

REPLY TO INQUIRIES TELLS AIMS, PURPOSES OF LEGION

Citizens Outline Development Of Local Post Of The American Legion and Explains Manner In Which It Is Fast Becoming One Of Winnetka's Most Important Community Organizations; Democratic Spirit Prevails

Editor's note:—In a recent issue the editor directed the attention of the readers of the Winnetka Weekly Talk to the fact that, while other communities had presented their local American Legion posts with suitable "Colors," Winnetka has not done so. With this announcement was entered a plea that public spirited citizens take cognizance of this unfortunate situation and launch a movement to provide the local post of the American Legion with a standard of colors.

There have been numerous inquiries since the appeal was voiced, but it is apparent many citizens are not well informed regarding the aims and purposes of the American Legion as represented in the Winnetka Post. For the information of these residents the accompanying article has been prepared by a citizen of the village, who asks that every Winnetkan assume an interest in the local post of the American Legion.

There has recently been shown in various ways, an aroused interest by citizens outside the organization, in the local post of the American Legion, officially known as Winnetka Post No. 10. Several inquiries have been met as to its aims, membership, obligation and personnel. What has been the exact reason for this increased interest it is difficult to say. It may be that the recent formation of an emergency organization to augment the village police force in time of need may have demonstrated to the citizens the desire on the part of the post to be of real service to the community and that desire has resulted in a reciprocal feeling. It may be that it is an indication of the passing of the reaction that followed the signing of the Armistice and which was evidenced by the woeful neglect of our disabled and needy ex-soldiers. Whatever may be the reason it is a wholesome indication and the number of inquiries received has made it seem advisable to set forth some of the facts which will answer queries invariably asked so that those who are interested and have not yet reached the point of asking, may be informed.

The Post has a membership of about 200 and is constantly growing and, therefore, in point of numbers at least ranks among the foremost of our village organizations. In its membership are men who served in the army, navy or marine corps, and nearly every branch of those arms of the service is represented. When one remembers the great variety of insignia encountered during the war designating the particular branch of service engaged in by the wearer, a realization of the diversity of experience of the Post's members can be had.

The post is dependent for support on the dues of its members and such money as may be raised in other ways. Of the dues, which are only \$3 per year, 50 cents per member goes to the support of the National organization and one dollar to the State organization. It will be seen that this leaves but a small margin for operation, insufficient for the incidental expenses. The deficiency must be met by contributions from members, citizens and profit, if any, from admission to various functions given by the post. Of the functions given in the past by the local post the most lucrative was the Cabaret Ball which was generously supported by the community and the proceeds of which were pledged to the aid of needy cases of ex-service men. This fund has been jealously guarded and has been dispensed only in the cause pledged. Of this fund there is approximately \$1,300 remaining, a portion of which is invested in liberty bonds so as to be readily convertible into cash if needed for its purpose. The post is indebted to the Winnetka Woman's club more than to any other one agency in the village for its continued existence. The club has generously furnished, without cost to the post, its meeting place in the kindergarten room of the club house and the use of the bowling alley in connection therewith. Without this generosity on the part of the Woman's club it is doubtful whether the post would have been able to carry on its activities through the past three years as there seemed no other suitable and available meeting place in the village. This has also relieved the post of a financial burden which has swamped some posts during the formative period. The members of the post are heartily appreciative of this substantial aid by the Woman's club and realize fully their indebtedness to the club. Fortunately in a community such as ours there is not the opposition to an organization of this kind that is met in some localities and it is certain that the aims of the American Legion are in accord with our patriotic community. An idea of the type of those who are fighting and secretly and surrepti-

tiously endeavoring to block the growth of the Legion can best be gained by a study of the purpose of the Legion as set forth in the preamble to its constitution and it is believed that a study of this preamble will convince all that no patriotic, right-thinking person could find any but laudible aims and purposes in its contents:

Preamble

"For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purpose:

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred per cent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our association in the Great War; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the Community, State and Nation; to combat autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness."

There is another feature of value to the Community in its local post and that is the democratic spirit that characterizes it and which, by the post's very nature, must prevail. As surely as the war time army and navy was drawn from all walks of life and was a composite of the average American so must our post membership be drawn from all who live in our community and be a composite of our average citizen and reflect the aspiration, aims and desires of the community.

The Winnetka Post of the American Legion feels that it is incumbent upon it to reflect credit upon the community of which it is a part and is actuated by a keen desire to be of real service as has been demonstrated recently in its co-operation with the village in police matters.

It must be borne in mind in reviewing the organization's existence that it is made up of men who, during their months or years of service, had been more or less herded together and under rather severe restraint. Upon release from the service the reaction against this restraint and herding was but natural and was evidenced by the slowness of many ex-service men in joining the Legion's ranks. This reaction is now passing and the joy of a common service and associations of that service are uppermost in reflective thought and a desire for renewing those associations is causing large numbers to seek membership who have previously been passive. This is but a repetition of the history of the G. A. R. and the fact that that organization attained its greatest strength only in 1890, twenty-five years after the end of the Civil War, reflects credit upon the spirit which dominates the American Legion which in three years after the Great War's close has close to one million members.

No doubt the great work of the Legion is in the future and the great task at this time is one of formation and organization and of holding the interest of men now members and of making the Legion attract those who are eligible but not yet in the organization.

Many members are still very young men who have not yet been confronted with the serious problems of life and who are not yet seriously interested in the national and local problems. As these men take on years the Legion will be made up wholly of men and women who, having sacrificed much for their country, will more fully appreciate the responsibilities of citizenship and the obligations thereof; and it is felt that this large and growing body pledged to the high purposes set forth in the preamble to their organization's constitution will be a tremendous force in the future of the country and to the local communities fortunate enough to have a post in their midst.

With a fund raised by loans made to the organization by several of its members a motion picture machine has been purchased recently and some very interesting Government Signal Corps films taken in action have been shown.

The post endeavors to include at each meeting some entertaining feature such as a talk or a movie in addition to the bowling and cards. Coffee and real doughnuts usually make their appearance about the time the need of nourishment is felt.

Those not now members but who are eligible are urged to visit the local post meetings which are held the second and fourth Tuesday even-

ings of each month at the Winnetka Woman's club and any one desiring more detailed information regarding the post will be willingly served by any of those whose names are given below as officers of the local post.

Harold W. Snell, Post Commander, 1205 Scott avenue.
L. Sherman Aldrich, Post Vice-Commander, 1160 Oakley avenue.
Marcus Richards, Post Adjutant, 806 Rosewood avenue.
Lee Adams, Post Finance Officer, 782 Elm street.
Grinnell Wylie, Post Sergeant at Arms, 898 Elm street.
Clarence W. Happ, Post Assistant Adjutant, 823 Spruce street.

RULE BOOK AND AXE AMONG GOLF AWARDS

(continued from page one)

ners and runners-up of the C and D class tournaments, also sixteen in all, competed in a flight, the winner receiving a belt buckle and the runner-up a fob as described above.

On July Fourth there was a match play against par and prizes were given by the general Fourth of July committee. On July 16 and 17 the Park Board cup, which is the fine cup presented each year by the Park Board, was played for. In this tournament there were three flights, the winner of the first flight winning the Park Board cup and to the winners of the second and third flight the Playfield association presented a merchandise certificate for \$5 each.

On August 22 the Martin cup was played for this being a scratch event. The winner received the cup and the runner-up was given a \$5 merchandise certificate by the Playfield association.

On Labor Day, September 5, a Blind Bogey tournament was held, the winner receiving a \$5 merchandise certificate. The October tournament and Harvest Home tournament have been described above.

The Skokie Playfield golf course and the Winnetka Playfield association have had a very successful season. The membership of the Playfield association was for this year, in round numbers, four hundred, the dues being \$1 and this being a separate item from the \$10 license fee charged by the Winnetka Park District for playing on the course.

In view of the activity of the Playfield association in supervising the golf events, helping to administer the golf course and in donating prizes for the various tournaments and events, it is to be sincerely hoped that not only will there be in the year 1922 a continuance of the support that was given this year to the Playfield association, but that there will be a marked increase in the membership.

If you believe in sport, join the Winnetka Playfield association in 1922.

FARMERS HOLD BONDS

The Painesville, Ohio, Telegraph insists that most of the Liberty Bonds bought by the farmers still remain in their possession. "Farmers, probably more than any other class, understand the enormous value of these securities, their unchangeable safety, the certainty of interest payments," says the Telegraph in commenting editorially on the wisdom of holding on to the Government bonds purchased during the war. "The last thing a farmer would care to sacrifice when short of cash is his land. Next to that, no doubt, is his Liberty Bonds. They have the solidity of the land itself."

New Books at the Library

In the month of October 1921, 4439 books and periodicals were circulated. This shows an increase of more than a thousand over the circulation of October 1920. Of the entire number of books circulated, 2900 were adult fiction. Possibly this may explain why new books of fiction are not always to be found on the Library shelves.

A partial list of new books follows: Sinclair, M.—Mr. Waddington of Wyck.

Dell, F.—Briary Bush.
Benson, E. F.—Dodo Wonders.
Sadlier, M.—Privilege.
Bower & Lion—Chinese Puzzle.
Macaulay, R.—Dangerous Ages.
Snaith, J. C.—Council of Seven.
Poole, E.—Beggars' Gold.
Adams, S. H.—Success.

CHLOROFORMING OF CAPITAL

Thrift consists of making wise use of one's savings. In some cases the wisest use of such earnings is spending them. In others it includes saving and investing a portion of them in Treasury Savings Securities. Merely saving without investing isn't thrift. It is a sort of chloroforming

of capital, putting it to sleep when it should be working. It is just that kind of savings that Postmaster General Hays is trying to bring out of the socks and sugar bowls in liberalizing the Postal Savings.

AS RUSSIA IS

Russian rubles used to be worth nearly 52 cents in American money. Now it costs 1,000 rubles to ride on a Moscow street car. It isn't the face value—the amount—of money you get that really counts. Buying power is the thing.—Illinois State Journal.

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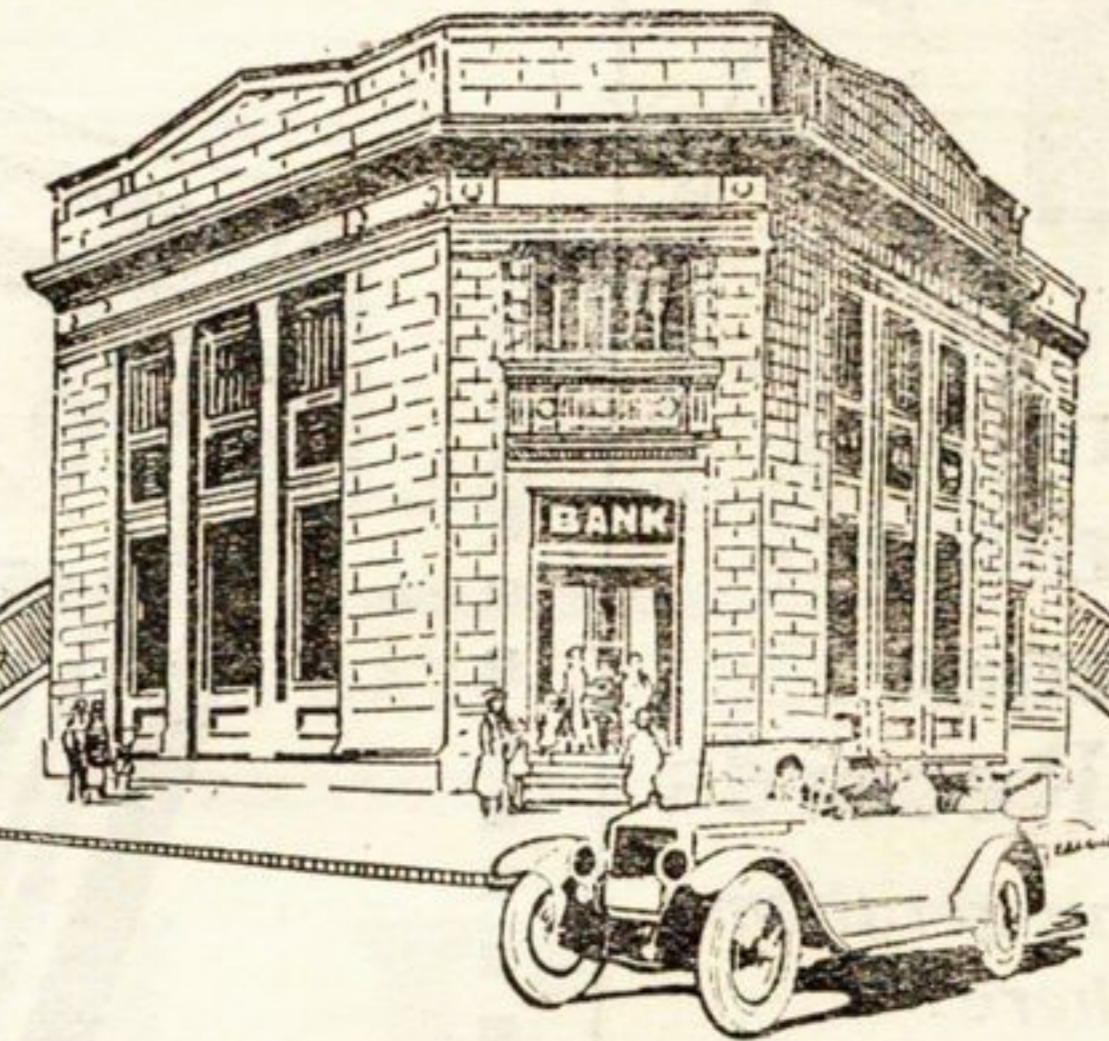
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