

Downers Grove Reporter

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C. H. STAATS, EDITOR

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MICKIE SAYS

THEY'S TWO KINDS OF STOREKEEPERS IN EVERY TOWN—THE BOOSTER N' TH' GUN WHO LETS TH' OTHER FELLOW BRING TH' CROWDS TO TOWN—IF YA WANTA KNOW WHO TH' BOOSTERS ARE, READ TH' ADS

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CHARLES SCHWAB

ANNEXATION BENEFITS

The question as to the relative benefits derived from and by the annexation of contiguous territory to the village of Downers Grove, is exercising the minds of a number of people within our Village, and also those who reside in the districts about to present petitions for annexation. The acreage that is seeking annexation amounts approximately to 2,000 acres together with the improvements standing thereon. It is safe to assume that the assessed valuation of this additional territory, if it becomes annexed, will be somewhere in the neighborhood of \$500,000. This will increase the bonding powers of the village of Downers Grove to that extent, that is, bonding for general improvement purposes, its general bonding power being limited to 5% of the assessed

valuation within its corporate limits. This will give the village authorities the power to issue general improvement bonds to that extent, for purposes which are of great necessity to our village, such as increasing our water supply. The general taxation will also be proportionately increased and this source would bring into the village treasury approximately an additional sum of \$2,500 to \$3,000 per year.

The impression seems to be abroad that if this territory becomes annexed, the taxes of the people within the present limits of the Village of Downers Grove will become heavier. This is a mistaken idea. Any improvements which the annexed territory may desire, such as sidewalks, water, sewers or pavements, must be borne by the property benefited, that is, by property within the district that is improved, and if those improvements are made within the annexed territory only, such territory will have to bear the expense thereof. All improvements of that character are constructed by special assessment upon the property especially benefited, and this also applies to the extension of pole lines for providing the annexed territory with light, so that no portion of that expense falls upon the territory within the limits of the Village of Downers Grove at the present time.

There, of course, are some burdens which the village assumes and which must be defrayed by additional taxation, but it is safe to say that those expenses will be far less than the general taxes that will flow into the village treasury by reason of any annexation that may be made. Such burdens of course, are very trivial and are by no means compulsory upon our village board, such as occasionally grading an unimproved street or placing a culvert occasionally where one may be needed, and other matters of minor detail.

The business men of Downers Grove no doubt will be benefited by the annexation by reason of the fact that there is always an incentive for trading within the community where a person resides. The question now remains to be answered as to how the people owning property within the territory to be annexed are benefited by the move. Until the territory becomes incorporated as a city, town or village, or becomes annexed to an incorporated city, town or village, it is without power whatsoever to provide local improvements by special assessment or special taxation. Therefore such unincorporated territory as a rule must go, as a matter of necessity, without such improvements and if any are made they are generally made piecemeal, each man improving his own property by possibly constructing a sidewalk in front of it, digging a well and other improvements of this character, which under the most favorable circumstances, is a very unsatisfactory way of obtaining such improvements. When such territory becomes annexed to an

incorporated city, town or village, they can then put in these improvements by special assessment, having the payment distributed over a term of years, and the city, town or village authorities only act as the medium or agency through which the improvements are made and the assessments collected and the bonds issued in payment for such improvements.

The Village itself and no property, excepting the property especially assessed and benefited, are liable for the payment of the bonds issued for local improvements, unless the authorities of the municipality should wrongfully divert the fund raised by such special assessment, for general purposes.

There is another benefit which is very important to the Village of Downers Grove as it exists at the present time and also the property owners in the districts which are seeking to be annexed. Our common schools and our high school are in a financial condition at the present time which makes it imperative to obtain additional revenue from some source in order to carry on successfully as we have done in the past. By the annexation of this territory it becomes possible for our school district to be likewise increased in territory. Its powers to levy taxes for general bonds is materially increased as well as its additional taxing power. It will add additional facilities for educating the children of our village. By annexing this territory there will, of course, be a number of children added to our schools, for the property owners have a right when becoming a part of our village, to have the territory which is within the boundaries of the Village of Downers Grove, or comes within it, annexed to our present school district, and have the benefit of our schools. Owing to the fact however that the territory sought to be annexed is too sparsely settled, the benefits received by our board of education from the increased taxing powers will far exceed the expense to which they may be put on account of the additional pupils which may be added to our schools.

The Golden Rule.

The "Golden Rule" is a term applied to Christ's doctrine of doing to others as we should wish them to do unto us. See Luke 6:31.



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MONDAY used to be a "nightmare." When John came home, he found a makeshift meal and me too tired to be agreeable.

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FINANCIAL REPORT ON "THE CHEERFUL LIAR"

Inasmuch as the folks of Downers Grove patronized the Vesta Junior comedy, "The Cheerful Liar" so liberally and because one-half of all profits were pledged to the fire truck fund, I take pleasure in submitting the following financial report.

Total ticket receipts	\$397.00
Expenditures	
Theatre rent for two nights	50.00
Orchestra for two nights	18.00
Flowers and Basket to Coach	5.00
Make-up Supplies	4.35
9 copies of Comedy	3.15
Tickets and Programs	18.50
Buschmann Bros., Drayage	4.00
War tax	39.70

Total \$142.70
This leaves a balance, above expenses of \$254.30. A check for \$125.15, half of this amount, has been sent to the Fire Department for the fire truck fund.

I desire to take this opportunity to thank everyone who cooperated in the sale of tickets for "The Cheerful Liar" and helped to make the play a financial success.

ELLA L. MERTZ, Business Manager

Dark Sounds Curfew in Norway. Children are not allowed out in the streets of Norway after dark.



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Cement Follows Lumber Price Dropped Last Week

ANOTHER BUILDING COMMODITY HAS FOLLOWED lumber with a drop in price, although not so pronounced as lumber. The mills announced a reduction in the price of cement ranging from ten to fifteen per cent. This brings the cost of this item in building down to something near pre-war figures.

Retailers follow the mill prices, consequently there is a reduction to the consumer. In considering pre-war figures, increased freight rates must be taken into consideration. When the Government took over the railroads there was an advance in freight rates of twenty-five per cent and when Uncle Sam turned the roads back to private ownership there was another increase of thirty-three per cent.

There are indications of a coming revival of business, especially in the East where deflation started. Press reports say that some mills are re-opening, generally, however, with reduced forces. But just as soon as buying livens up thus increasing the demand, more people will be employed. In a good many mills employees are taking part in the deflation by accepting decreases in wages, not excessive, but from ten to twenty per cent below the war time peak. This is shown a willingness to cooperate in resumption of production and a revival of business.

Managers of cement mills all over the country are preparing to resume operations. Already some announce a definite time, very soon, when their people will go back to work. This is true in the LaSalle district where one of the big mills, the Lehigh, started the machinery with a large force of men this week. Reduction in prices will no doubt stimulate production and soon cement mills all over the country will be operating.

This is a good omen. In other lines of production it may take a little time for the resumption to reach the Mississippi Valley. Deflation started in the East and resumption of business seems to be following along the same geographical lines.

With lumber thirty-five per cent below the 1920 peak prices and cement taking a nice little drop, people are becoming interested in the building game. There is a good deal of favorable talk, architects report considerable inquiry and lumber dealers are being interviewed by prospective builders. The signs of the times are brighter and indications are favorable for a leveling of building prices following the decreases in lumber and cement.

Keep in mind the fact that prices of lumber are down around thirty-five per cent. Lumber leads the deflation in building materials. Just have a talk with us about building materials. We know and will give you full information, reliable facts and figures.

Lord Lumber Company

Resident Member of the Lumberman's Publicity Bureau

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Special Sale of Apron Dresses \$1.69 - \$1.95

This week we are calling your attention to values equally as good as those advertised in our DOLLAR SALE of Tuesday, April 19th., which was the most successful sale we ever held.

The Apron Dresses pictured above are the result of a fortunate purchase that allows us to give you a real value on these garments.

They come in Percale, blue with white dots, trimmed either with red or white and black trimming, also an assortment of pretty plaids.

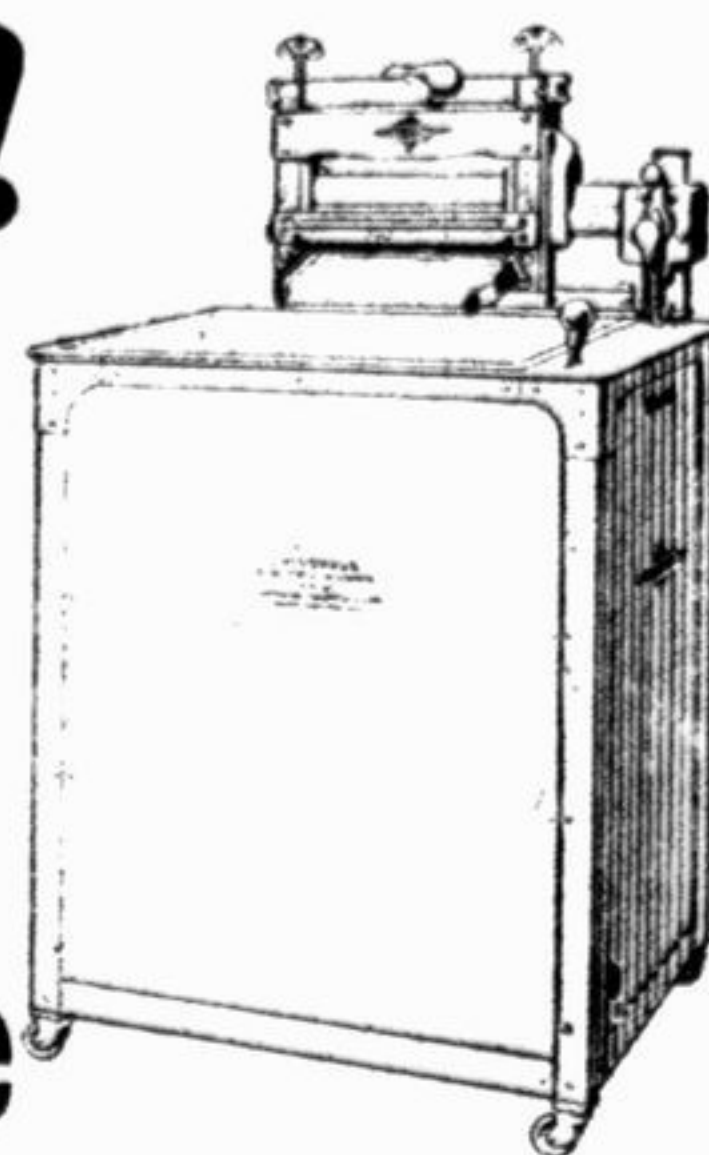
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