

## Preaching, Moving, Hauling Wood and Selling Cigarets; All "Y" Man's Job; L. R. Howard in Interesting Note

L. R. Howard, Glencoe man, who has been doing remarkable canteen work with the Y. M. C. A. near the front in France, is the author of the following letter which gives an unusually clear insight into the work that international organization has been doing among our men in the great war. The letter recently received by a friend in Glencoe is printed in full as follows:

November 4, 1918.  
I am waiting in the station at Pontcharra in our leave area where the narrow gauge from Alleverd joins the main line, on my way to Grenoble for the day. My first 300 Yanks from one of the well known fighting divisions are around me on their way back to Grenoble, and thence to their place, wherever it may be. The week has been in most respects a great success. We didn't hold the men at Alleverd in very large proportions at first, but after the first day better and better as the week went on. 250 more Permissioinaires are expected at Alleverd this afternoon. I shall be back to meet them if possible. Meanwhile the others are going ahead to help get ready to meet the newcomers in really fine new quarters. It is hard to suggest to you what the "Bathing Establishment" is like, but we have six big marble floored rooms (2 more if we want them) into which we have put piano, billiard table, canteen, etc. They are well furnished besides with chairs and settees and some tables—good writing room and other such things.

### Use Napoleon's Spoons

We have engaged M. Niepce as interpreter. Did I tell you we stayed at his house for dinner the other day? Part of which (the house) is called the Dauphin's Tower. Has walls six feet thick. Was built in the 13th century and was the dwelling of several of the princes of France during visits in the Dauphine, according to the story. Also we were served after dinner coffee with six spoons of Napoleon's, given to an ancestor of the family by Napoleon himself, said great grandfather being one of Napoleon's generals. The spoons have a small figure of Napoleon with folded arms at the top of the handle and a small "N" on the bowl.

### Arranges "Y" Headquarters

I left Grenoble Sunday, October 27, at 4 o'clock with interpreter, M. Niepce, in an auto carrying what we could pile in of cigarettes, cigars and tobacco some candy and chocolate and cookies. Had already made a sign, "Temporary Y. M. C. A.—Welcome." Reached Alleverd by supper time. There was no settlement as yet as to my quarters, except that the Catholic generously allowed us the use of a little old gym near the narrow gauge station on the dirty little street. Took this for immediate use and fixed tables for a counter, moved in and put up the sign. Monday devoted the morning to completing the cleaning up of the place the best possible and at 2 P. M. started sales which continued all afternoon and evening. At about P. M. one helper arrived.

Tuesday we continued sales and Niepce took a few men and Miss for a short hike. In the afternoon Miss R. ran the canteen and took a group up Mt. Beaunefarine. At 5:30 P. M. another man came up with a small load of supplies and orders to stay with me till the material the "Y" cars had come or I had relief. We found a better place together, though still a rather excuse for the price and he took in good shape on the work. Wednesday Rush took a few men for hike and we got some baseball and football started. The gathering of real equipment continued and Wednesday morning we got the use of the Du Parc hotel parlor for a sort of stunt hour and a half, after having run the canteen till 9 o'clock. We had had the same place for an hour's dance on Tuesday evening, as we have a piano there. It was mainly a "stag" affair, of course. Madame Niepce played for us and Made-moiselle Niepce sang very well. We had not been able to get a piano, but succeeded on Thursday in obtaining the renting of a very poor private piano which we brought over on a hand cart. Also got a kitchen stove from a private house. Had some drinking and tennis that day and got the gym nicely decorated for a great Hallowe'en party Thursday night, during which, by the help of some of the men cooks, we were able to serve doughnuts and coffee and apples and apple tarts to about 250 men. Madame Niepce and daughter

made the tarts. We had to borrow the flour and pay a fabulous price for the fat, as we do for nearly everything. It was a great evening and with games, dancing, etc., lasted till late.

### Moving Day Again

Thursday some extra supplies came from Aix-les-Bains on a "Y" truck and with them a Mr. Davis, a broker from Boston, who was at Aix for a rest after canteen work near the front. In the afternoon came another load of workers from Aix. That night we had another party in the gym, without a free feed, but it was interesting and well attended. Saturday came the wire that we could have the Thermal Establishment, but were definitely refused the Splendide hotel. It was put up to our Area secretary to decide, but as I was on the ground and he off for Paris, I decided at once and started the move on the jump. Got groups of the fellows to help. Moved over piano and stove. Also from the old broken down Casino many marble topped tables, a counter and a great billiard table. Found some Yanks who wired in as many lights as we could get sockets for, one recommended a place in the billiard table, etc. The French promised to have us moved in by Tuesday for 100 francs—we were in by noon Saturday for nothing. Of course all kinds of finishing is still going on, also purchasing of utensils, equipment and supplies locally. Coal for a time is in, also some wood for a grate which we were delighted to find could be used, though it has not been used before. The place has been wholly a summer resort, for July and August. Our rooms where we have found sleeping quarters around town are like ice chests, though the beds are good.

### Preaches and Hauls Wood

Sunday I preached to a good audience of American boys at 10:30, then hauled wood, moved more furniture, sold at counter, swept the floors, conducted a half hour sing at 8 P. M. and for two hours washed dishes. We served chocolate free after the song service to over 200 men as a farewell. The day ended with happy feelings from many hearty "Goodbyes," and "thank yous," and "We'll never forget yous," etc. I closed up at 11:30 P. M. and got to bed soon after 12.

We're drawing near to Grenoble now—have come down all the way with the fellows and may see them off from G. Have had as varied and crowded a week as my life has ever known, with great difficulties and big problems, but with very fair success and keeping in good shape too, so I'm a happy old "Y" man today.

Friday, Nov. 8.  
I didn't even have time to address and mail what I had written, as I was determined to get stuff back to Alleverd which we needed. I got a good lot and went back with a load by auto. Tuesday I returned with the Ford again and bought stoves, more supplies and equipment. Got a French woman who speaks English to go out and take charge of kitchen help on Monday. Wednesday night we had four entertainers out and on Thursday night had a stunt night from the fellows. Instead of 200 there came 426 new men last Monday to Alleverd and we've had a different week—different kind of crowd. Lots of drinking and lots of fights, though not in the "Y", and lots of help at the same time from the men; one day I had the interpreter and was getting a load of wood on a big hand cart when a French sergeant brought out two German prisoners and put them on the job, much to the delight of Alleverd residents as we progressed through the little narrow streets.

### Hear of Armistice

Last night came the wire that Germany was seeking an armistice on President Wilson's terms and through the town went the cry, "La Guerre est finis!" God grant it. Many drank champagne for the first time in four years and many wept, though in the main things were quiet and all eagerly await confirmation of definite peace. We shall go on to plan for the winter as if nothing had happened, as we shall surely be needed here perhaps more than ever.

### Severely Wounded

Private William Kelley, formerly of Wilmette, Illinois, was reported among the severely wounded in the casualty lists early this week.

## DISCUSS AID FOR SOLDIER WOUNDED

Official of Service League for Handicapped at Woman's Club to Explain Education Movement

### QUOTE GENERAL GORGAS

Surgeon General Issues Strong Plea To Encourage Maimed Heroes Who Face Life's Tasks

There will be another Big Meeting at the Winnetka Woman's club on Monday, January 13, at 3 o'clock, which will be open to all residents of the Village. Mr. Davies from the Service League for the Handicapped, will tell what the government is prepared to do for every wounded and disabled soldier.

Surgeon General Gorgas has sent out a ringing call to all such men, containing such challenges as this: "Your country needs you yet to fight the battles of peace."

Mr. Davies will bring his own lantern and pictures.

### Issues Challenge to Men

General Gorgas' message reads as follows:

"More than chevrons, bars or insignia, the marks of battle which you bear, sacred symbols of your service to a high cause, have given you a rank among your fellows. That rank makes you forever one of those to whom the nation shall always look for future sacrifices as noble as those you have already made and for future achievements worthy of your past. "No matter what has befallen you, you are still a soldier. Although you have returned from the front you will have to fight foes more worthy of your steel than the Germans—discouragement, loss of ambition, readiness to accept the easiest way, reluctance to play your part in the peace world. We know you will conquer these enemies. Your country needs you yet to fight the battles of peace. You are still one of the world's workers. In spite of your handicap you can produce with hand or brain just as much as the next man. Your country needs soldiers in the great army of workers. You will not go it alone. The government and the Red Cross will see you through. The government will restore to you the use of injured members, it will teach you a trade, it will give you an opportunity to earn your own living as before—perhaps better than you did before. And all along the line the Red Cross will be with you and your family.

## FAST TRAIN KILLS ASH STREET GATEMAN

William Banburbuski, 44 years of age and gateman at the Ash street crossing of the Chicago and Northwestern railway, was instantly killed on Saturday, December 21, while on duty.

Banburbuski, according to the police, was flagging a north bound train when he failed to notice a fast train approaching from the opposite direction.

The body was taken to an Evanston undertaking establishment where an inquest was conducted on Monday.

## MRS. W. T. SMITH DIES AT CHICAGO RESIDENCE

Funeral services for Mrs. William T. Smith former north shore resident, were held from her residence in Chicago on Monday. Burial was at Rosehill.

Mrs. Smith died suddenly Saturday at her Chicago home following a stroke of apoplexy. She had returned from a shopping tour in the loop and fell dead from a chair while resting.

Mrs. Smith was a member of the Wilmette Woman's club and other north shore social organizations. She is survived by her husband, and daughter, Mrs. Nate Akely, formerly Miss Erna Smith.

### Holy Name Celebration

The annual celebration of the feast of the Holy Name of Jesus by the Holy Name Society of Chicago will take place Sunday, January 5, 1919, at 8 p. m., at Holy Name cathedral, State and Superior streets, Chicago. A large attendance is expected at the pontifical vespers and sermons, as there are 50,000 Holy Name men in Chicago. His grace, the most reverend archbishop, will attend. The sermon will be preached by the Rt. Rev. John T. McNicholas, D. D., bishop of Duluth. All catholic men are invited.

## Peace Thank-Offering Will be Big Event at Community House Sunday Evening With Madame Delebecque as Speaker

On Sunday evening, December 29, at 8 o'clock, there will be a Patriotic Thank Offering meeting under the auspices of the War Emergency Union at Community House, at which the people of Winnetka will have an opportunity to make their thank offering for the timely ending of the war.

As a community we have paid but a small price, very much smaller than even the most optimistic persons anticipated.

Perhaps the most intimate part which the people who remained at home have played in the great war, has been through the work of the Winnetka Dispensary which has made the name of Winnetka known throughout Lorraine.

Madame Delebecque, who was with

Dr. Brown at the time the Dispensary was established and has been a faithful and loyal worker there until her recent home-coming, is to be the speaker of the evening and will relate the story of her experiences. Winnetka is justly proud of the work accomplished in her name by these splendid women.

There is still much to do and funds are needed for carrying on the work, so the thank offering made at the meeting will be used to complete the unfinished task.

A splendid and appropriate musical program is being arranged by Mrs. Harvel I. Brewer.

Come and avail yourself of this opportunity to express your thankfulness for the great blessing which has come to us and to the world.

## NORTH SHORE LINE IN XMAS GREETING

Officials of Chicago, North Shore and Milwaukee Railway Give Cheery Word To All Patrons

Patrons of the Chicago, North Shore and Milwaukee Electric railway found lots of cheer awaiting them Tuesday upon boarding cars at points along the north shore.

"We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year", read appropriately decorated yuletide cards placed in each seat.

### Note of Appreciation

But that wasn't all. The officials of the North Shore line also thanked their patrons for help "in eliminating accidents on the North Shore line" and solicited further co-operation in that regard throughout the coming year.

"It is gratifying," the card read, "to record that in the last year, compared with previous years, the number of accidents of all kinds has been greatly reduced."

"We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and in order that the happiness may continue throughout the year, we urge you to keep in mind the following:

- Be careful,
- Before crossing tracks stop and look in both directions.
- Do not board moving trains,
- Do not alight from moving trains,
- Do not throw anything from car windows,
- Do not throw peelings upon the floors or platforms.
- Board and leave trains on station side only,
- Watch your children at stations and on trains,
- Do not trespass on railroad right of way,
- Do not permit your family to trespass.
- Avoid taking chances."

## PLACE BETTER LIGHT AT "DEATH" CORNER

Work was started this week on the installation of an additional light at the corner of Central and West Railroad avenue, in Wilmette, where four year old Michael Perengeli, several weeks ago was crushed to death under an automobile, when the driver failed to see the youngster in the darkness. A coroner's jury decided the accident could have been prevented had the lighting been adequate at the important street intersection. The jury recommended the installation of another light at the corner and action was taken by the Village Board of Wilmette.

## PAYS YULE TRIBUTE TO OUR HERO DEAD

By C. E. Bridges  
It is with bowed head and heart filled with a sacred pride that we pause this Christmas to do honor to those sons who have laid down brave young lives upon their country's altar. And it is with firm avowal as we take up our task again, that we pledge ourselves that these young lives shall not have been spent in vain; but that those mounds in Flanders' fields shall ever emblemize a nation's just crusade, dedicated to posterity and a lasting peace.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence N. Stein will entertain 40 guests informally at their home, 812 Lloyd place on New Year's Eve.

## INDIAN HILL CLUB TAKES OVER COURSE

Clause in Lease Permitting Purchase of Links Is Executed by Officers of Golf Club

The Indian Hill Golf club this month became a permanent institution on the north shore with the purchase of the grounds by the club from the Central Trust company of Chicago. The deed making the transfer to the club was filed two weeks ago. The transfer involved \$102,500.

Realizing the need of a country club close at home, Thomas Taylor Jr., Willoughby G. Walling, Roland D. Whitman and Douglas Smith, all residents of Winnetka, took the initial steps in the formation of the club in 1913.

### Take 200 Acre Plot

A syndicate of forty members subscribed \$5,000 each and bought 200 acres located in Winnetka on the west side of the Ridge road.

The Indian Hill club then was formed and Donald Ross and Henry Colt, the English architect, were given carte blanche in planning a golf course. They were told to have the skeleton of a championship course, and with these liberal orders produced a course 6,444 yards in length, which took in practically 140 acres.

### Exercise Option in Lease

On this property the club was given a ten year lease by the syndicate with an option of purchase, which option has been exercised. The remaining sixty acres is being sold for residential purposes by the syndicate.

The success of the club surpassed expectations and the membership list of 3000 is full with a small waiting list. Memberships are valued between \$450 and \$500.

The course has been highly praised by visiting and home experts, and last summer was the scene of the Women's Western championship.

## TAXI DRIVER ESCAPES INJURY IN BAD WRECK

Walter Kechnow, 314 Park avenue, Wilmette, narrowly escaped serious injury Thursday afternoon when a taxicab he was driving was caught between the lowered gates of the Chicago and Northwestern railroad at Cherry street, and a north bound passenger train struck the machine.

Kechnow leaped from the machine a moment before the fast train reached the crossing and tossed the car to the side of the right of way a twisted mass of wreckage.

The taxicab was the property of the North Shore Livery company.

## VILLAGE MANAGER LOSES CAR; POLICE RECOVER IT

Village Manager H. L. Woolhiser had the interesting experience of losing and recovering his automobile this week.

While stopping at the Evanston hospital Sunday evening thieves took the machine from the curbing near the hospital. Evanston police and, in turn, the Chicago police were notified and the machine was recovered in Chicago two days later.

Mr. and Mrs. John Robert Leonard of 861 Bryant avenue, and their young people will keep "open house" on New Year's Day, as has always been their custom.