

FIRE WHISTLE CALLS PEOPLE TO FORD RAFFLE

Roy Chilvers Holds Lucky Number and Wins Car Last Saturday Evening.

The wall of the fire siren shortly after eight last Saturday night called out the people of the village to a supposed fire. The first time it blew the signal for the first ward was sounded and folks commenced rushing in the direction of the south-east side; after the whistle sounded the second and third wards, people became suspicious and when the four blasts for the fourth sounded all knew that it was a put up job.

Chief Henry Dicke had arranged to have the warning sounded and not even the members of the department were aware of the fact that the siren would be sounded. They were as anxious as the rest to find out where the fire was located.

The occasion was the drawing of the numbers on the Ford car which was being raffled off for the benefit of the automobile fire truck. Hundreds of people gathered at the corner of Main and Warren to see the drawing.

Chief Dicke explained how the numbers would be drawn and then introduced Dr. Eneas B. Goodwin, pastor of St. Joseph's Catholic church who gave a short talk on what the firemen were doing for the village.

Mayor Walter C. Barber then climbed to the fire truck and was about to draw the numbers from the ballot box borrowed for the occasion, when he was interrupted by B. E. Balcznski who in true auctioneer style and by strong arm methods sold more than one hundred more tickets to those gathered around.

Dr. Barber drew the numbers, the thirteenth one winning. The lucky holder was Roy Chilvers of Middaugh avenue who now has a Ford touring car which cost him very little. As the numbers were read an "Oh" or a gasp in some part of the crowd showed where someone's hopes were dashed to the ground.

Following the raffle a dance was held at the Dicke Theatre and a cake donated by Mrs. C. H. Staats twice raffled off. This brought in more than \$25.00 to swell the fund which is to pay for better fire protection for Downers Grove.

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE VILLAGE BOARD

Downers Grove, Ill., May 16, 1921. Regular meeting of the Council of the Village of Downers Grove, Ill. Present at roll call Mayor W. C. Barber and Commissioners Bender, Bryce and Heardt.

Minutes of the meeting of May 9, 1921, were read and Commissioner Heardt moved to approve same. On roll call Commissioners Heardt, Bender and Bryce and Mayor Barber voted Aye. Nays none. Motion carried.

Commissioner Heardt presented the semi-monthly pay roll for the period from May 1st, 1921 to May 15th, 1921, and moved to approve same and have warrants drawn for the several amounts as follows:

PAY ROLL
May 1 to May 15, 1921.

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| Dept. of Accounts & Finances | |
| Chas. M. Hitch—Salary | \$70.00 |
| M. Venard | 57.50 |
| Louis Callahan | 57.50 |
| A. B. Snow | 7.50 |
| William Bender | 4.17 |
| Harry W. Bryce | 4.17 |
| Charles Haller | 4.17 |
| I. G. Heardt | 4.17 |
| W. C. Barber | 10.42 |
| C. Ford Davis | 15.00 |
| Dept. of Streets & Improvements | |
| S. Budzik (Streets)—Salary | \$48.00 |
| P. Nelson | 44.00 |
| Dept. of Public Property | |
| H. L. Thompson—Salary | \$65.00 |
| Extra time 32 hours | 25.92 |
| Ola Irwin—Salary | 65.00 |
| Extra time 10 hours | 8.10 |
| Wilber Dunn—Salary | 60.00 |
| Extra time 2 hours | 1.00 |
| H. C. Hicks—Salary | 60.00 |
| Earl Watkins | 67.50 |
| Andrew Sheber—Labor | 48.00 |
| Frank Allen—Salary | 95.00 |

On roll call Commissioners Heardt, Bender, Bryce and Mayor Barber voted Aye. Nays none. Motion carried. A petition signed by residents of Westmont, Illinois, was presented and read to the Council.

Commissioner Bender moved to adjourn to the next regular meeting date, May 23d, 1921. On roll call Commissioners Bender, Bryce, Haller Heardt and Mayor Barber voted Aye. Nays none. Motion carried.

Chas. M. Hitch, Village Clerk.

FIRE AT WESTMONT

One of the advantages of Westmont annexing itself to Downers was demonstrated yesterday when the fire truck was called there, a house being ablaze. A swift run was made but the flames had been quenched before the department arrived.

LIBRARY CROWDED TO DISCUSS ANNEXATION AT "FORUM"

Westmonters Spring Bomb in Declaration "We Don't Want to be Annexed."

Library Hall was crowded on Monday evening, May 16th, when the People's Forum met to discuss the "advisability of annexing adjacent territory." An interested audience had gathered to get at the various facts relating to the petition of people living in the outskirts of the village to be annexed to Downers Grove.

Dr. Eneas B. Goodwin, Moderator, opened the program with a few remarks explaining the purpose of the gatherings. He introduced Mrs. N. R. Peasley who gave a delightful reading and Miss Riedy of Lisle, who favored with several vocal selections accompanied by Miss Zita Norpell.

The speaker of the evening was Attorney G. H. Bunge, who came prepared with an array of figures and made a very fine talk on the advantages to be gained by annexing the territory. Interspersed were several references to olden times in the village which were appreciated by the audience.

Among other things Mr. Bunge said that the assessed valuation of the property now within the limits was \$1,153,271 which allowing the full one and one-third per cent would bring in taxes for general purposes the amount of \$15,376.94 for a year 1921 and after this year \$9220.17 because of the lowering of the general tax rate to eight tenths of one per cent. The territory which is petitioning has an assessed valuation of \$438,128 which would bring in 1921, \$5,841.60 and thereafter \$3,504.96, but as this property grew more valuable the assessed valuation would increase and consequently the taxes from the property.

In addition to the tax for general purposes the additional territory would pay toward the Downers Grove Public Library, an institution in need of funds, the sum of \$585.00 immediately, and more as it grew more valuable.

Mr. Bunge explained that the present bonding limit of the village was \$57,633 but with the annexation this would increase to more than \$79,000. He explained that no property in the village would pay anything toward special assessments for the improving of the proposed additions with sidewalks, streets, water or sewers and that if these people wanted any such improvements the usual procedure of petitioning the Village Council would be necessary and that only the property benefiting from the improvement would pay the cost.

After Mr. Bunge's talk a few ques-

tions were asked which were answered and a gentleman from Westmont, being recognized, threw a bomb shell into the assembly with the statement that Westmont did not wish to be annexed to Downers Grove.

Among his reasons were that the people living there were under the impression from the McIntosh firm which sold them the property that Westmont would be a municipality all its own and that several had purchased with the understanding that water would be furnished them, they contending that by this annexation McIntosh was trying to crawl from his bargain. Mr. Merrill, financial man of the real estate firm was present and assured the men that McIntosh would live up to every agreement made whether in the contract or not and that the impression of incorporation alone was a misapprehension. Mr. Merrill emphasized the fact that every promise made would be carried out if the annexation took place or if it didn't.

A little investigation after the meeting led to the fact that a majority of the owners of property in this section had signed the petition asking for annexation. It also led to at least one of the reasons why these men did not wish annexation. They have political ambitions. One is desirous of being Westmont's first Mayor and several others are making plans to be members of the Board of Trustees. It was pointed out to them that it is necessary before incorporation papers can be secured that 350 electors must live within the territory, and that even if they had the 350 their village would be too small for any practical benefits.

These men have filed a counter petition with the Village Council but the Council cannot act on it as they have no jurisdiction in the matter. They must simply set the date for the annexation elections and let the people decide.

TWENTY-TWO YEARS AGO IN THE REPORTER

From the issue of May 18, 1899.

The proposition of a sewer system for Downers Grove was thoroughly discussed at a meeting of the Village Board on Monday evening. There was also a petition presented asking for a twenty-year franchise to furnish the village with electric lights.

The marriage of Frank A. Black of Downers Grove, and Miss Margaret Russell of Austin was solemnized Tuesday in Chicago.

The marriage of Fred Binder of Downers Grove, and Miss Minnie Schultz of Lacey, was solemnized in Chicago last Thursday.

SEVEN THIRDS BLUE LODGE PROGRAM TOMORROW

Masonic Body to Establish Local Record in an All Day Meeting.

Grove Lodge No. 824, A. F. & A. M., will convene tomorrow morning, Saturday, May 21st, at ten o'clock. At this hour the craft will be called to labor on the third degree and before the all day meeting is over seven men will have been initiated into the mysteries of the final degree of the "Blue" lodge.

This will establish a record of work for the local lodge as the "limit" of candidates has never before been put through in any one day.

There will be a recess at noon for lunch and a banquet will be spread in the dining room at six o'clock.

Grove Lodge is growing rapidly and is noted for the excellency of its degree work as the members are all vitally interested in seeing that the ancient institutions of the order are complied with in every particular.

It is expected that besides the many members of Grove Lodge, there will be many visiting brethren present to participate in the ceremonies. The evening candidate will be put through by visiting Masons, members of the Union Trust Co., Trowel Club and there will be a skeaper whose words will be enjoyed by all who hear him.

ARCADIAN CLUB MEMBERS RE-LIVED OLD SCHOOL DAYS

The Arcadian Club members greatly enjoyed a Juvenile Party last Saturday evening, May 14th, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. Ray Cramer, Forest avenue and Gilbert. A regular "kid" evening was on the program, the members all being garbed in a manner appropriate to the occasion.

In memory they went back to the days of their childhood and again attended school, Mr. W. W. Heintz acting the part of school master. Gales of laughter greeted the different answers and the evening was one long to be remembered by those present.

As a fitting close to the evening, delicious refreshments were served.

"MAY MOON" BENEFIT GREATLY PLEASURES TWO AUDIENCES

Two audiences at the Dicke Theatre were greatly pleased with the "May Moon" presented on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings by the pupils of Miss Ruth Edison's dancing classes. The beautiful show was put on by the children for the benefit of the fire truck fund and will swell coffers of that fund.

As a small appreciation of what the kiddies did for them the firemen

rolled the truck out of the garage Wednesday evening and gave the girls a ride around the village. Such screaming as the driver turned the corners and such excitement among the children on the sidewalks looking with envy as the truck swept by. Getting back to the "May Moon".

It was truly a wonderful show. The program outlined in last week's reporter being followed. Miss Edison and the cast deserve the thanks of the community for the long weeks of practice and the remarkable performance that they produced.

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Library Hall

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THE CATHOLIC WOMAN'S LEAGUE

Saturday Evening, May 28

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The Dicke Theatre
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