

WINNETKA WEEKLY TALK

VOL. V, NO. 48

WINNETKA, ILLINOIS, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1917

PRICE FIVE CENTS

GAS SHUT-OFF DUE TO FROZEN MAINS

Primitive Cooking Methods Resorted to in North Shore Households.

TROUBLE NEAR WAUKEGAN

Big Gangs Working Night and Day to Open Pipes—Quality of Gas Up to Standard—Will Lay New Line.

Owing to a freeze-up in the high pressure mains of the North Shore Gas company, in the southern part of Waukegan, occurring Saturday morning last, consumers in Winnetka, Glenco and the towns north to North Chicago were out of gas for several days. Primitive methods of cooking were resorted to, and open grate fires, furnaces and chafing dishes became very popular for those who had discarded the old coal stove. The gas began to get through Monday, but the pressure developed during the night became insufficient for the consumers when meal time arrived. On Wednesday, George F. Goodnow, president of the company, stated that he was hoping to get the gas through at any moment at its normal pressure; that the frozen area had been narrowed down and the final seat of trouble located.

A big gang has been working night and day, building fires along the pipe line, of wood and gas, as well as applying electric heat. A by-pass pipe was laid along the top of the ground for two blocks. When the gas was turned off to connect the by-pass it was found that another section north of the by-pass had frozen.

The company has two main lines running south from Waukegan, which unfortunately run together for several blocks, so that the freeze-up occurred in both lines. This is the first instance of such a freeze-up in the 16 years of gas service by the company, and is the result of unprecedented weather conditions, which have affected gas and water supply service in many cities all over the country. The company expects to lay a separate pipe as soon as the weather permits, where both lines are close together.

The Public Utilities commission has taken the matter up and sent out their gas engineer, A. S. B. Little, to see that every effort is made to relieve the situation as soon as possible. He has been on the ground, working with Mr. Goodnow, since Tuesday morning. Effort was made to secure gas from the Public Service company of Illinois to supply gas for the emergency, but it was found impossible, as that company had hardly gas sufficient for their own requirements in Evanston and the surrounding territory. The situation of the company is declared to be unusually good, as to supply of coal on hand and capacity for making gas, so that the trouble is laid entirely to the freeze-up, except for some temporary breakage of machinery, which has been repaired.

The character of the gas, whether water or coal, is said to have nothing to do with the trouble through freezing. It was rumored that water-gas was the cause of the trouble, but this is the same gas that was supplied exclusively by the Public Service company of northern Illinois, and does not condense and freeze any sooner than coal gas.

The company states that except for some machinery trouble occurring during the week before the freeze-up, which caused low pressure for some very brief periods, the difficulty has been entirely through the freeze-up in Waukegan, and that the quality of the gas has been unimpaired. Rumors that the real cause of the trouble was due to lack of coal, breakage in the mains by interference of other utility company operations, etc., are declared by Mr. Goodnow to be absolutely unfounded. He states that the freeze-up occurred, not through any chemical contents of the gas, but entirely from condensation, and is the result of weather conditions which have caused widespread trouble, particularly in Ohio, Indiana and even in Jacksonville, Fla.

A great many of our statesmen will be reconciled to war as they think of the number of jobs that will thereby be created for their districts.

Remember the Merchants.

Did you ever stop to think that the merchants of this town are the friends of all the citizens? Day by day, week by week, year by year they give to this and that enterprise their support and encouragement and contribute more often in a material way. It is the business men who are called on to support every public movement. Therefore every citizen should support the home merchant first, last and all the time. The merchants of this town are loyal to the community and we owe them our support. They are our friends and we should be theirs. We want to remember them especially during Pay-Up week.

ADVOCATES BETTER HOUSING

Winnetka Health Commissioner Has Ideas for Village Improvement.

Recommends Passing of Ordinance Restricting Area Upon Building Lot to be Occupied by Dwelling.

Dr. C. O. Schneider, health commissioner for Winnetka, is advocating the adoption of an ordinance permitting only one residence or dwelling to be erected or moved upon a single lot, unless the lot be considerably more than fifty feet in width. Dr. Schneider has made a thorough and careful investigation of housing conditions in Winnetka and is convinced that the practice which is becoming quite common—of erecting more than one dwelling or residence upon a single lot is detrimental to the community at large from the standpoint of public health.

In a report recently submitted to the village council Dr. Schneider says:

Residences Too Close Together.

"To prevent the ill effect of overcrowding and the lack of sufficient air and sunshine, it is recommended that hereafter no plat, subdivision or resubdivision be accepted which does not provide that each building lot should be at least fifty feet in width by one hundred and fifty feet in length, or its equivalent.

"It has come to the notice of the health commissioner that residences are often crowded so close together as to admit of an insufficient amount of air and sunshine, and to prevent this unhealthy practice in the future it is strongly recommended that an ordinance be passed which will in all cases restrict the area upon a building lot which is allowed to be occupied by the dwelling or residence, so that no part of the walls of the same may extend closer than six feet from each side boundary of the lot or plot, excepting only where an adjoining lot is owned by the same party and is to remain forever free from any other dwelling or residence."

WOULD DRILL ALL YOUTHS

Bill Introduced By Representative Hamlin Provides for Military Training Throughout State.

Illinois youths will be compelled to receive military training if the bill introduced by Representative Hamlin becomes a law.

The Chicago representative who offered the measure believes that national preparedness can be brought about if each state shall see to it that its young men are given general preliminary training in military matters. Under the terms of Mr. Hamlin's bill, a state military commission would have the direction of such work.

A number of bills that are pending indicate interest in matters military is growing. There are a half dozen bills asking for appropriations for armories for the national guard.

Senator Glackin is working hard to advance his measure to provide a state appropriation for the purchase of uniforms for boys who are to be given military training in the high and other public schools.

Great indignation will be felt if the business of handling war supplies should go to engineers, experts, scientists and soldiers, instead of to faithful political friends.

WAR TO ELIMINATE SKOKIE'S MOSQUITO

Civil Engineer Schalck Outlines Plan of Campaign Necessary.

PARTS OF MARSH UNKNOWN

Reducing Water Level Suitable for Practical Control of Pests to Go On—To Make Further Surveys.

In order that conditions in the Skokie marsh will be favorable for successful, practical mosquito control operations any water present should at all times be confined as nearly as possible to ditches and channels, and in exceptional lengthy rainy periods where the water rises above the banks and overflows the flat lands, it must again recede into the channels and ditches within a maximum limit of four or five days.

Four or five days, as explained in previous articles, is not a long enough time for mosquito larvae to mature, and any which might have been present in the flood water after it goes back into the ditches will be held in check by the artificial control operations to be explained in later articles.

Better Drainage Necessary.

The question logically asked here is: "How can that be done?" The answer, "By better drainage," might mean any improvement in draining, however small in extent, up to the complete removal of all marsh water. But, under the assumption that it will be impossible to entirely drain the marsh for some years to come, two possible ways or a combination of both is suggested from the standpoint of mosquito control work:

1. By improving existing ditches and channels, both in the marsh and outlets so that they will be able to carry larger volumes of water and more rapidly than is at present possible.

2. By adding more ditches to the system now existing in the marsh and where the conditions demand that they should be placed.

Preliminary Investigation Required.

The carrying out of either of these methods of improvement presupposes a knowledge of where and how the improvements shall be made. This suggests, therefore, preliminary investigations to determine:

1. At what parts of the marsh the water does actually stand above ground for periods of over four or five days.

2. Whether or not there are ditches in those parts of the marsh.

3. Whether or not the ditches are numerous enough and large enough to carry or hold the entire volume of water they receive.

4. What adjustments in the marsh outlet seem desirable in the way of widening, deepening, straightening and otherwise improving the channel.

5. Etc., etc.

Parts of Marsh Unexplored.

Some of this information is already available; others is still wanting; but with some further study of the conditions from an engineering standpoint, an expression might be obtained at least as to whether or not anything short of complete drainage of the marsh would produce the condition desired. There are parts of the marsh, apparently, which are practically unexplored, and what conditions exist there remains to be determined.

The writer, Mr. Schalck, has made trips throughout the length of the marsh from Winnetka to Lake Bluff, and it is his opinion that much additional ditching throughout the marsh as a whole is necessary in helping to confine the water instead of allowing it to spread out over flat ground. In the sections of the marsh which are well ditched, the conditions are much better than in those not so improved. It also seems possible to increase the carrying capacity of the outlet of the marsh by widening, deepening, straightening and otherwise improving it at various points along the course as far south as Morton Grove.

After some study of this matter a definite plan could be made and an estimate of the work furnished.

Cooperation Essential.

At the same time or preceding the making of detailed plans, after the preliminary study is made, there

BE SURE TO PAY UP.

To promote good feeling among your neighbors and acquaintances, hunt up those whom you owe money and square the account during Pay-Up Week. Don't wait on the other fellow. See him first—and liquidate.

Afterward, meet your obligations the first day of each month. If you owe more than you can pay all at one throw, pay what you can. Let your creditors know that you haven't forgotten your debts. It's only fair to them—and it's valuable to you. You are a fortunate man if your credit is A No. 1.

Pay-Up! Pay-Up! Pay-Up!

B. L. T. BUILDING H. B. S.

Perpetrator of "Line 'O Type or Two" Firm Advocate of "Safety First."

Selected Resident Site at Glencoe with View to Future Needs—Nas No Fear of Submarine Attacks.

It will interest all north shore residents to know that, despite the unfriendly weather from Alaska and Kamschatka, work has been started and considerable progress made in the erection, at Glencoe, of the residence of Bert Leston Taylor, conductor of the most distinguished column in the World's Greatest Newspaper—or any other newspaper. Mr. Taylor has been happy in his selection of a site.

Surrounded with Creature Comforts.

It is part of the tract known to Glencoe ancient history as the Pear Orchard, and looks out over Lake Michigan from the lofty bluff between the properties of James Simpson on the south and Charles Hermann on the north. Thus with dry goods on one side and wet goods on the opposite, and Lake Michigan on the third, Mr. Taylor will be "jolly well" surrounded with creature comforts, not always found so conveniently associated. The lake will afford abundant water—which may be used for fishing, bathing, sprinkling lawns and, in emergency, for drinking.

Bright Mark for Zepts.

Mr. Taylor's abode will be high above the range of the Kaiser's submarines, but it must be admitted he would be a shining mark for the Zepelins.

Two of the Tribune managers (Mr. Field and Mr. Onderdonk) are now residents of Glencoe. If Herrick, Goldbeck and the great unknown who produces the weighty editorials, could be corralled, Glencoe could almost claim to be headquarters for the W. G. N.

BRANCHES OUT IN WORLD

Rising Young Business Man Launches Motor Sales Company—Handle Ford Cars and Accessories.

Winnetka has had another business enterprise added to its list of up-to-date mercantile and supply firms in the North Shore Motor Sales company, established by C. J. Taylor, to handle the sale of Ford cars, parts and accessories. Mr. Taylor, who was formerly connected in a sales capacity with the Ford agency at Evanston, is well and favorably known all along the north shore as a young man of enterprise and energy. His advent into the business world of Winnetka, "upon his own," speaks well for his progressiveness and determination to forge ahead. All indications point to a successful career and future prosperity.

should be a movement to obtain the cooperation of all owners and authorities concerned with the property lying along the course of the upper part of the river, and in those parts of the marsh needing attention, since their objections or assistance would determine whether or not the desired improvements could be realized.

If the lowering of the water level and the confining of water to the ditches can be accomplished, operations aimed directly at destroying the mosquito larvae would be at once possible. In the next issues such operations will be discussed.

START A DOLLAR ON A DEBT-PAYING TRIP

Help the Other Fellow to Help You During National Pay-Up Week.

PASS PROSPERITY AROUND

Everyone Put Their Shoulder to the Wheel and Start the Band Wagon on the Highway to Success.

The thing that strikes every man when he sits down to consider it is how inter-dependent we are upon each other.

No one class can gain at the expense of all the other classes. This is a fact that has been strikingly emphasized during the mighty war in Europe. There every nation has found it necessary to run every activity having even the remotest connection, on a highly efficient basis.

How the Dollar Works.

In our own country, the factories could not run without markets for their goods, and if the factories didn't run, the farmer couldn't make money for there would be no market for his surplus product. As the farmer prospers, the entire nation prospers. So, too, as the commercial interests of the country prosper, the farmer prospers.

After all, we look to each other for our living and if we can throw into the channels of business the millions of dollars we all owe each other, so that we can again use these dollars to buy more things we need, every man who is supplying a real need will prosper.

Help and Be Helped.

This is the object of National Pay-Up Week, February 19 to 24. You can help and you can be helped if you will participate in the Pay-Up Week campaign. Every business man in New Trier township has pledged himself to pay all of his bills that he can at this time. Now let's all work together. Let's pass prosperity around.

Don't Wait for Other Fellow.

Don't make any mistake in the plan. The idea isn't that you must pay me, but the idea is that we will all pay each other. If we all take it upon ourselves to start the ball rolling, we can have a real Pay-Up Week here. If we sit back and wait for the other fellows to pay up, it will not be as great a success as it should be.

Plan Strongly Recommended.

This movement has been taken up in New Trier township upon the recommendations of the hundreds of towns and cities which engaged in the previous National Pay-Up Weeks. It is to be truly national in scope, as thousands of communities in every section of the United States, from one coast to the other, from the north line to the Gulf of Mexico, will take part in it.

During this week, the energies of millions of people will be centered upon the passing of the busy dollars around, cleaning up old debts. Starting in new prosperity will certainly result from it.

GAS FAILURE PROFITABLE

Winnetka Tea Room Reaps Harvest as Hungry Villagers Flock for Meals—Tables Command Premium.

It is an ill wind that does not blow good to someone. This may be slightly mixed but it is peculiarly applicable to the gas situation at Winnetka, where the sudden stoppage of the gas created panic among the housewives and started a rush of business for the Winnetka Tea Room, one of the neatest little eating places along the north shore, that kept the young lady proprietress' busy from early morn until late at night. Sunday was the big day and tables were at a premium. In fact, so many demanded the opportunity to partake of the excellent cooking of the Misses Salvesson that the "standing room only" sign was hung out early in the forenoon, and a line formed by those awaiting their turn. The gas failure was a profitable failure for the Tea Room, though a decided inconvenience to others.

It is perfectly safe to make a war-like speech provided you have located a hole up in the woods to which you can retreat.