

# Winnetka Weekly Talk

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by

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1917

## The Home Guard.

The company for the regiment of the state guard is in training. Men of the north shore are enlisted in the field service in France. Many of the most physically fit of our young manhood are already gathered under the draft. Some sort of service is being sought by nearly all men who are able to be of use to the country or the state. Many other men have not entered any branch of service because their domestic or business ties make it impossible for them to engage themselves for anything which means absence from home for a period of any length. But there is work also for these, if they are of an age and physically able to carry arms, in the home guard, locally known as the Military Training Corps.

Every community needs an organized body of men for the defense of the home district, men who are not subject to call outside their home towns, but who are trained and officered, ready to give efficient service in their immediate environs. This is a time of dissensions and strife. Agencies are about with the single purpose of stirring up internal trouble. No man can know when the spirit is going to strike a community. The only safe course is for every town to be in readiness to meet any crisis which may arise. The home guard is the logical answer to the question of defense against such trouble, the best safeguard against its need. All men who are qualified to serve in such an organization should accept it as their duty to undertake the training and to put themselves into that physical condition which will make them effective as defenders of the safety of the people at home.

## The Food Inventory.

With each announcement of project or achievement of the food administrator realization is brought of the careful planning which was going on that time need not be wasted when Congress should have talked itself out and the necessary authority given for action. The inventory of foodstuffs held in local shops already well under way is evidence of the working out of a plan of action which could be immediately put into operation.

It is well for us that President Wilson and Mr. Hoover were not discouraged by the balking of Congress on the establishment of the necessary control of food materials, that they did not sit idly by waiting for the growing and harvesting season

to come and go while power was withheld from them to take an active hand in the regulation of the prices and distribution of food materials and fuels, well for us that at this time, when stores are being laid by for the winter, there should be that effective supervision which the country believes Mr. Hoover knows how to give.

It speaks well for the merchants of New Trier township that they are receiving the recommendations of the food administrator gladly and co-operating with him to the very best of their ability, but it is what was to be expected from our business men, whose public spirit and rightmindedness is evident in all their relations to the people of the community.

## News from Home for the Soldier.

Anybody who has been away from home and friends knows the joy which comes with the local newspaper with its accounts of the activities of those related to life at home. It is a realization of what it will mean to the boys who are to leave for camp and to those who are already gone overseas to be kept in touch with the affairs of family and friends that has made the publishers of the local paper extend the offer of the reduced rate to the men of the army and navy. We have done what we could to bring this pleasure into the lives of the young soldiers. The friends and families of the enlisted men are showing a disposition to take advantage of it by placing their orders for the placing of the names of their soldier boys upon the mailing list.

Life in the training camps is one continuous round of activity during the daylight hours. The evenings, Sundays and holidays are left empty with little to offer as an antidote to the homesickness and soul-weariness which is bound to come with leisure to think. The home paper with its gossip of home affairs will come to the tired boy as a voice from a friend and help to maintain the tie between the absent one and those of the broken circle. Send your boy the news of yourself and his friends.

## A Real Test of Courage.

In some sections of the state the knitting bee has reached even to the men and masculine fingers are seen to be busy with the ivory needles, producing those garments which will be so needed by our soldier men when the cool days of autumn come. Report comes from an Illinois city of one man, a traveling salesman, who, being beyond military age and prevented by his business from taking part in the war work of the organizations of any one community, has taken his moral courage in both hands and set about utilizing the time which he must spend on trains between points knitting sweaters for the men at the front.

Fellow passengers are inclined to smile at the work of the patriot who is thus doing his bit to help the men of the fighting forces to meet the duties before them with the least possible hardship, but there comes a real realization that it requires more real enthusiasm and patriotic ardor to face the misunderstanding grin of men who are spending their leisure time playing cards or gossiping with fellow travelers, more real courage, to knit in a public conveyance, than to face the bullets of the enemy and all the discomforts and perils of life on the battle front.

## Register Your Car.

Everything that can be done to make more effective the work of the men who are assuming the duties of the National and the Home Guards should be done without stint by those

private citizens whose lives and property the energies of the military organizations are to protect and conserve. The call for automobiles to be had in the event of emergency is one which the good citizens of the village should and will heed, for it is the only way to put this means of quick transportation at the disposal of the state troops and the Home Guard.

When the time comes, if it does come, to make the demand for automobiles there will be need for such haste as to make delay for the solicitation of machines and drivers decidedly out of accord with the urgency of the occasion. A registry of available cars will facilitate matters by acquainting those in charge of the exact location of cars whose owners are willing to give their use and that of a driver. Expression of such willingness to serve makes small demand upon the owner of the automobile and may be the means of contributing greatly to the efficiency of the work of the home troops.

## HUMANE TREATMENT

Philadelphia Bulletin

"The Germans," said Admiral Cocheprat, of the French Mission, during his visit to New York—"the Germans don't know what humanity means. When they talk about being humane, they remind you of little Marius.

"Marius was very proud of the new kittens, and went one day to get them to show to a visitor.

"As he returned through the hall, the kittens made a frightful noise, and his mother called:

"Don't hurt the kittens, Marius!" "No, mother, I won't," said he. "I'm carrying them very carefully by their stems."

## Unfortunate Beginning

Atlanta Journal

Sometimes, to be sure, the opening is so unfortunate as to incur instant resentment and positively invite refusal. Take the case of the diminutive

man of kindly appearance who was accosted in the loop by a seedy purist with the words:

"Sir, I am looking for a little succor."

"Well," snorted the wearer of the size 13½ collar, "do I look like one?"

## AN INDULGENT BOSS

Buffalo Express

Boss—"Why don't you let the office boy do that, instead of doing it yourself?"

Self-important Assistant—"The office boy isn't intelligent enough."

Boss—"Well, then, all right. But keep the office boy busy—better give him some of your work."

## NOT HOPELESS

Boston Transcript

Would-be Contrib.—"Do you think there is any chance of my getting my poems printed in your paper?"

Weary Editor—"There may be. I sha'n't live forever."

## Not Their First Appearance

London Chronicle

Be not deceived; the jolly sea-dogs over here with the magnificent flotilla of American destroyers, are not the first, since Paul Jones, to reach our waters "on business." The fathers of some of them came 56 years ago, on a wicked-looking American man-of-war. They were angry with us over the Trent and Alabama affairs. They anchored off Osborne, where the Court was in residence; and refused to show their flag. They caused a doubling of the Court guard, and the appearance of two British frigates before they raised anchor and went off with a surly honest growl.

## MONEY IN CAMPHOR

Youth's Companion

Camphor groves may some day be as familiar to us as peach orchards and orange groves. Agents of the

department of agriculture have that when planted in hedges feet apart camphor trees will each year about eight tons of mings to the acre, from which two hundred pounds of gum can be distilled. At present that means a profit of about \$1000 an acre. The camphor trees are more than many of our fruit trees, but suitable only to the southern

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