

WINNETKA WEEKLY TALK

Nearly Everybody In Winnetka Reads The Talk

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Madame Delebecque, Worker In Winnetka Dispensary In France, to Speak At Community House Gathering

At a meeting to be held in the gymnasium at Community House on December 29, Madame Delebecque will relate her experiences and tell of the work of the Winnetka Dispensary, which has been operating for more than a year under shell fire. The following letter lately received by the American Fund for French Wounded shows the high esteem in which Madame Delebecque was held by the French committee of that organization:

Paid Glowing Tribute

"American Fund for French Wounded. Alcazar D'Ete, Champs-Elysees. Paris, November 9, 1918. To the Chairman of the American Fund for French Wounded, Winnetka, Illinois.

Dear Madame:—
Madame Delebecque is leaving us after a magnificent record. In all the time that she has been here we have never heard one word of complaint or seen one look of anything but cheerfulness. I cannot tell you what her work has meant to us. In philanthropic organizations there are many little ups and downs which make many rough places and which

are very trying sometimes to bear. Therefore, when a person like Madame Delebecque has worked as unselfish as she has done and received as little glory, I cannot tell you how much gratitude we feel for the way in which she has done her work.

The spirit that has been shown by the workers in these villages has been perfectly remarkable, and I think a great deal has been due to the tact and patience of the faithful workers who carry our message to you. The name of Winnetka has become known all over Lorraine, and most of it is due to the example they have set and the patience they have shown.

With very best wishes to all of you, believe me

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) Isabel S. Lathrop, President."

Winnetka will have an opportunity to give Madame Delebecque a real welcome and to enjoy a treat in hearing her wonderful story on Sunday evening, December 29, at Community House. Should quarantine regulations prevent, notice will be given through the "Talk" next week, and on the Bulletin boards at the station.

ATTEND THE VILLAGE CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

For the fifth time, on Christmas Eve the Village Christmas tree will shed its light across the Commons. The Art committee of the Village Improvement association, which has the matter in charge, has been busy for a month attending to the rehearsing of the carols and preparing for the event.

Under the leadership of Mrs. P. B. Kohlsaat, a member of the committee, the school children of the higher grades have been drilled, a group of older people have rehearsed the carols and these will lead the singing. The committee hopes that as every year the music has improved somewhat, this year, with peace on earth and our spirits rising joyously at the close of the war, the carols at this happy time will be better than ever before and will give expression to the genuine joy of the occasion.

Last year while the spirit reigned, there was the solemn thought of sacrifice in standing for the right embodied in all the words. This year this same Christmas has a joyous note.

It is hoped everyone will come to the Commons on Christmas Eve at 5:30 o'clock sharp and bring their little flash lights, that no word may escape from the songs sung around the tree.

Elizabeth L. C. Otis,
Chairman, Art Committee of the Village Improvement association.

J. ALLEN HAINES IS HOME FROM FRANCE

Lieutenant J. Allen Haines, formerly vice president of the Chicago Morris-Plan bank, returned to his home in Winnetka late last week, after five months' naval aviation service abroad and reported that "England's hat is off to the United States navy." He said the Yankee fleet so quickly mastered the ins and outs of the new sea service that Great Britain's highest praise has been won.

Christ Church Christmas Festival

The Christmas Tree festival of the Sunday school of Christ church will be held at the church on Tuesday afternoon, December 24, at 3:30 o'clock.

CHRISTMAS ROLL CALL; AMERICAN RED CROSS

Winnetka is being canvassed for as many one hundred per cent household enrollments as possible—If you have not been reached or asked to subscribe call up Winnetka 470 and a District Captain will call. Only two more days—Let us all grasp the opportunity to support this most worthy cause.

John Ritchie,
Chairman.

AVOID CROWDS, IS HEALTH BOARD EDICT

Strict Ban Is Continued on Motion Picture Shows and Public and Private Dances

TWO DEATHS THIS WEEK

Health Commissioner Requests the Residents To Avoid Persons Suffering with Colds

By Dr. C. O. Schneider

Influenza is again slightly on the increase, with a larger percentage of children being affected than heretofore, and in order to safeguard the community as much as possible during the holiday season, it is urged that all children be required to remain within the limits of our own Village. Conditions both north and south of us are not quite as satisfactory as our own, and you are especially requested not to take the children into the crowds of the city.

Keep away from persons having so-called "common colds" or who cough or sneeze, as these are often mild or unrecovered cases of influenza, and do not visit in homes where this disease exists.

Persons having any symptoms of a cold, or coming from a household where any members have "colds" or influenza should be avoided and they must be excluded from all public gatherings.

Show and Dances Banned

Motion picture shows and dances in our own community are still prohibited, and as these are probably the most dangerous sort of gatherings from the standpoint of spreading the influenza, you are requested to be consistent enough to avoid attendance at such entertainments elsewhere.

Two Fatalities this Week

It is with great regret that it becomes necessary to report the death of two additional members of our community during the past week, due to influenza followed by pneumonia complications. Mrs. William A. Abel, of 941 Oak street, passed away one week ago, and this morning Mrs. H. H. Holden of 939 Ash street, died from this disease.

Death Rate Below Average

At a meeting during the convention of the American Public Health association, held in Chicago last week, it was reported by the committee on statistics that no fewer than 400,000 deaths have occurred in the United States up to the present time, due to this epidemic which began here about the middle of last September. This means that one out of every two hundred and fifty persons in this country have perished from influenza and its complications during the last three months. Had our death rate in Winnetka been as high as the average for the entire country, then no less than twenty-five people in our community would by this time have died from this plague of influenza. Fortunately and due to the untiring efforts of our physicians and nurses, we have so far lost only eight of our people, and it is hoped that all will continue to make such sacrifices as will tend to prevent any additional deaths.

GIVE WOUNDED YANKS BIGGEST CHRISTMAS!

An urgent request is being made to the residents of Winnetka to aid in making Christmas a little brighter for the wounded men from overseas, now at Fort Sheridan hospital. Candy, cake, jellies, plants, puzzles, games of all sorts, playing cards, books, phonograph records, cigars and anything that will appeal to a convalescent man may be sent to the Parish house on or before Monday, December 23. These men who have offered their lives in the cause of humanity and bled on the battlefields of France are deserving of the wholehearted support of every resident of the Village and it is especially fitting that the dreary days of convalescence be made more endurable by means of any sacrifice that can be made by us who are enjoying the fruits of victory but who were not called upon to face death to achieve the benefits of Liberty.

CHRISTMAS SERVICE AT CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

The service of the Congregational church next Sunday morning will be the Christmas Musical service. Miss Katherine Green, soprano, will sing with the girl's choir, and Mrs. Harold Knapp, harpist, and Mrs. Brewster, violinist, will be in the service, which promises to be especially attractive.

Did They Celebrate Armistice Day In Chavaniac? Well, Read Dr. Brown's Letter and You'll See

Note: The following is another of the exceedingly interesting and entertaining letters received from Dr. Alice Barlow-Brown, Winnetka physician, who has been doing such wonderful work among the refugees in France and Belgium.

Paris, France, Nov. 16, 1918

My dear Mrs. Goodchild:—

What joy has been throughout the world this past week, when the news was carried over the wires that the war was over. What that has meant to the mothers, wives, sisters, fathers and brothers in the world—only those who have given and suffered will know. I never will forget the faces of some of the women. Gladly did they welcome the news—but soon they wept—not alone with joy—but with sadness. They said, "Grace d' Amerique"—la guerre est fini, pourquoi de venir plutot?" "Why did you not come sooner?"

While we were waiting for the 72 hours to pass at Chavaniac—we were all desirous of coming to Paris to help in the celebration but we could not. Monday morning I was called up the mountain to see a very sick woman. I did not want to be away when the news came but hoped that I would return in time. There were services for two young men who had died on the field of honor and also a funeral for a young married woman who died of tuberculosis, so the bells had been ringing nearly all the morning—but at noon-time they rang a different tune—one of gladness. At a quarter to twelve Mme. Le Verrier called up the Prefect at Le Puy for the news—we had it forty minutes after Paris. Immediately the old bell of the chateau was rung and then the bell of the church—as I came down the mountain the bells brought me the good news and I hastened to put the flags out in the dispensary, but Miss Daut had already done so. Then I went to the church and helped to ring the bells. We all had to go up in the church tower and from there rang all three of the big bells. After luncheon, which was frequently interrupted, I formed a little procession carrying the flags of France, England and the United States. We marched to the Square where a poilu put our flags on the statue there that has been erected to the La Fayette family, afterwards we sang all the national hymns. We celebrated for three hours when I suddenly thought of my clinic in Paulhaguet. Though late, we started, and all through the journey the people along the way cried, "Vive l'Amerique". On reaching P—we received quite a demonstration it was embarrassing—but I took it for the army and navy and our allies. As I descended from the car M. Julien, the pharmacist, caught me in his arms and kissed me on both cheeks for America, as did also his wife. Nothing would do but that we must drink a toast for "Peace Forever," and to our illustrious men Clemenceau, Foch, Pershing, Lloyd George, Sir Douglas Haig, Petain and Wilson. After all the joyous excitement we started to go home and found that the car, "Napoleon", would not go. It had just been fixed that morning by a local mechanic and the same trouble that had occurred with the rear wheel had developed again. The telephones were all closed at 4 o'clock so we could not telephone for Miss Perry to come after us. Our only hope of returning to the chateau was to hire a conveyance. After an hour and a half we reached Chavaniac not at all disheartened.

The next morning Mme. Le Verrier and Miss Perry were leaving for Paris with "Henriette", the Ford (a light delivery truck) Miss Redmond and I decided to go with them, and take our wheel to the Motor Transport Repair shop to be fixed—you should have seen that car—a truck set back of the top with a truck standing on end in the back, three suitcases, a tea basket, (what a joy the tea-basket has been) gasoline cans, two old tables and ourselves. They took a picture of us and as soon as we got one I will send it to you. We were cheered all along the line, or rather cries of "Vive l'Amerique" were heard as they recognized the U. S. car. We reached our Repair Camp that night, stopped at an adjoining village for the night, where there is a school for drivers. As we were leaving the next morning for the repair camp, who should I see but Charlotte's brother, Billy McCarthy. Did he get kissed? Well, I should say so. And how well he looks. This was the second time I have met anyone I knew. It took until late in the afternoon to make the repairs on "Henriette" so that we did not get started for Paris until 4 o'clock, we got as far as Montargis where we spent the night. Here it was over four months ago where our refugee train was met by the American officer to conduct us safely to Paris.

The next morning at 9 o'clock we began our journey hoping to reach Paris in time for luncheon, but as we were to pass through Fontainebleau, Mme. Le Verrier insisted upon my seeing it. It was wonderful although closed, much of the chateau has been used for hospital purposes. As we neared Orly, the great aviation camp near Paris, we visited it and had luncheon with a lieutenant who had passed a few days of convalescence at the chateau. While here we saw several planes leave for the front and the Caproni plane that the two young officers brought from Milan over the alps—one was from Boston—the other from St. Louis; you would hardly believe it possible, after seeing the big plane and the two young men. There is an officers' club here erected in memory of Capt. Sanger who was killed in the summer, it is called Sanger Hall, and has all the comforts of home.

Paris is brilliantly decorated in flags and bunting, the most wonderful part of it all is that the streets are lighted at night making it look so beautiful, especially as everyone had become accustomed to creeping about in the absolutely darkened streets. Also to see the moon and realize that there will be no Boche overhead any more. Everybody seems to be so relaxed, the tension is over. I am with Mme. Le Verrier in her apartment for a few days. I will go back before she does as there is much to be done.

Today we are going to march in the big parade for the freeing of Alsace-Lorraine, so I will write you about it later perhaps not until I return to Chavaniac. We are all so happy over the turn of affairs. At last, right has ruled over might and the Lord is with us always.

Your Doctor,
Alice Barlow-Brown.

DISPLAYS PRIZE STEER IN ELM STREET STORE

An unusual and interesting attraction in the Elm street business section is the display of the Aberdeen Angus prize steer in the window of A. Peter's market at 734 Elm street. The steer won third prize at the Stock show held in Chicago several weeks ago.

THIS INTERESTS YOU!

An Emergency Service Bureau will be maintained under the auspices of the Winnetka Relief and Aid society during the prevalence of the influenza, at the office of the War Emergency Union, in Community House.

Regular and volunteer nurses are asked to register here as soon as possible. (Registry is free). All others who will serve either in caring for children, cleaning, cooking, laundry work, etc., are asked to send in their names to the War Emergency Union office.

Hours 9 a. m. to 5 p. m. and 8—9 p. m. on weekdays. 12 to 1 p. m. on Sundays. Telephone Winnetka 1000.

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