

Winnetka Weekly Talk

ISSUED SATURDAY OF EACH WEEK by

LAKE SHORE PUBLISHING COMPANY
1222 Central Ave., Wilmette, Ill.
556 Center Street, Winnetka, Ill.

Telephone Wilmette 1920
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SUBSCRIPTION.....\$2.00 A YEAR

All communications must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer. Articles for publication should reach this office by Thursday afternoon to insure appearance in current issue.

Resolutions of condolence, cards of thanks, obituary poetry, notices of entertainments or other affairs where an admittance charge will be made or a collection taken, will be charged for at regular advertising rates.

Entered at the postoffice at Winnetka, Illinois, as mail matter of the second class, under the act of March 3, 1879.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1921

Christmas Toys

An enormous amount of money has always been spent on Christmas toys for the children, and it is the natural expression of love for the little ones and enjoyment of their happiness. But sometimes the simple toy gives more real satisfaction than the costly one.

Many mechanical toys used to be sold that were poorly made. They were elaborate and handsome, and the children would look at them open mouthed for a few days, until they refused to work. A toy of that kind does not help a child to develop. Children should be taught to preserve their toys, but if they are so made that they go to pieces in a few days, the youngster has no incentive to care for them.

Toys are very useful when they give a child the opportunity to engage in some healthful sport, or game that develops his initiative, or when they encourage him to do something with his hands. A set of building blocks, for instance, leads him to exercise skill and imagination. Substantial and well made toys that lead a child to do things for himself, can be a factor in promoting his development.

Making Work Out of Christmas

Christmas is a very beautiful holiday, embodying perhaps the sweetest and loveliest sentiments of which the human race is capable. Yet some people make the Christmas period one of worry and overstrain.

There are some women who have long lists of friends, and they feel that all these people must be remembered for this holiday. Some of them will select and send off remembrances to a hundred or more people. Many of these gifts are just Christmas cards, yet they devote a good deal of thought to each card, so as to be sure that the sentiment is appropriate.

Noble as the feeling of Christmas is, any good thing can be overdone. Some people who are worrying and fretting about their list of presents, have failed to catch the real spirit of the occasion.

Crippled Children

Dr. Adolph Lorenz, the famous Austrian surgeon, declares that there are in the United States 10 to 15 times more people needing operations as the result of infantile paralysis, than in any other country of the world. He is astounded by the adult cripples who had dragged around paralyzed limbs nearly all their lives without effort to get them cured.

Many parents of such children lack the money for costly treatment. Yet many surgeons gladly perform operations without charge for poor people. What is needed is well endowed hospitals for a lot of these sufferers. The terrible epidemics of infant paralysis have left an army of maimed young people, and they need help from some generous source.

People who have ever visited a school for crippled children and have watched the determination with which they play ball and try in all possible ways to overcome their terrible handicap, will believe that these young folks are worthy of a better chance.

Excusing Young People From Failure

College authorities complain of the many parents who come to their institutions, and demand that boys who had utterly fallen down in their

studies, be given another chance. This will be asked in many cases where the boys have wilfully neglected their work.

In dealing with young people, there

is a tendency to talk a lot and not do anything. Students get the idea that they can slip along somehow, and that threats of expulsion will never be carried out. They will never suc-

ceed in life unless they meet the requirements of their work. To slip through a school or college easily gives them the idea that the tests of life can be met with equal negligence.

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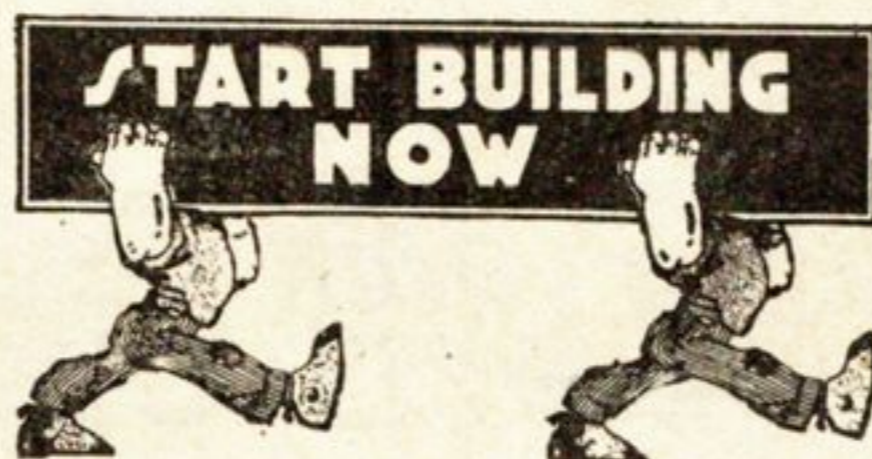
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