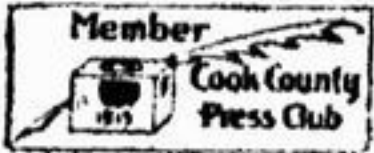


### Downers Grove Reporter

Issued every Friday morning from the office of the Downers Grove Publishing Company, 37 North Main street, Downers Grove, Illinois.

C. H. STAATS, EDITOR

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#### MICKIE SAYS:



#### COMMUNITY COOPERATION

Last Sunday afternoon a large gathering of local people at the lake watched what can be done by the new auto fire truck which has been purchased by voluntary subscription. This was one of the best demonstrations of community cooperation which has ever come to our notice. And it is a real "community" enterprise in the best accepted definition of the word. Not only does it protect the lives and property of those who live within the village, but is at the call of the COMMUNITY, that intangible place whose interests center here.

The cost of the apparatus will reach nearly nine thousand dollars. Nearly half of this has been paid and the balance will be raised, we are confident, in a very few weeks.

Think what that means to us. If his large sum of money can be gathered together to purchase a fire truck, a similar sum or a larger can be had to build a swimming pool, or to build and maintain any of the other projects which will make life the more worth living for a majority of the people. That is real community cooperation.

Downers Grove people have shown in this and a few other things that a project is presented to them in a way which appeals to them, they will whole-heartedly support it. We have all the natural advantages. We have the best class of people of any suburb around Chicago. If we get together and stick together, we can make this village to be pointed out and told about all over this territory. Let's have more "COMMUNITY COOPERATION."

#### LUMBER AND BUILDING

In the past year or so the standard plea for not building has been that "lumber is too high." This can no longer be advanced by anyone who has been following the lumber market. In all grades, an average drop of forty per cent has been seen during the past six months and now lumber is again comparatively cheap. Now if plumbing supplies, and the other things which go into home building will follow in the path taken by the lumber market and if labor will see the light and take a little out in wages, we believe that this country would enter on the greatest building boom it has ever seen.

Building costs are still rather high, not as high as a year ago, but still high. This however, is not the fault of lumber.

#### MORE ABOUT WAGES

We believe that the high cost of living and that is directly traceable to high wages, has been caused by a combination of things the leading element being the pernicious practice of war times of "cost, plus ten per cent."

In this "cost, plus" idea the Government, foisted upon the people of the country a competitive labor market, in which one firm bid against

the other for artisans of every trade, knowing that no matter what wages they paid, they would get it all back and on top of it a premium of ten per cent. The higher the wages paid,

There was, of course, more of this the higher the return in the end. In the East where the largest war contracts were placed and labor in that section of the country soon that that the high wages would last forever. Along with this was an almost imperceptible let down in production and although high wages were being drawn, the average daily turnout per man was gradually getting lower. To be perfectly blunt about it, the men were doing no more than they actually had to to keep on the pay rolls.

This is the kind of thing which we are facing now. The cost of living has been cut along every line, but that of rent and the abnormal demand is all that is keeping the rents up, new buildings and lots of them would soon lower rents in general. But how to build at high labor costs and realize on the investment?

It is the opinion of many men, among them many members of labor unions, that labor should take a voluntary cut in wages and then every man produce all the time while on the job. In other words give eight hours work for eight hours pay. That is where the salvation of the country lies and the sooner capital and labor realize it, the sooner this country will get back on its feet to the long, steady climb back to prosperity.

The first robin this year is no novelty. He was hopping around underfoot New Years morning, seeking the early worm.

Now that we have a new fire truck we suppose every man in town will want to join the fire department.

When reciting over the list of "the man who" don't forget to include in the list the names of Henry Dicke, Val Wander and Henry Wolf, the three who worked longest and hardest to bring that fire truck dream to an actuality.

### A JUNIOR INFANT WELFARE SOCIETY TO BE ORGANIZED

First Meeting Next Thursday Afternoon, Feb. 17th, at Home of Mrs. Wm. Parrish.

A Junior Infant Welfare Society is to be organized in Downers Grove and the first meeting is announced for Thursday afternoon, February 17 at 2:30, with Mrs. Wm. Parrish, 170 Oakwood avenue.

A committee from the Junior Society in Hinsdale, will be there to outline the work proposed and to help in the general organization.

An invitation to this initial meeting is extended to all the young women in the community and a large membership is anticipated.

#### Bell That Worked Miracles

Many tales in the super-natural are told concerning evil spirits and the efficacy of bells in warding them off. Likewise regarding the power of consecrated bells in bringing blessings. In an old chapel at Killiney, North Shire, Scotland, was a bell called that of St. Eilan which had the reputation of curing insanity. After the sufferer had slept a night in the chapel he was in the morning placed with great solemnity under the bell and in many cases recovered in the olden times the faith was rewarded.

#### Friendly Advice

"I can sign this pitcher for twenty minutes in vandeville or I can place him with a four-net play. I advise him to take vandeville," said the team manager. "He can't go any more." — Louisville Courier-Journal.

### SAVE

your combings. Have them made into switches, braids, transformations and puffs at reasonable prices. All orders receive prompt attention.

Mrs. R. Thompson Hoxworth Phone 408-J Hinsdale, Hinsdale, Ill.

### Cisterns and Catchbasins CLEANED

Now is the time to have this work done. To have it done right

TELEPHONE 161-R-2

### A PLEA FOR THE WILD FLOWERS AND THE BIRDS

Mrs. E. G. Lemon Writes That Natural Beauty of Woods and Fields is Fast Disappearing.

Spring will soon be here with her wealth of blossoms in forest and field, and the birds too will be busy with nest building and working hard in destroying the noxious weed seeds, larva and insects that cost us so many thousands of dollars in fruits, grain, etc., every year.

Will you help to protect the birds and the wild flowers? Our Bloodroot, Lady-slipper, Columbine, Trillium, Arbutus, and many other flowers are fast disappearing.

There are great areas in Illinois already spoiled of the fragile flowers of spring.

Enthusiastic flower lovers(?) have picked them and stopped the dispersing of their seeds, disturbed the roots and destroyed the plant.

Vendors annually carry carloads of Water Lilies, Gentians, Maiden Hair Fern, Pussy-willow branches of wild Crab, Arbutus and many other flowers to be sold in the city markets. Very pleasing to the eye for a short time, but when they are withered and you look upon them in their dead beauty, have you considered the cost.

Our woods, fields and country side are in danger of losing forever a great part of their beauty and attractiveness; a state wide movement for wild flower conservation is now necessary for the protection of the flowers that are left. I wonder how many are aware of the fact that the flower of the Lady-slipper, Trillium and Gentian once picked, the plant from which the flowers stalk has come, is entirely destroyed. A few plants that have not put forth bloom may live and blossom the next year, then if picked be destroyed like those the year before. You can readily see in how short a time these plants will disappear.

Many who love the beauty of the fields and woods, realizing how fast certain plants were becoming extinct, have transplanted to their own garden, plants of these flowers, hoping to perpetuate them and in time be able to return them to their natural haunts, but not until they can feel assured of their protection.

Just a word for our jolly friend, the flicker, he has been accused many times of being the yellow bellied, Sapsucker by those who have not

carefully studied the birds. They are entirely different in marking and habits. The Flicker is classed among the most useful of our woodpeckers from the fact of his picking up so much of his food from the ground, especially ants of all kinds. This beautiful yellow winged harbinger of spring has been with us all winter, several have been seen during November and December and January. The Sapsucker no doubt does great damage to our pine trees, for he, unlike the average woodpecker, bores deep into the tree, also bores into live trees to make his nest.

Many states are providing laws for the protection of birds other than laws already in force by our government, dedicating public parks, cemeteries and school grounds as sanctuaries for the birds. Utah has been active along these lines. The Governor, mayors of various cities and women's clubs have urged this movement in many ways. If we continue to destroy the beauties of nature we will soon become a people of coarsened instincts, for art in any form cannot help but appeal to the finer instincts and have a good, wholesome influence on our lives and what in any branch of art can excel the beauties of nature.

MRS. EDWARD G. LEMON.

#### "Scot Free."

To get off scot free is to escape without payment of tax. Scot was a tribute or tax levied upon all subjects according to their ability to pay; but means the allotment or portion allotted to you, so that to pay scot and lot is to pay the ordinary taxes and also the personal tax allotted to you. If you succeed in evading the tax you got off scot free.

#### Parents' Caprice.

It is no wonder that during infancy and early childhood life's lessons are so difficult for the small beginner when the laws which govern them must seem to him just an unjust, consistent or inconsistent, according to the knowledge or the caprice of the adult administering them.

MARTIN F. POZDOL Painter, Paperhanger & Decorator

Now is the time to do interior work.

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Office Belmont & Forest Tel. 369-J Downers Grove

## Lumber and the Cost of Building

The cost of lumber has been generally referred to as the principle reason for putting off building. It is true that lumber during the war and immediately after was high in price and hard to get. BUT—

THE PRICE OF LUMBER HAS BEEN MATERIALLY REDUCED — IN ALL KINDS — ON AN AVERAGE OF APPROXIMATELY 40 PER CENT.

Other items entering in the cost of home-building are labor, plumbing, cement, plaster, and many other things.

IN NORMAL TIMES ONLY ABOUT 30 PER CENT OF THE COST OF HOUSES WAS INCLUDED UNDER "LUMBER."

If you have been contemplating building anything and have held off because of the high cost of lumber—do not defer your plans—

## Lumber is Not High

COME IN AND LET US TALK IT OVER

## Lord Lumber Company

Phone Day 20 Phone after 6 P. M. 142 J

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## The First New Spring Dress Goods Sound the Note of Reasonable Prices

The new spring dress goods are arriving daily, almost all kinds of them, and one thing that is very noticeable is the lower prices, prices at which you haven't been able to buy these materials for some few years.

A comprehensive line of light weight wool goods is on hand for making up into the "between-season" dress for balmy spring days.

Fine, soft, richly colored and distinctively designed, the new voiles are justly a matter of pride and satisfaction to us.

Our Gingham always please, because their superior quality, their distinctive patterns make the loveliest house and afternoon frocks.

Beautiful silks for afternoon frocks, blouses, coat linings and beautiful underwear.

In fact almost everything in the way of dress fabrics that you may want is here for your choosing and at prices so much lower than last season.

## New Curtain Materials and Draperies

Before beautifying the windows for spring, it will be to the home lovers advantage to see our extensive displays of curtain materials, scrims, marquisesettes, madras, filet nets, and many beautiful patterns of draperies, the quality of these materials is your assurance of service and satisfaction that last.

## H. E. McAllister & Co.