto, Carl Staiger and Wm. H. Heintz.

Every man whose address is known and who was once a member of the company, quitting the same in good standing, will receive a notice of this annual meeting.

Those who were present at the re-union Monday evening are already looking forward to the banquet, for it was a night long to be remembered.

But C. Downes, the last First Sergeant of the Company (showing the last shall be first) acted as the chairman of the meeting. From the first words he spoke all knew that a master hand held the gavel.

His introductions of the men whom he called upon for impromptu talks were rich. Always he had some particular reference to some incident of the past good times of the company to recall.

One of the first men called on was Major Hobbs of Riverside, who commanded the second battalion of which Company H was a unit. The Major made a short talk and then distributed medals to lucky winners of them on the range and also several attendance medals. Frank Story received the highest decoration which a rifleman can own, the "expert" and was soundly applauded.

E. Q. M. Sergeant S. J. Brown, who had the title while Howard Jones led the work, was in charge of the commissary and fed the men on coffee and crackers. After they had eaten, Chairman Downes pulled several stunts not on the program to the delight of the bunch.

He called on nearly everyone present for a few remarks and all responded with some laugh provoking happening of drilling with the company or of the "African" war "down back of the yard."

The old company had on its rolls some of the most representative men of the town. They are all fine fellows and it would be a shame were the spirit, the morale and the associations to pass away without an attempt being made to keep the memory of the company alive.

There are about 250 men eligible to join the Veterans Association. Similar organizations have been formed in Hinsdale, LaGrange and Riverside. Both the Volunteer Training Corps and the Transport Unit as well as the men of the I. R. M. are wanted to sign up with the local men forming the association.

Skating on the "lake" has been fairly good. Wonder what the kids would say if a large vacant lot was secured and flooded so that they could enjoy some real skating. Its done at Hinsdale and other villages, why not here in a real town?