

# WINNETKA WEEKLY TALK

Nearly Everybody In Winnetka Reads The Talk

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## COMMUTERS PROTEST TRAIN RATE ADVANCE

Local Railroad Officials Declare Announcement Came as "Bolt out of a clear sky"

## U. S. OFFICIAL EXPLAINS

P. S. Eustis Forsees General Complaint and Issues Explanatory Statement

Announcement by the Railroad Administration of a sharp advance in commutation rates in the Chicago suburban district has been greeted by a wave of protest from residents of Wilmette who are positive the new regulations will work great hardship on the commuters.

Railroad officials here declared this week that the announcement came as a "bolt out of a clear sky" and that already the regular customers were entering complaints in no uncertain language of the unheralded move.

The Winnetka Talk this week received the following statement from P. S. Eustis, chairman of the Western Passenger Traffic committee, which he offered by way of explaining the situation and replying to questions that, he foresaw, would arise in the minds of the patrons of the railroad. The statement follows:

The residents of Chicago suburbs have been advised of an important change in ticketing arrangements. While there is to be no change in the rates charged for individual monthly tickets, the 10 and 25-ride tickets heretofore sold will be withdrawn on February 10, 1919, and a 26-trip family ticket, good for the purchaser or any member of the purchaser's family, limited to six months, will be sold at the rate of 2 cents per mile per ride. Unused rides of tickets of the old form purchased after January 25, will not be honored after February 1, but will be redeemed at a proportionate rate and tickets sold at an earlier date will be honored throughout the month of February, after which time they will be redeemed by the issuing railroads at proportionate rates. A representative of the railroads explained the reasons for this change as follows:

### Change Follows Investigation

Some time ago the Public Utilities commission gave the Aurora, Elgin and Chicago railroad authority to advance in commutations fares to the statutory maximum rate of 2 cents per mile. As this road competes with the steam railroads, it found itself unable to take advantage of this permission, as such action would merely result in turning its traffic over to its competitors whose rates would continue to be lower than 2 cents per mile. By reason of the sharp increase in its operating costs, the electric road was in financial straits. It appealed to the war finance corporation and the railroad administration in Washington. An investigation ensued in which it developed that the multiple trip ticket rates charged by the steam roads were below the present cost of the service and were also much lower than those charged for like service elsewhere—the rates in New York City, for example, being substantially higher than those in Chicago. Following this investigation, the railroad administration authorized the Chicago roads under federal control to advance their fares as stated above. Although the rates for monthly commutation tickets used by daily riders between their suburban homes and places of business are very much lower than those charged the occasional rider, the rates for these tickets will not be changed.

### Reception to New Pastor

A reception to the Reverend and Mrs. Stephen Lloyd, new pastor of the Wilmette Congregational church, will be given Wednesday evening, February 5, in the church parlors. A cordial invitation is extended to all friends of the church.

### Club Gives Masquerade

Dancing folks all along the north shore are looking forward with great interest to the Annual Prize Masquerade ball, to be given by the Bulla Bulla club at Jones' Hall, Wilmette, on Wednesday, February 5, 1919.

### Rail Physician

The Northwestern railroad and the Chicago, North Shore and Milwaukee Electric railroad have appointed Dr. Don C. McCowan as surgeon.

## Describes Beautiful Southern France; Also Gives Account of the Stupendous Armistice Celebration in Gay Paris

The following letter from George Mayhew Hicks, son of Mr. and Mrs. George I. Hicks, 835 Grove street, Glencoe, affords a splendid impression of the celebration of Armistice Day in Paris and a journey in the Alps. Hicks is attached to Base Hospital No. 12, otherwise known as the Northwestern University unit. The letter reads:

November 15, 1918.

My dear Folks:— I have just returned from Nice and am working in a ward. I was lucky enough to stumble into a measles case, and so I have to be quarantined here for ten days. Pretty soft I'll say. Easy work and it gives me a swell chance to catch up on my sleep, which was surely a minus quantity while on leave. I'll report the leave in days, as then you will have a better idea how I spent the time, rather than just rave on all in one bunch.

Roy Holmes, Shell Singleton and I left camp at noon, November 1, arrived in Paris too late to catch the 9 o'clock train for Nice, so had to wait until the next evening.

The trip to Nice was in three parts or stages, as we had to change at Paris and Marseilles before getting to Nice. We pulled out of Paris on the evening of the second, and headed for Nice. We rode all night and most of the day, arriving at Marseilles at 5 o'clock in the afternoon. The traffic was very heavy, and every possible inch of room was occupied. You know the French have funny little coaches with compartments in them which accommodate eight. We were very lucky and by bribing the controller (conductor), obtained seats in one which he had reserved for the purpose of reselling at a profit. We would have passed away if we had had to stand up all that way, and the traffic wasn't local either, so we would have stood little or no chance of getting seats.

### Traveling Accommodations

The trip from Marseilles to Nice took eight hours, and was even more patronized than the Paris to Marseilles trip. It was also the worst for us, as we had to stand up the entire way, arriving at Nice at 2 A. M. I sure was sore and stiff and dirty and sleepy, etc., for we had had no sleep since we started, except four hours in Paris when we stayed over night.

But we didn't care if it took a week to get there. We were going to the beautiful winter resort and most beautiful country in the world. Remember when aunt Joe used to take me to Burton Holmes' lectures and also Elmandorf's? Then and there I made up my mind that some time, someday, I was going to go to Nice, and at last I had arrived. Little did I think it would be in the army. Almost past belief, yet it was all real and not a dream.

Now, Nice is a center and from there tourists take all the side trips along the coast and also back into the mountains. Oh, those beautiful Alps! Not as bold and striking as our own magnificent Rockies, yet they are picturesque, inviting and romantic. Their atmosphere grows on one gradually as time goes on, and not all at once as the Rockies do. The pictures I sent, also those I'll send in a few days, will explain better than I can. Still I might add some for the sake of local color and a realistic touch.

### The Beautiful Alps

All the roads to and from Nice run along the coast, and with the mountains on one side, with all their terraces of vineyard and roses, (though we were two months too early to see them in bloom) and the blue, blue Mediterranean on the other, it made quite a picture. The roads and tram car (street car) climb along on the sides of the hills and you can imagine the beautiful sights as the car emerged from a cluster of trees or rounded a hill, or came out of a short tunnel. I will enumerate the trips to some of the more important small towns, though I fear the censor's wrath if I were to tell you all I want to. Never mind, I will be home in six months and then I can tell you, which will be better than writing. "n-est-ce-pas?"

Cannes is on the coast toward Marseilles, and is the famous swimming resort and winter resort of Europe's most wealthy and famous, including royalty. We took a long ride in a fiacre (open carriage) back into and to the top of the mountains back of the city which lies at the water's edge and at the apex of a horseshoe of hills. The

ride was lovely and the sight from the top of the small mountains was absolutely wonderful. It was a beautiful, bright day, and warm enough to go without a coat.

### Chips for Souvenirs

We went to Monte Carlo, saw the famous Casino and gambling rooms and I bought a couple of ships as souvenirs. Men in uniform could go in and look around but were not allowed to gamble, and at 10 o'clock, when the tables opened, we had to clear out.

In the city on the other side of the horseshoe (characteristic of these Mediterranean towns) on the top of a very high promontory we saw the museum and aquarium that the Prince of Monaco gave to the city and province. I have never seen anywhere as beautiful and complete a collection as that place contained. The prince is a fine fellow and everybody in Monaco worships and adores him. We saw his yacht and took some pictures around there, which ought to be good.

### Bribe with Cigaretts

That afternoon we went through the 36 square mile province, an independent country, and stopped at Mentone (in France), a little town close to the border of Italy. We crossed the bridge over the deep canyon, which is the border line and were in Italy. We again bribed the guard and walked a few hundred yards into Italy. They have guards everywhere but I really suspect they were only there to beg for cigarettes, saving the French government money in their issue, for every Tom, Dick and Harry and Sue and Mary beg for cigarettes and kids no larger than Dave beg for pennies and cigarettes. Roy stood up in the "fiacre," and passed out cigarettes to three beautiful girls and in half a minute he was the most popular man in France. We had to knock him on the head and pull him down in the carriage and say "allegy" ("beat it," in French) or we would have been crushed to death by the multitudes begging for cigarettes. Don't blame them though, I would beg to, if I had to smoke those French pills. Smoking one of those French pills is like standing behind a mule as you tickle him, for they have a kick strong enough to knock you cold. We took four times enough cigarettes just to pass out. (A French person, man, woman or child will do anything for American pills), and they sure were useful, but the sad part about it was, that after four days we ourselves were begging from other Yanks, and weren't as successful as the froggies though. We didn't have the romantic dip of the head or the pleading sympathetic twinkle of the eyes that the French have and to which you just can't say no.

### Almost Forgets War

Our trip to Grasse, which lies way back on the side of a big mountain, was a wonderful trip. We hired a big Remier limousine, (an English car) and had the top back. Sure felt like a second Rockefeller, and when the car swung around a curve and the valleys and mountains in the distance met our view, I could hardly believe that we had ever seen the war, or cold, or mud and I felt as if I was really in heaven, for it was a paradise. The trip was about 150 miles over fine winding roads up the sides of the mountains. We coasted almost all the way down on return to Nice. The roads are wonderful and continually curving and going 200 yards of straight road on the entire trip. We went one way and returned home another. We saw the perfume factory, and were shown all through the place by the proprietor. I have sent you a few small samples and some souvenirs from each place we visited. On the way back we stopped a few minutes at one of the most beautiful mountain road houses I ever hope to see. It was marvelously furnished and suspended in mid air (so it seemed), over a beautiful deep gorge. We bought a few post cards and hurried back to our hotel in Nice to a big, big supper. Had a lovely hotel in Nice, one of the best. Hotel Alexandria, located in the center of the town, on a big boulevard, lined on both sides with Palm trees and big trees something like maples, that met in an arch overhead in the middle of the street. Had a swell big room looking out on the garden of orange trees, palm and rubber trees, beautifully furnished with a large bath room of white marble and enormous tub (which I sure made use of). two

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## WHEN IT COMES TO BATTLING FLAMES LEAVE PROUTY OUT

Attorney Carlton Prouty is going to let the Winnetka firemen take care of all conflagrations in the Village in the future. Wednesday evening a neighbor discovered a blaze in the basement of the Prouty building. Mr. Prouty was notified and immediately summoned his private volunteer fire fighters comprising the members of his family. A bucket brigade was organized and the fight on the flames commenced in earnest.

It was a losing fight. First the basement door was battered down. Incidentally a container of acid, the property of the Winnetka pharmacy, was overturned and \$100 dollars worth of the contents spilled. Mr. Prouty and wife dashed ever so many buckets of water against the flaming ceiling. The fire thrived on the water. Then Mr. Prouty dug into a corner of the place to remove a stack of papers. He burned three of the fingers on his right hand. He tried to extricate a board in another corner and sustained several bruises for his pains.

Then the regular firemen arrived, replaced the amateurs, and soon extinguished the blaze.

"I can cope with heated court arguments," says Mr. Prouty, "but when it comes to fighting real fire—well leave me out."

## RECEPTION FOR NEW MEMBERS OF COMMERCIAL BODY

At a special meeting of the Board of Directors of the New Trier Commercial association held in Winnetka, Tuesday, Jan. 28, seven new members who had made application for membership were voted upon and accepted.

Justice Otto Falk, secretary, was requested to notify the new applicants to be present at the next meeting to be held in Winnetka in February at the Community House. The next regular monthly meeting, it is predicted, will be of special interest to all members. A dinner will be served. Election of officers for the ensuing year will be held immediately after dinner. Every member is expected to bring his wife. After the meeting a dance and social will be enjoyed.

## CARD PARTY TO AID BABES OF THE POOR

The Infant Welfare board held its monthly meeting last week at the home of Mrs. Fagg, 925 Greenwood avenue. Much work was accomplished on the layettes being made for the New Trier station and a delightful luncheon was served by the hostess at noon.

Plans were perfected for the Valentine Card party to be given at the Woman's club on February 14.

It is hoped that a substantial sum will be raised to defray the expense of the materials used for the large number of garments and blankets being provided for the babies of the poor this winter.

Tickets are now available and may be obtained from Mrs. Carl Hecker, who is chairman of the committee on arrangements, Mrs. Herbert Arms, chairman of the Infant Welfare board, or any other member of the committee.

## CLARKE EASTMAN WAS BURIED LAST SUNDAY

Funeral services for Clarke Eastman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Olin C. Eastman, residents of Wilmette, who died of influenza-pneumonia on Friday, January 24, were held from the residence Sunday, January 26, at 2 o'clock. Burial was at Memorial Park.

Mr. Eastman was associated with the James Motor company of Chicago. He was 24 years of age and formerly was a student at New Trier high school.

He is survived by the parents and a sister, Miss Clementine Eastman.

## BLAZE ALMOST DESTROYS JUSTICE NELSON'S HOME

The interior of the home of Justice Byron A. Nelson, in Providence road, was almost completely destroyed by fire Tuesday afternoon. The blaze started from an overheated stove-pipe. Flames caught the beaverboard wall lining which burned like tinder. Damage from fire and water was estimated at several thousand dollars.

Mrs. T. Philip Swift is leaving today for New York to meet Lieut. Swift, who, according to the latest cable received from him, is arriving Monday or Tuesday from France.

## PRIEST OF CHAVANAC MAILS THANKS LETTER

Expresses Deep Appreciation for Cooperation of Winnetkans in Making Merry Christmas for French Orphans

## PRAISE FOR DR. BROWN

Sees Possibility of Continuation of Splendid Relief Work Under Her Direction

A letter from the Cure (Priest) of Chavanac addressed, through Mrs. Taylor, to the residents of Winnetka who so generously contributed to the Christmas joy of the poor French children under the care of Dr. Alice Barlow-Brown, has reached the office of the War Emergency Union. The note is a touching tribute to the splendid co-operation of the Villagers in the arduous and highly successful relief work Dr. Brown is accomplishing among the destitute of the rural district of war-ridden France. The letter reads:

Chavanac, Lafayette,  
December 26, 1918.

Dear Madame Taylor:—

I rejoice that at present Dr. Brown's health is of the best. You say, Madame, that your village is proud of Dr. Brown. I can well believe it. It is very rare that one meets a person with such a heart of gold. I wish you might have been at Chavanac at Christmas time. You would only have seen happy faces, above all among the children. It was because the Christ Child, as we say in France, had brought to the children of every age, at Chavanac (and I never knew or even suspected that there were so many) a prodigious quantity of sweets and marvelous play things, through the generosity of the people of Winnetka. But the most animated face was that of Doctor Brown. For her it was a perfect day, for she had the double pleasure, thanks to her friends in America, of satisfying with profusion, the craving she feels of constantly doing good to others. Perhaps (and this is very much more important for me, than the facts which I have just related) perhaps I say, Dr. Brown will decide to give her services to the Lafayette committee, as well as her knowledge of medicine, which is not ordinary, and also her devotion to the cause. If this should be the case, I want to tell you that I shall esteem myself as the most fortunate curate in France—knowing that no unfortunate person in the locality will ever knock at the dear Dr.'s door, without receiving the most hearty welcome and the best of care. Our gratitude is not alone to the doctor, but also, Madame, to all the good people of Winnetka, who have let no obstacle come between their generosity and the doctor's desire to do good. Please express, Madame, to all the people of your village who have given so largely to the people of this very poor neighborhood, the most sincere gratitude of the Cure the Chavanac.  
P. Gibelin.

## WILMETTE WOMAN KNOWS HOW TO SELL "TAGS"

"Welcome Home Tag Day" held Monday, January 20, for the purpose of creating a fund to defray expenses incurred in giving the returned soldiers a rousing welcome home, proved a decided success.

Probably the outstanding reason for the generous contribution was the unique methods employed by the women "taggers." As, for instance, in the lobby of the Continental and Commercial bank stood Mrs. William Reed Crawford, 527 Laurel avenue, directing attention to a large artist's easel displaying an American eagle setting and draped in the Stars and Stripes. And attached to the front for Old Glory. Let's show "They went across for us. Let's come across for them" and "They went to the front for Old Glory. Let's show our appreciation." It was reported that Mrs. Crawford stood among the top-notch, solicitors of the day.

## CAPTAIN D. M. GALLIE NOW WITH U. S. HOSPITAL NO. 1

Captain Donald M. Gallie, Oral surgeon to Base Hospital No. 11, located at Nantes, France, since July 1918, has been assigned to the department of Maxillo-facial surgery in American Hospital No. 1, Neuilly, Paris. This is the leading hospital of its nature in France. Captain Gallie is not expected to return to Wilmette before next autumn.