

Winnetka Weekly Talk

by
LLOYD HOLLISTER, INC.
1222 Central Ave., Winnetka, Ill.
Telephone Winnetka 388
Telephone Winnetka 1920

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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 at regular advertising rates.

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 1924

*Depress the Tracks.
Give the Business Men Fair Play.
Build a New Village Hall.
Enforce the Traffic Laws.
Build the Truck Road.*

LEARNING TO WRITE

Some days ago we had the rare privilege of reading a letter written by a college girl. In this letter she said, among other things, "Well, I guess I'll have to stop; I'd like to write a lot more, but I have to turn in a thousand word theme to-morrow morning, and how I hate it!" I may not have quoted her exact words, but the idea was that she liked one kind of writing and hated another.

Regarding this particular young lady and her likes and dislikes we propose one question: If she were allowed to write what she likes to write, wouldn't she learn more rapidly to write good English than if she were forced to write what she hates to write? Why doesn't her English teacher take advantage of this girl's interest? Isn't this teacher like a gymnasium director who compels his pupils to get that exercise at the pulley-weights which they could get in some delightful game?

When will the colleges adopt those methods of teaching which the more primary schools have long since found so effective?

"SOCIAL ACTIVITIES"

"A cotillion with many lovely features"—Aw forget it! Who wants any of that stuff? "A group of young folks on the north shore have been invited to attend a dance"—Say, haven't the boys and girls got anything to do that's worth while? "Mr. and Mrs. John C. Welton entertained informally"—Why don't these folks go out and help somebody that really needs to be helped instead of giving things to people who already have more than they want?

The cynical attitude expressed above is not an unusual one. In fact, it is remarkably common. There are thousands who regard "social activities" as, to say the least, useless. They think of those who take part in these functions as "butterflies," flitting

about from flower to flower, going nowhere in particular.

But is this wholesale condemnation justifiable? Are these activities wasteful, of no good to anybody except florists and caterers? Because you don't happen to like them is hardly sufficient reason for being intolerant.

Much, of course, may be said for "social activities," but let us here consider the value of only one benefit, but that one a big one. It often happens that people go to these parties and receptions feeling at outs with the world in general. After having talked, danced, and dined with friends and acquaintances, these same people often return to their homes feeling much more kindly disposed towards their fellow humans. If you think that this is not a "big" benefit, call to mind the fact that love is the greatest thing in the world. Also consider what the effect would be of a spread of this kindly feeling all over Europe.

And, now, read the following and see if you don't find something kind of heart-warming about it: "Mr. and Mrs. Dan Simonson have invited the Parkway Bridge Club to spend next Tuesday Evening in their home. There will be a dinner at seven o'clock, followed by cards and dancing."

JANUARY 24

January 24 will be a notable day in the annals of New Trier High School, for on that day classes will not meet, as usual, in the morning and afternoon, but, as most unusual, in the afternoon and evening. No boy or girl, now attending New Trier, will ever forget the strange experience of having the school clock set back half a day, and of coming to school in the evening.

Nor will parents ever forget the day when they got their evening meals at the high school and afterwards heard their son and heir translate a passage from Caesar and their little Nellie deliver a speech on the literary style of Abraham Lincoln.

Maybe this experience will rouse these same parents to the value of having their children spend four years in forming such good habits as most of our pupils do in our own wonderful high school.

CLOTHES FOR ARDEN SHORE

Mothers. Haven't your boys, going away to college after the holidays, left behind them at home at least one suit of clothes that would be suitable for some underclad Arden Shore boy? That suit that you've wrapped up and are now storing in the attic—tell Mrs. Marcus Richards about it. She lives at 806 Rosewood avenue, Winnetka, and will see to it that your boy's clothes get to some needy Arden Shore boy.

"Simple Ones."

LELAND HOBART DANFORTH.
(Church of the Holy Comforter, Kenilworth)

Conduct maketh manners, and the man who believes in a God to whom he is unwilling to give one hour a week, is certainly a poor specimen of filial gratitude. It is the spirit of a hobo rather than the spirit of a son which will take all from God and give nothing.

God calls us all to be sons and the test of life is, whether we have the decency to act as sons should act or whether, "among the simple ones, God discerns a little man devoid of understanding."

If we are not big enough to see that God calls us to a spiritual inheritance, it makes very little difference how important we are among our fellow men. That is the way I fancy that God looks at human importance which misses its spiritual opportunity to lay up treasure in Heaven and fails to express its filial gratitude for all that it has received.

Some day the wisdom of this world will be shown up to be a ghostly folly, for which the victims will pay their loss of opportunity. "Poor simple ones."

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of

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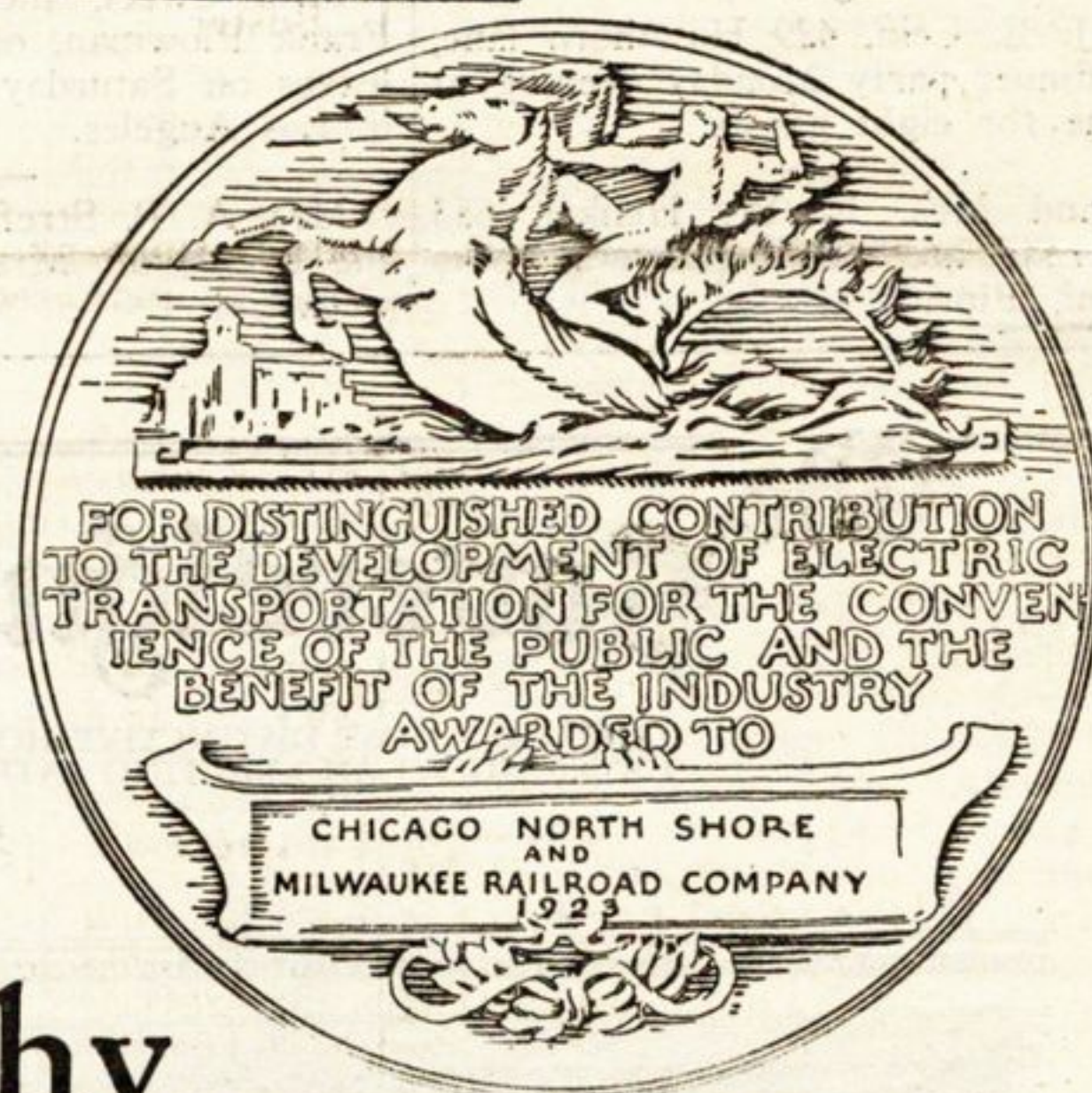
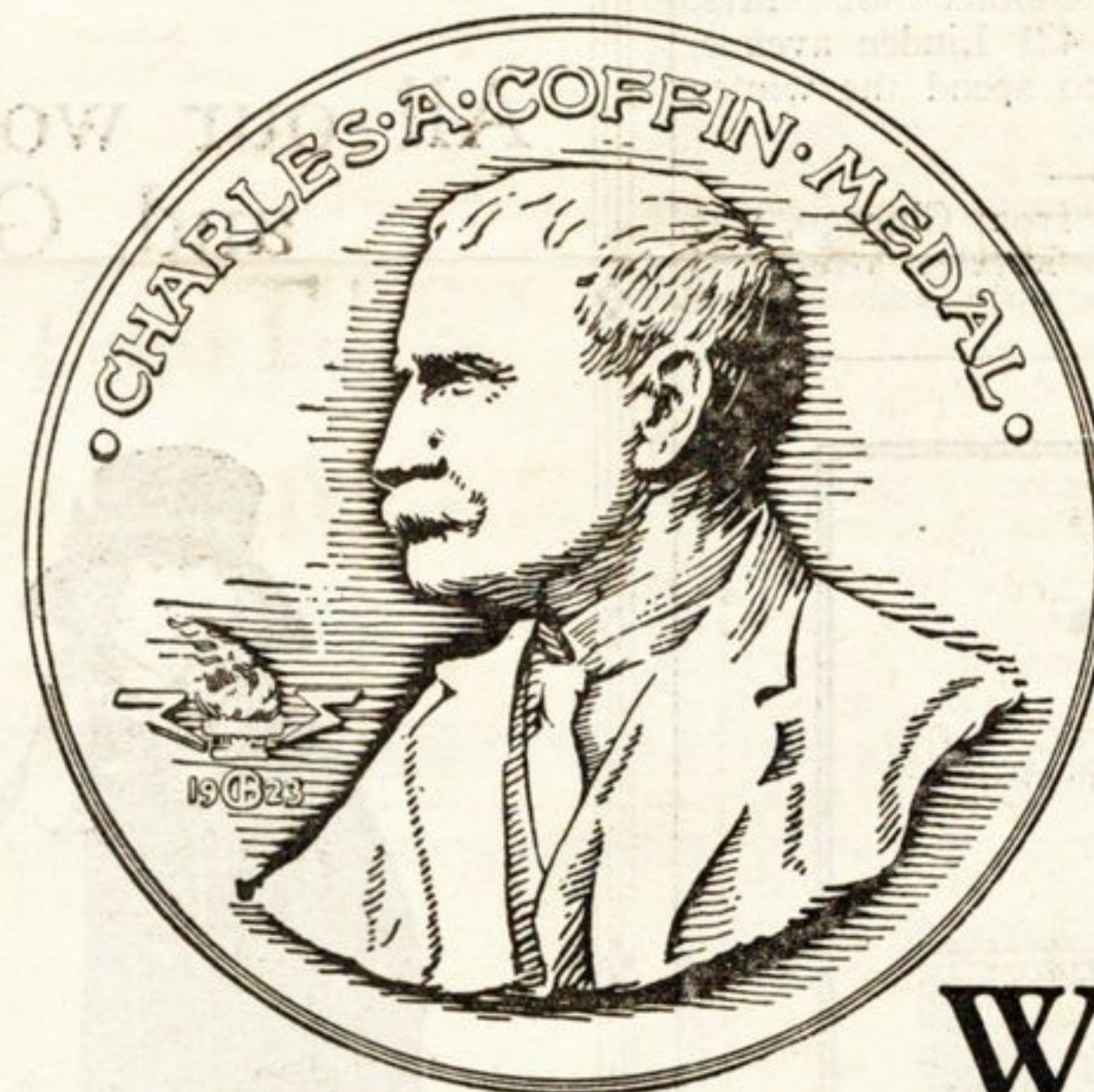
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