

# Winnetka Weekly Talk

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1917

### Back Up the Army with Money.

When the first call was made to the people early in the summer to buy Liberty bonds there was a very general response from the village of Winnetka with no question of meeting the quota which was assigned to us as our share. Last June there were relatively few homes which had contributed men to the service and the personal interest in the welfare of our army was correspondingly slight. Since the middle of June when the first campaign ended there have been many Winnetka boys go into service, each one taking with him the concern of his family group and his friends. The present call for subscriptions to the second Liberty loan will, therefore, meet with a more hearty response than the first, and that means that Winnetka will certainly subscribe any portion assigned to her, and in all probability, over-subscribe it.

Every day adds to the realization of the public of the meaning of war. Every day we see that the drawing of men into the army is only a very small part of our national defense. We must see to it that those men have every appliance for their safety and comfort, every detail of equipment to make them efficient soldiers and sailors, everything necessary to give them the training requisite for fitting them to take and to hold their place in the war, and, at the very earliest possible moment, to bring victory out of the turmoil into which the world has fallen.

All this requires money and the fund to be raised through the Liberty loans is designed to meet these needs. Every loyal citizen will wish to have a part in the financing of the government for the prosecution of the war, and everyone may, because of the system which is employed in the selling of the Liberty bonds, have some part in the most important business of the day.

### Americanizing the Immigrant.

This is the time of times for the teaching of the foreign born in ways of Americanism, to instruct them in the language of the country in which they expect to make their homes, to give them that help which will protect them from the exploiter and excite in them respect and love for the country and confidence in the good intentions of the government. Since the outbreak of the war in Europe the number of immigrants entering the United States has been practically negligible. Those who were here have

had an opportunity to enter into the ways of the new country without the constant renewal of old ideals and customs by the arrival of later comers. The tide has been stemmed for the duration of the war, and the opportunity of the American who realizes the importance of Americanizing the newcomer has been enhanced by the relatively fewer applicants for instruction and the establishment of a comparative state of equilibrium in the foreign population.

Much good work is being done on the north shore in the creation of Americans, with the establishment of new standards and ideals and the development of new habits of thought. The scale of living can be materially heightened by the course of instruction in English and the elementary subjects of the grammar school, a new interest in education which will create ambition in behalf of the rising generation which will be of immense advantage to the city of tomorrow. Winnetka is, of course, a very small part of the nation but it is a part which is looked upon as an example in many ways and which wields an influence which will spread. The good work which is being accomplished here will not be limited to our own community, though its effect upon this village makes it well worth while.

### The Grey Knitters.

Some there are who question the value of the knitting which women are doing, some who would have the work of supplying the soldier and sailor boys with comforts done entirely by the more efficient machine. Such are not considering the spiritual benefit which is being gained by the women knitters, nor the effect upon the boys of the knowledge that everywhere throughout the land which they are offering their lives to defend women's fingers are busy with the needles making the garments to keep their bodies warm and comfortable while they perform their difficult task.

A Canadian writer of war poetry, Katherine Hale, has put a soul into the work of the "Grey Knitters" in her poem, which closes with this stanza:

"I like to think the soldiers, gaily dying,  
For the White Christ on fields with shame sown deep.  
May hear the fairy click of women's needles  
As they fall fast asleep."

It encourages the "grey knitters" to keep to their task, monotonous though it would grow in time without the stimulus of the great need to press them on, that the boys who are so nearly ready to take their place on the "fields sown deep with shame," will have the assurance that the women at home have not been unmindful of the sacrifice which they are called upon to make and that they have sought to show just a little of their appreciation by a constant application to the work which has been placed into their hands.

### Service Flags.

Service flags have not yet appeared in any number in Winnetka, although the homes of the village have contributed more than their actual share of men for the several branches of the service of the United States. But the reputation of the village for patriotism and a sense of duty does not suffer therefrom.

The service flag, however, serves to point out to the public the home from which has gone out a man into the service of his country and to com-

mend the occupants of the house so designated to the consideration and appreciation of the public. Many homes, however, not so adorned contain people of equal ardor for the cause who by reason of sex, physical condition, age or other disqualification are unable to serve in arms. These will appreciate the message of the service flag and rather envy the home which has the right to display it, not because of the appeal it makes to the public, but because of the privilege which it represents, a privilege denied to them.

### TANKS

London Chronicle

What will that learned body the French Academy make of the word "Tanks" when they have to decide its sex? It was Tommy Atkins who christened the new British invention "Tanks," and the name is being accepted in allied countries as a legitimate addition to their language. "Tanks" were conceived many years ago, not in the moving towers of the pre-Christian era, but in more recent times. In 1814 a workman prepared a scheme to present to Napoleon, explaining how a vehicle could be constructed, to be drawn by horses, thoroughly protected, including the horses, and able to carry men and guns right up to the enemy's lines. The man was arrested as a lunatic. And did not Leonard da Vinci declare that he could construct a safe and indestructible vehicle, carrying artillery, which could enter the ranks of the enemy and prepare the way for the infantry? Two of the great craftsman's pen-drawings of "war-machines" are included in the famous Alfred Morrison collection of autograph letters and papers, which, it is announced, will come under the hammer at Sotheby's in the autumn.

### THE MANUAL OF ARMS

Manchester Guardian

American troops now landing in France have received a more careful and prolonged training that could possibly be given the most of the regiments hurriedly raised during the Civil War.

The story goes that a raw battalion of rough backwoodsmen, who had "volunteered," once joined General Grant. He admired their fine physique, but distrusted the capacity of their uncouth commander to handle troops promptly and efficiently in the field, so he said: "Colonel, I want to see your men at work; call them to attention and order them to march with shouldered arms in close column to the left flank."

Without a moment's hesitation the colonel yelled to his fellow-ruffians: "Boys, look wild thar! Make ready to thicken and go left endways! Tote yer guns! Git!"

The maneuver proved a brilliant success, and the self-elected colonel was forthwith officially commissioned.

### THUMB TACKS

Christian Herald

Are you looking for a man's job or only for a salary?

One swallow may not make a spring, but the first swallow often makes a drunkard.

Some people can buy everything but character—that is never on the bargain counter.

It is distance that makes the grass seem so green on the other fellow's side of the fence.

To be kind when none responds, to be good when none appreciate, and to be ready to forgive, is religion.

Leaves for New York.  
Dr. J. E. Fonda of Winnetka will leave Saturday to attend the national dental convention in New York.

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