

# WINNETKA WEEKLY TALK

VOL. V, NO. 51

WINNETKA, ILLINOIS, FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 1917

PRICE FIVE CENTS

## SCHOOL BOARD HEAD ANSWERS TAXPAYER

President Fehheimer Holds Critic Makes Unwarranted Insinuations.

## SAYS EFFICIENCY MARKED

Results Obtained from Study Courses Compare Favorably with Average—Fundamentals Not Neglected.

The following letter addressed to the editor of the Weekly Talk over the signature of Edwin S. Fehheimer, president of the board of education, is so complete in itself that explanatory notes are unnecessary. Suffice to say that it is considered sufficiently important to the community at large to warrant the best possible position in the columns of the Talk. The letter follows:

## REPLY TO SCHOOL CRITICISM

To the Editor:  
The letter criticizing the administration of the Winnetka public schools which appeared in your last issue is, to all intents and purposes, and so far as the board has been advised, an anonymous communication. Nevertheless, in order that the community may not be misled by the charges and insinuations contained therein, the board desires to make the following statement:

**Fundamentals.**  
In the annual report of the superintendent for last year there appeared eleven tables of results of certain standardized tests which were used at different times throughout the year for the purpose of analyzing particularly the work done in arithmetic, penmanship, language and spelling. Inasmuch as these results compare very favorably with the average for the country at large, and with individual towns and cities with which it was possible to make comparisons, it would seem apparent that fundamentals are not being neglected in our schools.  
Last November a new text book in arithmetic was introduced, which makes the teaching of that subject in our schools now in accord with the general practice in the best schools. This change would have been made long ago except for the fact that the law requires that a text book shall be used for four years after its adoption. The change in books necessitated a period of adjustment through which the pupils and teachers are now passing. There is every reason to believe that the results obtained from the use of the new text books will more than justify the change.

**Course of Study.**  
The course of study which our superintendent has outlined was formulated after thorough investigation of the courses of study of some of the leading cities, as well as some of the best schools, such as the Horace Mann School of Teachers' college, New York, the Speyer Experimental school connected with the Teachers' college, the elementary school of the School of Education of the University of Chicago, and our best normal and private schools. The teachers themselves were consulted and had a voice in the adoption of many phases of this course of study. It is not rigid and fixed, it is constantly undergoing changes and the experience of the superintendent and teachers point out the need. At a course of study so arranged the best desirable can be easily ascertained by reference to the recommendations of the best educators of the country by anyone who is willing to take the trouble to inform himself.

**Teachers.**  
As to the number of teachers who have left during the past few years for the following reasons: our being married, one because of health of her mother, two to college university work, one to do upper work which we could not properly accept better positions. My knowledge there have been teachers discharged from our system in the sense of summary dismissal. Those who do not meet the requirements of the superintendent board in their ability and adaptability (this does not necessarily imply that they are poor teachers or do not possibly do well elsewhere) informed that contracts will not

## POSTMASTER OFFERS TO BET \$1,000 CAN HOLD JOB

Kloepfer Confident Will Remain in Office—Candidates for Position Quietly Rounding Up Friends.

Arthur M. Kloepfer, our postmaster of wide publicity, feels so cock-sure of his reappointment when his present term expires that he is said to have offered to wager \$1,000 that he will continue to be the local representative for Uncle Sam for the next four years.

The other two candidates for the place, William A. Hadley and George B. Walkey, are both extending every effort to secure Kloepfer's job and expressed confidence of the results.

## HUBBARD WOODS GROCER ADOPTS CASH AND CARRY

Di Francesco Believes Plan Will Be Benefit to Customers in Helping Solve Cost of Living Problem.

So pronounced has been the success of the "Cash and Carry" plan inaugurated by the Progressive grocery of Winnetka that Salvatore Di Francesco of Hubbard Woods has decided to establish the same system of merchandising, and will start the plan in operation this Saturday. Di Francesco has a general grocery, fruit and vegetable business in Hubbard Woods and believes that by adopting the cash and carry idea he will not only work a material benefit to his customers but largely increase his present business. Judging from the prices outlined in his advertisement, appearing elsewhere in this newspaper, he has started on the right road and will carry the idea through to a successful conclusion. The Progressive people have nothing but the best to say of the "Cash and Carry" system and declare it the one real solution of the high cost of living.

be renewed with them for the next year. They are apprised of this fact, moreover, several weeks earlier than is customary in most other schools in order that they may have this additional opportunity of securing positions elsewhere.

There is no case on our payroll as is charged in which some teachers are paid salaries in excess of others whose positions, experience and time of service are equal.

**In General.**  
It is difficult to believe that anyone intelligently informed of the purposes and methods of administration of our schools could have made the criticisms or inquiries covered above, or could have stated that the superintendent's criticism generally is destructive rather than constructive. One might easily have learned that conferences are frequently held by the superintendent with individual teachers, with small groups, and with all the teachers in general teachers' meetings. At such meetings suggestions covering many phases of school work are brought out, and have undoubtedly been helpful to the teachers and contributed toward the improvement of their work. One of the best teachers Winnetka has ever had, Miss Hetzel, stated before she left that she had learned more about teaching during her term under our present superintendent than she did during her two years at the Normal Training school. It is also unquestionably a fact that the extent to which criticism and suggestion will be constructive depends in large measure upon the attitude and capacity of the teacher.

**Regarding Complaints.**  
As to the inquiry regarding the purpose of the notices posted in the rooms that all complaints, criticisms or suggestions concerning the conduct of the schools must be made to the superintendent or a member of the board of education, it must be obvious upon the slightest reflection that such a rule is necessary, not only to make the complaints or suggestions effective, but for the good of the teachers and the organization itself. One might easily imagine, let us say, a plastering contractor unwilling to accept complaints from an owner as to the manner in which he is living up to his contract, or suggestions as to how he might improve his efficiency if such complaints or suggestions were made to his employees and transmitted by them to him; and the employees themselves undoubtedly would prefer direct communication between the owner and the contractor. The principles under-

(Continued on page four)

## GETS PLENTY OF HEAT FROM GAS

Trustee Clark T. Northrop has admitted, confidentially, that the B. T. U. heat units in the gas furnished by the North Shore Gas company fully comply with all requirements. "Dad" was indulging in a bath, recently, and while clad in man's original suit of clothes, sat down on the gas heater in the bathroom. He arose immediately, incidentally adding to the heat emanating from the stove by the warmth of his remarks.

## INTERESTING MEETING OF WOMAN'S CLUB IS HELD

Announcements Made of Future Events of Importance to Village—Doing Real Service to Community.

At the regular meeting of the Winnetka Woman's club, March 8, there were an unusual number of interesting announcements made of future events in the village.

Sunday, 5 p. m., at Community house, Mr. Sherwood Eddy, field secretary of the Y. M. C. A., will speak of his "Experiences in the War Zone."

The next meeting of the club, March 22, will be an open one, and members may bring two guests. A paper by Signor Vittoris Falarsi, "The Beginning of Music," will be illustrated with songs by Mrs. John H. Hardin and Mrs. James C. Ames.

A suggestion from the board that this year the annual luncheon be abandoned and a particularly festive tea close the afternoon meeting was adopted.

The wisdom of the decision was apparent when Mrs. Lieber explained that the club membership has now passed the 500 mark.

Mrs. Barrett called attention to the near approach of house cleaning time and reminded us that the club gets ten per cent on all rug cleaning work sent through her.

Mrs. Wortley introduced Mrs. Martin Kent Northam, the new president of the Tenth District, who was nominated in our clubhouse last October. Mrs. Northam gave a splendid talk on the responsibilities of Woman's club members, pointing out that in this "Woman's Hour" when club life is merging itself into broader interests, we should be ready to meet all demands, especially in those problems which the housekeepers' conference have been working over. Mrs. Alan Wolff, who conducted the conference, will be the delegate to the Housewives' league during Mrs. Peterson's absence.

The third meeting of the Tenth District will be held Wednesday, March 28, in Wilmette. It will be Art Day, with talks on art in different aspects from "Art and the Art Institute" to "Art and Dress," by Mme. Lucille. The delegates from Winnetka Woman's club are Mrs. Burnham and Mrs. Fletcher, with Mrs. Belfield and Mrs. McClain as alternates.

Mrs. Gordon announced that on March 28, in the clubhouse, Mrs. Ira Couch Wood will tell of a new plan of the village to keep things cleaner and to better dispose of ashes and cans; and also of the village council work this winter. Afterwards tea will be served.

Mrs. Thrall sang three charming songs, accompanied by Mrs. Ricks. Mrs. Gordon introduced Dr. Alice Hamilton of Hull house, who spoke on "Occupational Diseases." Dr. Hamilton is an authority on this subject, having devoted much time to its study. She gave a most vivid impression of the great danger to those who are employed in poisonous trades, and spoke of the long working hours of women in America, showing how far behind other countries America is in safeguarding the worker in poisons.

The meeting then adjourned for tea and a social half hour, with Mrs. Charles Burkhardt, Mrs. Leonard Roach, Mrs. Eleanor Thom and Mrs. Charles Jackson as hostesses. Twenty non-members were guests of the club.

## TALKED OF SOCIAL SERVICE

Mrs. Ira Couch Wood gave a talk on social service in Chicago to the resident pupils of Girton school on Sunday evening, March 4. Mrs. Wood is a most delightful and forceful speaker, drawing her material from her own experiences. Everyone expressed the greatest appreciation of Mrs. Wood's kindness in giving such an inspiring evening.

Miss Laura Fisher is at the Mary Thompson hospital where she was taken for an operation.

## WINNETKA GAS USERS TO PAY BILLS, BUT PROTEST

Investigation Being Pushed Rapidly as Possible—Council Considers Questions at Last Meeting.

Gas still holds the attention of the Winnetka village council and a report from Special Investigator William A. Baehr is expected in the near future. President Rummel states that inquiries were being pushed as rapidly as possible. It was suggested Tuesday night that the people of the village refuse to pay gas bills, but this was considered too radical action and the suggestion was modified to advise that gas bills be paid under protest.

## M'KENZIE IS CANDIDATE FOR VILLAGE PRESIDENT

Cit's Committee Select Nominees for All Winnetka Offices—Special Election for Police Judge.

The committee which has been selected to secure candidates for the coming village election made its report at an impromptu meeting held at the Woman's club Thursday night, selecting the following villagers to run on the Citizens' Village Ticket:

For village president—William D. McKenzie.

For village trustees—Raymond E. Durham, Russell M. Heller and Thomas N. Wheatley.

For village treasurer—Fred H. Deily.

For marshal and collector—Theodore Flynn.

For police magistrate—Clark T. Northrop.

For library trustees—Ralph C. Hamill and Mrs. Franklin Rudolph.

A special election will also be held on the same day to elect a police magistrate to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of John S. Miller, Jr., handed to the village council Tuesday night. For this office the committee has nominated Byron A. Nelson. This candidate will be voted for on a separate ballot.

There has been considerable talk of a second ticket in the election and it is understood some meetings have been held, but so far there has been no formal announcement.

## MACDOWELL MUSICAL CLUB

Have Interesting Program of Vocal and Instrumental Numbers from Great Scandinavian Composers.

The MacDowell Musical club of Winnetka held its regular meeting last Monday afternoon, at the home of Mrs. Thrall. The program was made up entirely of Scandinavian music, and Mrs. Byron read an interesting paper on that subject. A sonata for violin and piano, by Sjorgren, was played by Mrs. Brewer and Mrs. Dean.

Mrs. Thrall, Mrs. Ricks accompanying, sang a group of three songs: "Woodland Wandering," Greig; "In Days of Yore," Kjerulds, and "Couldst Thou Know," Carl Warmuth. Mrs. Snell played the piano sonata by Greig, and Mrs. Brewer gave a violin solo, "Romance," by Svendsen. Mrs. Dean accompanied at the piano.

## CITIZENS DISCUSS SCHOOLS

Representatives from all parts of the village met at Community house, Wednesday evening, to discuss school matters. Several items of importance were discussed and plans formed for further action, including the appointment of the following committee to organize material for presentation to the board of education:

Messrs. A. W. Converse, Hubbard, J. R. Leonard, J. E. Lutz, R. J. Mills, J. E. Winterbotham, Mrs. W. D. Peck, Mrs. D. W. Poff and Mrs. C. A. Abrahamson.

## TEACH COOKING AT NIGHT

Commencing March 13, night classes will be held Tuesday and Wednesday evenings of each week at the Horace Mann school for those who desire instruction in cooking, serving, etc. No cost attaches to this work, except for the materials actually used in demonstrating. The classes will meet at 8 o'clock.

Mr. and Mrs. N. Landon Hoyt and Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Hoyt, Jr., will return next week from Green Cove Springs, Fla., where they spent most of the winter season.

## MADE FIRST WOOD PULP 50 YEARS AGO

Thursday Anniversary of Opening of Original Ground Wood Pulp Mill.

## MADE PRINT PAPER CHEAP

Revolutionized Industry in America and Gave to Present Generation Modern Press and Daily Paper.

March 5th records an anniversary of peculiar interest to newspaper publishers of this country and, for that matter, to every person who uses paper of any description, for on this date fifty years ago, in 1867, the first ground wood pulp was made at a mill in what was then the village of Curtisville, recently renamed Interlaken, in the State of Massachusetts. Up to that time paper was made exclusively of rags, naturally limiting the amount produced; but with the successful conversion of wood into a fibre suitable for print paper the vast timber resources of this continent became the limitless reservoir of raw material for any and all future demand.

## Solved Another Difficulty.

But the wood pulp fibre also solved another difficulty for the printer, for theretofore the speed of printing presses was limited, caused by the slow drying of the inks on paper made of rags, while the trade soon discovered that paper made of ground wood had excellent absorbing and drying qualities, and soon thereafter the printing press manufacturers were putting their minds and energies to work to develop the high speed press, and now the modern double octuple press will print 72,000 16-page papers per hour.

## America's First Mill.

The idea of making paper from wood originated in Germany in the early forties with Gottfried Keller, tradition having it that he in turn received his inspiration from a wasp's nest. Keller collaborated with a manufacturer of machinery, Heinrich Voelter, in whose name the patents were executed. It was not until 1866 that the possibilities of this invention in this country were recognized, when Albrecht and Rudolf Pagenstecher induced their cousin Alberto Pagenstecher to build a mill in this country, and financed the purchase of the necessary machinery and the building of a mill. The choice of location fell to Curtisville, where the outlet of Stockbridge Bowl seemed to supply an adequate amount of power. The mill was built and on March 5, 1867, the first ground wood pulp was produced.

## Wellington Smith, Pioneer.

Then another difficulty arose, namely the selling of the product. Paper manufacturers were either strongly opposed to or extremely pessimistic of the papermaking qualities of wood fibre. When one very large manufacturer was approached he curtly answered, "Sir, we don't use shoddy." Finally, however, Wellington Smith, who owned a mill near Curtisville, at Lee, agreed to buy a lot as an experiment, and to Wellington Smith is due the credit of having made the first paper out of wood pulp.

This pulp was invoiced at eight cents a pound, while the normal price today of pulp is under one cent per pound, and news print paper, then selling at fourteen cents a pound was reduced to two cents. It is furthermore remarkable that in the fifty intervening years no substantial change in the manufacture of ground wood pulp has been made, although the improvements in details of the grinder has naturally increased its efficiency and production.

## DIEBOLD CATCHES TOOL THIEF IN EARLY MORN

Jack Williamson, charged with being responsible for the numerous tool thefts occurring lately, has been remanded by Justice of the Peace Prouty to the criminal court under \$2,000 bond.

Williamson was arrested by Special Officer Charles Diebold, who, it is said, caught him in the act of appropriating a set of carpenter tools. Diebold was on his way home from work, at an early morning hour, when he made the arrest.