

Winnetka Weekly Talk

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1922

BUSINESS GOOD THIS FALL

Retailers should lay in a healthy stock of goods this fall, says the latest Babson Financial Report. The reasons for the recently acquired hand-to-mouth policy of buying goods have disappeared, says the report, which bases its advice on three things:

First, business is picking up. The wage earning and salaried classes, representing 90 per cent of the people and the bulk of the buying power, are employed and prosperous. Factories are taking on additional men. The building trades are fully employed, a shortage of men existing in some sections. Unskilled labor is in heavy demand, as the recent 20% increase in steel wages indicates. Bumper crops on the farms mean money to spend in the agricultural districts.

Second, a car shortage may make it impossible to secure enough goods to supply the trade this winter. On August 1, 1921, there were 125,000 surplus box cars in the United States. On August 1, 1922, there were less than 30,000, with the bumper crop to move and the necessity at hand of transporting the winter's coal supply which has been interrupted by the strike.

Third, prices of merchandise may advance. An analysis of 76 basic raw materials shows that 48 are higher now than a year ago; 24 are lower; four show no change. Especially with a car shortage in sight, retailers may be assured that the tendency of prices of commodities will be upward during the next few months. This would point to the wisdom of laying in sufficient stocks for a brisk trade during the winter and for a tiding over of the higher prices looked for during the next few months.

After the timidity exhibited by business since the post war deflation, a heavy buying of merchandise to guard against an advance in price may seem strange, but it is one of the harbingers of the return of sound economic conditions.

The unspeakable Turk remains unspeakable, but he insists upon being listened to by the civilized countries that have been disposed to accept the apparent incapacity of the Moslem for actual weakness. With the successful encounter which has brought victory and joy to the Turk, Europe is at last startled into realization of the foolhardy course that has been taken and to wonder what to do about it. If only the United States had accepted that pleasant post of the Armenian guardian angel which was offered us, how much more simple things would be for England and for France. Was it luck or vision that kept us out of the frying pan into which we were invited to jump.

Little comfort is found for those who are concerned for the state of their coal bins when winter comes by the success of scientists in measuring the heat of the three stars, Aldebaran, Betelgeuse and Capella. What does

it profit him that the average of the three is 10,000 degrees centigrade? It will boil no porridge, nor will it warm toes.

An account of the life of the late W. H. Hudson calls him one of the six greatest writers of English. What would be your guess as to the other five?

RADIO TO FIGHT FIRE, PREDICTS HOFSTETTER

Evanston Chief Sees New Methods at Convention

Fire fighting equipment on exhibition at the recent convention of the International Association of Fire Chiefs at San Francisco shows little change over that of last year, according to Fire Marshal Albert N. Hofstetter who has just returned from the gathering. Equipment has been so highly perfected and standardized within the last few years that radio and airplanes are about the only radical departures left in the direction of improving fire apparatus for the immediate future, thinks Chief Hofstetter.

"Radio in fire prevention is sure to come," he says. "It is being worked on now, but none of the plans were made public at the convention. It is likely that soon it will be possible to place a fire signal box at any location, which will send in alarms by wireless. The convenience of this and the saving in wires and excavations such as are now necessary can hardly be estimated."

The Gamewell company, which installed the fire alarm system used in Evanston, had some interesting exhibits of non-interfering alarm boxes. Improvements have been made in the hook and ladder equipment, Chief Hofstetter says.

There were 650 chiefs in attendance at the San Francisco convention. Among the number were the heads of the fire departments at Tokio, Japan; Shanghai, China; Panama City and Paris. The visitors were royally entertained at San Francisco and were treated to some remarkable exhibitions of skill in demonstrations by the fire department of that city, Chief Hofstetter says. The next convention of the association is scheduled for Richmond, Virginia.

J. R. DICKINSON DEAD

Funeral services for John Ralph Dickinson, well known Winnetkan, were held from the residence at 790 Prospect avenue, Tuesday, September 19. He is survived by his widow and two children Leslie and Julia.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Walpole and son, Robert, 520 Provident avenue, have returned from a trip in the east.

The Harry Barnums, 735 Walden road, are home from their new cabin at State Line, Wis.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SCHOOL OPENS OCT. 16

Plans for the 1922 term of the Wilmette Community School of Religious Education were formulated Thursday at a meeting of the Wilmette Church Council, comprising representatives of six of the Protestant churches in the village.

The school, now in its second year, has proved an entirely successful venture and is designed to train people in church work, particularly as pertaining to Sunday school work and direction of young people's activities in the church.

Classes are to begin October 16, and will be held on the last three Monday evenings in October and the first three Mondays in November. Expert lecturers and instructors have been secured for the course, it is announced.

Elot Porter, son of Mr. and Mrs. James F. Porter of Hubbard Woods, has returned to Harvard for his Junior year. Edward Porter is attending school in Morristown, N. J.

Mr. and Mrs. Allen L. Withers and family, 788 Lincoln avenue, are home after spending the summer in California.

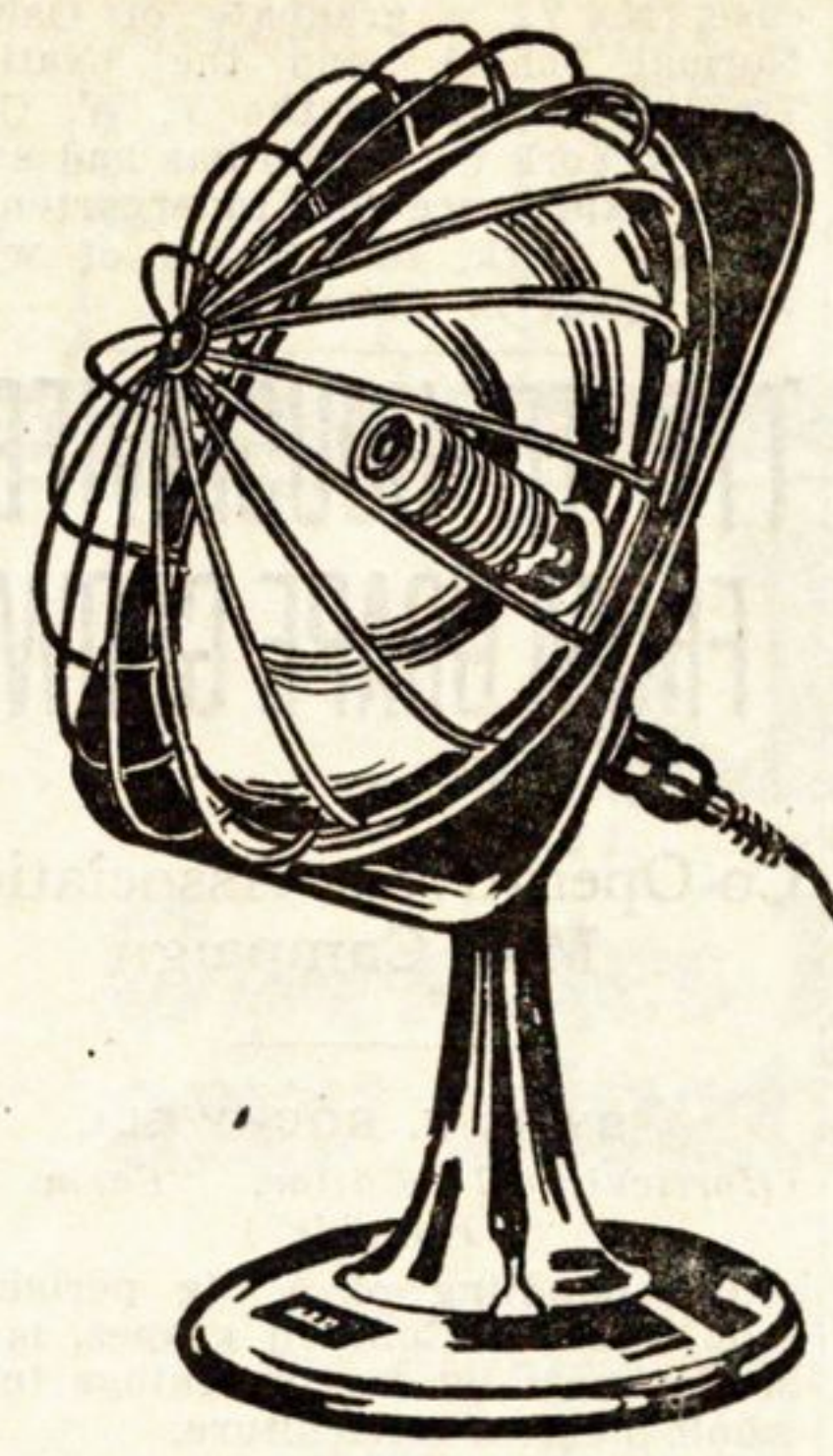
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Smith, of Ash street, have taken the Clipper house on Cherry street until their new house in Winnetka Heights is completed.

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