. W. C. A. NEWS Membership Supper

All girls and women who are inferested in the Y. W. C. A. will enjoy the big membership supper to be given at the high school on Friday evening, Oct. 10, at 6:30.

Clever "stunts" will be given by each club after the supper, and the young men friends of the girls will be invited to come to the girls' gym and spend the remainder of the evening in dancing. A fuller account of the supper will be found on page 1 of this paper.

Club Practices

Each Senior club of the Association is practicing songs, yells and "stunt" or farce for the membership supper. Following is the schedule of practices

Thursday, Oct. 2, 8 p. m., Friend ship club

Friday! Aster club.

Monday, Oct. 6, 8 p. m., Bluebird corps of the Girl Reserves. Tuesday, 4 p. m., Second and thir

corps of the Girl Reserves. Tuesday, 8 p. m., Dix Aimes and Rainbow clubs

Wednesday, Entre Nous. Every member of the club is need

ed for these practices. New Club Room

Doesn't that sound good to you, girls? Yes, we've needed a new club room for a long time, and NOW we have it. The large corner room, facing Central avenue, has been converted from a bed room to an attractive club room, and is already being used by the various clubs.

New cretonne curtains, a rose colored rug, and wicker furniture will make the room look very attactive A seven bot table has been given to the Association by Mrs. Edmonson of Onwentsia avenue, who recently moved to Chicago. This will be used as a work table in the club room. Dolls Wanted

Have you any dolls which could be rejundvated and dressed up for the doll-less orphans at the Deerfield orphanage? If you have, please send them to the Y. W. C. A. The Bluebird girls will get new heads or hair, or hands for them, as the case may be, and will clothe them in dressy gowns. If the dolls are whole and vigorous, so much the better. We like them anyway, and so will the youngstefs at the orphanage.

M. E. CHURCH

Ret. H. D. Dick, Minister This week marks the close of the conference year 1918-19. In every way it has been a year of most strenuous effort. The work among the soldiers at the General Hospital, Ft. Sheridan, has required that nearly two-thirds of the minister's time be spent there. While the compensation from the war work commission has been a mere pittance, and without any financial support of any kind whatsoever from any outside source, the time and effort at the hospital has been more than offset by the many young men who have made definite decisions to lead a Christian life. This does not take into account the many men who have been strengthened and encouraged during their time of suffering. Then again, we shall never forget the young men whose hearts were directed to the Great Physician for spiritual healing and who later answered the final roll call in the happy assurance that their macrifice was the world's gain and their eternal reward. We have a letter from the mother of one these lads whom we introduced to the Great White Captain two weeks previous to his leaving. This letter is written in broken English, not very grammatical, but it is the lustrous gem of genuine mother love and appreciation. This letter should be laid up in the archives of the church, if for no other reason than to inspire the members to still greater unselfishness in the services of mankind. We say this because has been the unselfishness of this church that has made these results possible

Church Results

Despite the fact that the church has received but a third of the minister's time, there has been no hesiin meeting all obligations promptly and in proposing that the work at the hospital shall continue despite the fact that the support of the war work commission may and in all probability will be withdrawn Our work has become so well established, however, that the time required to do all the necessary work church work will be pushed most vigorously and receive the greater attention. We can think of no bet- one year ago, Sept. 29. ter illustration of what God will do Father, Mother, Sisters and Brother, for an unselfish people than this. Thinking of others this church has experienced a marked growth in many ways. After several years without a morning service, the service was re-established early in the year with the assurance that it could not be done, and it has seen a fine growth in interest and power. The

o orably with many large city church morning congregations and the end is not in sight.

And so we might continue the account fully aware of the fact that with some few folks such a report as this means very little. These folks are accustomed to large figures. They expect a great harvest but do not want anything to do nor anything said concerning the preparation of the soil, nor do they want to be bothered with the monotony of sowing to say nothing about weather conditions. But it is a fine thing to have the people who pay the bills and who observe the work first hand so well satisfied and planning an enlargement of the church program.

All readers will be interested in our service last Sunday evening. A sergeant in the service at the hospital came to the altar in the genuine spirit of penitence. This man has had a fine army record, has led an exemplary life among his fellows and commanded their utmost respect; but he lacked one thing-he was not a Christian. Together with his Christian wife he came to the altar. Seyen men in uniform also came forward and in company with the others we had a prayer of consecration. Some time was then spent in a praise service. This was followed by the administration of the sacrament of baptism, and neception into church membership. We hope for many re-

The services for the week are as

Mr. Bernhardi, an Italian singer, who rendered several solos at the musicale given by the ladies of the church at Bartlett's Theatre, has consented to sing at the entertainment for the soldiers next Saturday night. Mr. Bernhardi will sing in Italian. He has a wonderful voice and does excellent work considering the fact that he has had little training and does not seem to realize the gift he possesses.

UNITED EVANGELICAL

Subscriptions for the home mission fund were received last Sunday. After a sermon by the pastor pledges were asked for and in about 15 minutes the apportionment for this congregation was over subscribed by \$150.00. It was a "hilarious" giving in its truest sense and left a good

impression on the congregation.

The Bishop Dubs Memorial fund is not yet what it should be and it may be that many do not realize the importance of it. Bishop Dubs was the greatest man in our connection and one of the best memorial preachers of the country, and was worthy of the best memorial that can be given. The building of an administration building for Western Union college to cost \$100,000 is a worthy enterprise and will be something to perpetuate the memory of a noble man for generations to come. The opportunity will soon pass for us to have a part in the enterprise. The pastor is hopeful that those who have not sent in their pledges for this fund will do so as soon as possible and have part in a good cause and help keep up the high standard of the congregation in giving for the

Next Sunday will be rally day in this church and all the leaders of departments are busy marshalling their hosts for one of the largest rallies the church has ever known. All the services of the day will make extra preparations. The Baraca class will have charge of the evening exercises. Instead of the regular sermon there will be a special program the features of which will be a reception of the soldiers and sailors who went out from this congregation at the call of their country. The men are asked to come in uniform, and many are expected from Fort Sheridan. The speaker of the evening will be Mr. Harry Fogleman known as "Rapid Fire Fogleman" who has been the past year with the Redpath Chautauqua, and is one of the annual speakers of the Chamber of Commerce, Chicago. His subject will be "The Winning Man" which will be especially fitting for the returned soldier who is casting about for something to do that is worth while,

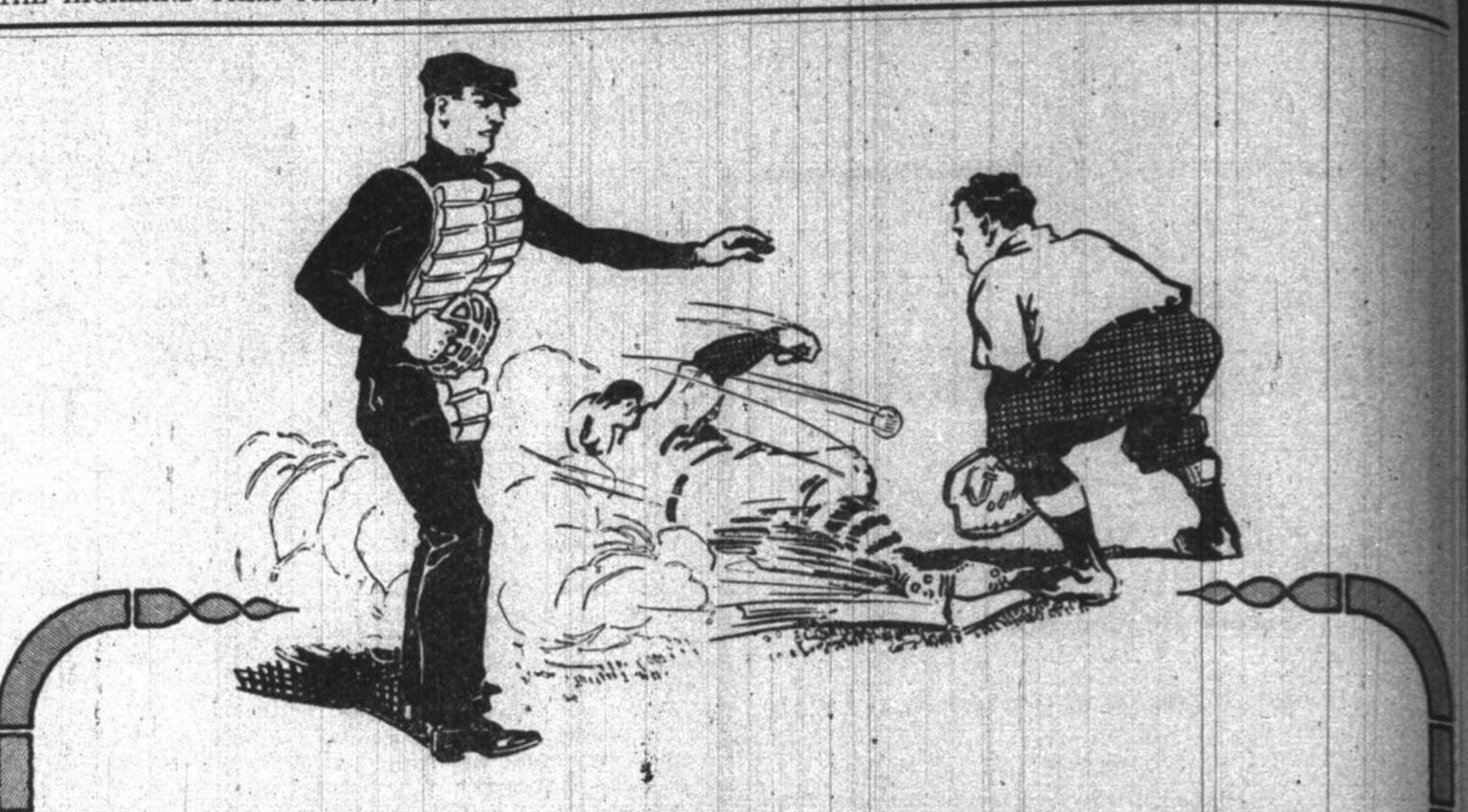
Program for Rally Day Sunday: Bible school at 9 a, m. sharp. Special program at 10:45 including short address by the pastor. Junior service at 2:30; K. L. C. E. at 6:45. Evening program under the auspices of the Men's Baraca class at 7:45.

IN MEMORIAM

Benson, Mable - In fond and lov daughter and sister, who passed away

We have lost our darling Mabel, She has bid us all adieu. She has gone to live in Heaven And her form is lost to view. Oh! that dear one, how we loved

Oh! how hard to give her up! But an angel came down for her And removed her from our flock.



l'he Umpire

Over the Gas Company's Business stands an umpire whose right and duty it is to see that both consumer and company get a "square deal." This is the Public Utilities Commission.

The Consumer Demands Regulation and the Company demands protection for its service and investment. 'How are the "decisions" made?

The Utilities Commission Fixes Rules in conformity with which the utility company must conduct its business. These rules specify the manner in which the books shall be kept, complaints adjusted, charges which may be made to the consumer, the price of gas, the quality of gas, etc.

How is the Price of Gas Fixed? Contrary to popular opinion in some quarters, the Gas Company does not try to charge all it possibly can for gas. There are certain fixed costs of providing gas service which must be met and in addition to these only a fair profit is obtainable.

What Items Make Up the Price of Gas? The costs of providing gas service can be summarized under five heads: Production, Other Operating Expenses, Taxes, Depreciation, Return on Investment. The Utilities Commission, and thru the Commission the people's representatives, have access to our records. From the actual facts these costs are reduced to definite figures and the price of gas is fixed to cover them. For instance, Depreciation and Return on Investment are based on the value of the property employed. To determine this value the North Shore Gas Company has made an appraisal of its property in minute detail, the results of which are now before the Commission in the present hearing to determine the price of gas.

Thru Lack of Information many people seem to feel that "investment" is apt to include "watered items" or "inflated values." We wish to point out that in computing a "fair return" the rate of earnings is not figured on a basis of "capitalization"; but on the ACTUAL FAIR VALUE of the PROPERTY devoted to gas

On this Basis the Earnings of the North Shore Gas Company have not been enough to cover Depreciation and Return on Investment since early 1917. There have been no dividends paid, of course. It has been necessary to borrow money to pay the bond interest. This is due to the great increase in cost of providing service.

If We Had Any Choice in Methods of meeting the situation we should choose relief thru lowered production expenses. That would leave the rate to the consumer lower. Lower rates to the consumer mean more general use of the service, hence increased production. It is by increased production and not by increased rates that we hope to build up the service. But growth must be based on fair earnings for the actual money invested and cannot continue with increasing losses.

We Cannot Cut Cost of Material, labor and money lower than they are. The Utilities Commission cannot control these costs. Notwithstanding the fact that costs of supplying gas are increased about 100% over pre-war costs the selling price of gas on the North Shore has been increased only 16% average.

We Have More Reason to Regret the necessity for increased gas rates than the consumer has. To us it means life or death to our busi ness. To the average customer it means only a few cents each month. A prominent national society has found after thoro investigation that of the average household expenditures food takes 45 per cent, rent and taxes 16 per cent, clothing 12 per cent, movies, books, charities 14 per cent, miscellaneous expenditures 7 per cent. The remaining 6 per cent goes to railroad transportation, telephone, water, street car service, electric service and gas service. Of this Gas gets ONLY a small part. This clearly shows that any increase in gas rates over pre-war rates affects one of the SMALLEST items of household expense.

In This Statement We Wish to Make Clear That our business is conducted entirely in the open, that Gas Company affairs are thoroly checked by the Public Utilities Commission and that gas rates are based on costs of doing business.

Our next statement will appear in this newspaper next week.

North Shore Gas Company

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