Winnetka Weekly Talk

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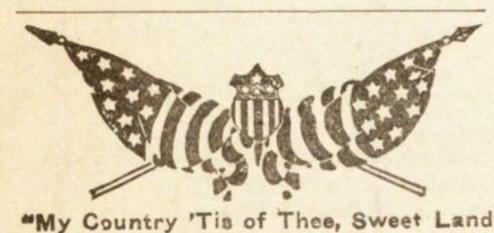
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FRIDAY, MAY 18, 1917

of Liberty."

TOWN IMPROVEMENT

One Improvement society a few years ago asked every member to bring in what suggestions occured to him for local betterments. Nearly 100 were offered. These ranged from window boxes with plants in the business districts, to regulations preventing congestion in tenements. Most of the ideas were good, though many were impossible under present conditions of laws and public sentiment.

cussing these propositions. The table. Thickly settled districts where members were so exhausted by the train service is abundant could often wide field of work that needed doing that their ambition all evaporat- were thoroughly advertised, and a ed in talk, and practically nothing well advertised train service in any was done. The society soon after locality may make a scanty service expired.

Probably the most practical end in view in the average American town is the removal of disorder from home places. Some wonderful successes have been achieved through the competitive garden movement. Many bare and ugly little cottages have been transformed into bowers of beauty by a little spirit of competition.

One of the worst features of most towns is disorderly back yards along railroads and trolley lines. Many places clean up their main streets until they fairly shine, and are lovely boulevards of trees and shrubbery. Ther where the railroad comes in, there is an ugly succession of chicken coops, outhouses, ash heaps, and That places a direct tax on the selchanged by an active Improvement doubt expect to take their share of society. By offering prices for the the burden, but it would be equally best looking back yards along the fair to tax every employer for the railroad line, visitors to the place would get an entirely different conception of the town.

have a reputation for ugliness just because the yards along the railroad are so disorderly. It takes comparatively little work to make the transformation. House owners can be induced to go into the scheme by the improvement in value of their real estate.

BURNING UP FOOD.

Every few days one reads in some newspaper that a car of potatoes on easily do without. The amusements some remote side track has been of the people are a legitimate field burned, or that a grain warehouse has been destroyed by fire. All accidental, of course.

car loads of potatoes are too valuable property to be left lying alone on remote sidings. There are people among us who have an interest in ple to have to cut down their exhaving these potatoes destroyed.

our military preparation. There such diversions and luxuries. But should be guards around all these if the people will but restrict themreserves of foods under present con-

ditions. itary advantage to our enemies. tax, and the people of wealth expect power. Meanwhile the food stocks on which it. our national safety depend are left unwatched. The railroads that are transporting these commodities all these price advances, and still should be held responsible for the worse to have our inteligence insultprotection of this vital property in ed by all these reasons that they give transit.

PASSENGER SERVICE.

It is announced at Washington that railroad passenger train service will be generally curtailed during the war, so as to ship a surplus of could raise on their little plots. It locomotives and cars to our allies in was more to train the children in in-Europe. Also it is desired to re- dustrious habits, and to interest lease locomotives for use in drawing them in processes of nature. But, freight trains as far as possible.

Salesmen and others whose business requires a constant succession of railroad journeys will feel the change a good deal. They will wind up their business in one town and find they have several hours of fruitless waiting before the next train to use vacant lots and back yards. comes along. But inconveniences of If the schools everywhere would prothis kind must and will be cheerfully mote this movement, an increase borne for the sake of promoting could be made in the food supply. make a good showing in this war, beat the last dollar out of the poor we must adjust ourselves to changes man, would reflect on all these little in our plans in a thousand ways.

Pleasure travelers are fussy about lars. their trains. Many such are run at a loss, and the cost is paid by the great mass of the public in freight ways gives a youngster a thrill to do rates.

The public would hardly be satisfied with a cutting down of passenger trains for the purpose of saving money for the stockholders. But if some of the locomotives and train freight business so as to stop the congestion that has added to cost of living, the public would often be the gainer.

In thickly settled sections where there are many trains many persons never bother to look at a time table. They just go to the station thinking that a train will come along, and then are angry if they have to wait. Here is where the railroads make a mistake when they cut out their advertising of train schedules in the newspapers. If they constantly inform the public through the newspapers when their trains run people can look up the schedule without Several meetings were spend dis- running to the station for a timeget along with less trains if these tolerable.

THE REAL PROPERTY AND PARTY.

TAXATION.

The government rightly plans to raise a large share of the war cost by taxation. Everyone naturally will want some one else hit. But there are certain general principles that everyone should assent to. These are that wealth should pay in proportion to its ability and that special taxes should be laid upon play rather than on work and business, upon luxuries rather than necessities.

One proposal is to tax advertising. general litter. All that could be ling of goods. The business men no number of salesmen employed. Either proposition would hamper business, tend to restrict trade, and Some of the most beautiful places would impair the economic soundness of the country.

Another proposed tax placed contrary to the principles enumerated above, would be to raise letter postage to three cents. This would hit business concerns heavily, and would be an impost on work rather than luxury. So far as heard from, however, no one has objected to a tax on picture post cards.

The more legitimate subjects for taxation are luxuries like liquor, tobacco, soft drinks, candy, chewing gum, and a wide range of notions and frivolities which people can for assessment, including theaters, baseball games, movies, all entertainments for private profit, country It will strike lots of people that clubs, billiard rooms and bowling alleys, and all kinds of sporting

It is not a hardship to the peopenses a little in these respects. Also a grain elevator is a part of of course means higher prices on all selves a little, their expenses will be

It is bad enough to have to pay for it.

SCHOOL GARDENS.

The school garden movement was not promoted so much for what few potatoes and beans the youngsters vegetables are regarded with wholesome respect now. The National Educational Association plans to push school gardens harder this summer, as a resource in food pro-

Teachers are to secure permission stocks stored away in a million cel-

The school gardens will be planted with boisterous enthusiasm. It al something like his father. He will feel like a grown man while he is digging his furrows and dropping in his seed. There will come a day when the weeds have grown very tall. The teacher is rusticating at crews could be shifted over to the rural retreats. A boy's will is the wind's will, and vacation days are full of pressing engagements. The swimming hole has to be visited ship prevail, it will be every one's several times a day, and there are duty to keep mum and not commit no end of birds nests to be inspected | the dastardly crime of showing how played. Then there is the inap- ened. propriate fact that the garden was not laid out in the shade. If this vital consideration had not been overlooked, it would have been much more practical for Tommy to weed his plot.

Still the children's gardens have really raised a substantial amount of produce. Children are happier if they have some regular task. But their gardens will amount to a great deal more if some competent person is given the job of regularly ing the farm to go to the cities won't supervising them. Father can well afford to pay something for real vegetables.

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A shortage is reported on all materials and elements contributing to agricultural production, except talk.

The astute youths who dodge registration for conscription are no doubt attracted by the idea of free board and conscription for the pail farms.

Clean up day was carefully observed by many people by moving the ash barrel to a location where only the near neighbors can see it.

It is surprising what an authority on gardening a person can become after reading a couple of columns of farm hints in the newspapers.

So far Congress has not voted to grant pensions to those who are drafted but fail to pass on account of physical defects.

Although a man may be able to stand the glare of the sun all day on an automobile trip, it does not prove that his eyes wil not suffer if he goes to church and gets the light from those stained glass win-

A public desire is manifested to hang the food speculators, but more suffering could probably be inflicted on them by forcing them into bankruptcy.

Some of the dealers are skinning the eyes out of the potatoes also the eye teeth out of the customers.

The people who thing it is going to be a short war and not much preparation is necessary, are the same ones who never mend a leaky roof until it rains.

The fact that people can get all exhausted on a fishing trip and yet have a good time, does not prove that they can stand a little prespiration in the garden.

These long flowing whiskers that the farmer is pictured with don't look nearly so funny when he looks out at you from the seat of his new six-cylinder automobile.

The food speculators feel that the none the greater. War is serious establishment of minimum prices is In some places officers are guard- business, and we must all expect our necessary for the protection of the ing buildings, the destruction of daily habits to be affected. Large in- community, while maximum prices which would not be of the least mil- comes must of course pay a heavy are a gross abuse of governmental

> Another lot of those people that have been biting granite, according to the cheerful German phrase, are the German spies that have been trying to bite it into the negro's head that he would better revolt.

spend his summer at a resort hotel Petrograd. playing ball to amuse the guests.

They can't be repaired in summer | they can't go. because everyone is too busy, nor in winter because they aren't needed

The need of more freight trains which the Council of National Defense has at last arranged to provide for, has long been pointed out by Wandering Willie and Dusty Rhodes.

It might be a good idea for some of these anti-submarine device inventors to sink one or two submanational efficiency. If we are to Speculators who are contriving to rines first and talk to the reporters afterward.

> After thoroughly reading the baseball news, many citizens will then turn to the front pages to read minor items like revolutions in Russia and killing of men by the hundreds of thousands in France.

It is still posible if you pay a higher price than girls can earn anywhere else, to get domestic servants that don't know enough to be stenographers and aren't strong enough to walk to their daily work.

If some people's ideas of censorand back yard ball games to be our military power can be strength-

> If baseball has to be stopped on account of the war, our National indictment against Germany will be terrible indeed.

> The only chance of a revolution in Germany is in case the government should grant popular rights, in which case the people would certainly revolt against any such proposition.

Those young fellows who are leavbe able to earn so much money, but they are cheered by the expectation that they can keep their cuffs clean.

Another of those fellows who The German spies worming their should be taken out in the back yard way through all Russia are trying to and introduced to the spade, is the prove that it is discourteous for our college student who is planning to government, to send a commission to

The men who are unable to enlist Farm implements reported short. are always awfully disappointed that

> It will be much safer for some of the boys to enlist and go into the trenches than to take their chances with sporting life at home.

Want Ads Are Busy Workers.



118 So. Dearborn St.

Chicago

The

presen

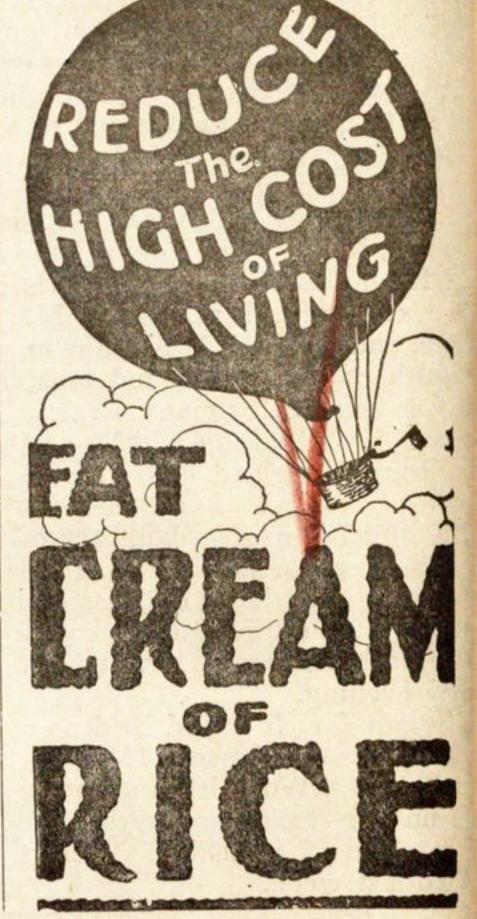
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