Fire Drills and National Defense Day

An Editorial published in the interest of Winnetka's Defense Day Program

one at the earliest possible moment.

mies of humanity.

him to do is to gather with his fellows of the city fire department. for two or three hours and then go Is it a wise thing or an unwise thing

defense day. They are afraid it will get the contemplation of its machinery, and men to think in terms of war. They be more inclined than ever to be careare alarmed lest the fun of playing sol- ful how they tampered with a loaded dier for a few brief hours be so exhil- gun. irating that those who participate will The general public may enjoy seeing never again be satisfied any where but a fire, but there isn't much pleasure seein the army, and that as soon as they ing your own house burn down, even get back home they will instantly start if you are helping the firemen to put a campaign to begin war against some it out. There may be a certain excitenation, it matters little which. It is just ment in war, but for those who are as sensible to expect that a fire drill in called upon to face the enemy's attack a school house will encourage children the prospect isn't so alluring in the mato become incendiaries. If the moral jority of cases that there isn't general mind of the child is sufficient to resist rejoicing when war has ended. It wasn't such a temptation, why should one de- just pacifists who celebrated the Armspair of the mature man and admit that stice. It was an entire nation, fathers, he is lost for all things except bloody mothers, sisters, brothers, men in the war, once he meets for a few hours with army, men on the ocean-every American other men in the name of national de- sang hellelujahs from a bursting heart fense?

But, it is shrilly proclaimed, the plan A fire drill is not an incentive to is to mobilize an army. Army nothing! start a conflagration. A national defense A Bryan army, maybe. One of these day is not an incentive to war, but a armies that spring up a million strong precaution and an insurance against it. isn't even a first class mob.

During the late war be it remembered that the United States declared war early in April, and it did not even land any troops in France till four months Village hall will have an extended after, and such as got there then were of the regular army, and these were not trusted even in unimportant sectors of quiet zones until another four months. The United States was in the war eight months before any of its soldiers fired a | * hostile shot, and it was in the war more than year before any but regular army soldiers were permitted within cannon shot of the front lines.

The English and the French contended right up to the days of St. Mihiel that America didn't have an army, never could have one, and that the men it was sending over in soldier's uniforms were fit only to be assigned to fill vacancies in the English and French armies made by the war. That's what they thought of our "army;" an army that had been more than a year in the making; an army that had drilled, * and drilled and which when it went into battle knew not how to take care of itself, was largely ignorant of the technique of war; an army that succeeded simply because the men composing it were naturally fighting men, who had never learned how to retreat, and knew ++

The people who advocate fire drills but one command, and that was to ad for children attending school are not vance. That army-if you can really necessarily fire bugs or incendiaries. call it an army, altho it never was in all". Neither are those who advocate a na- any fair sense of the term-did a wontional defense day in which the able- derful work, and America is immensebodied men of military age are asked ly proud of the way it acquitted itself; to gather at a convenient community yet in the doing of that work thousands concentration point, necessarily Amer- of as fine young men as ever breathed ican Junkers intent upon Prussianizing air were sacrified unnecessarily, because the American people, and determined our army was not an army, but merely that we shall go to war against some a bunch of determined boys who could Junior "Ball Chasers" event for boys not be stopped by neither man nor devil. and girls under 10 years of age.

It does not create in children a de- In the light of that experience in 1917sire to be in a school building when '18 think of the effrontery, the absolute held September 10 to 15 and will conit catches on fire, because a fire drill dishonesty, and the brazen insincerity of is held once or twice a year. Neither terming the proposed gathering Septemdoes such a drill make the teachers who ber 12 as the "mobilization of an army." supervise it instruments of hell and ene- To go back to the fire drill in the school house simile, one might as well say that National Defense Day is a fire drill. the children who are marched out of Its main purpose is to give the individu- the building in response to a test alarm al citizen the most elementary of lessons were the fire department of the city, in what would be required of him in and that the life object of each child case of public necessity. All it asks thereafter would be to remain a member

back home. He isn't asked to kill any that the men of this nation should know one; he isn't asked to endanger his own at first hand some of the problems inlife; he isn't asked to endure hardship; cident to the military defense of their or to put up with any inconvenience. All country? Does such a knowledge invite that is expected is that he may gain a belligerency, or is it rather calculated to trifling knowledge of the problem in- bring home the seriousness of such natvolved in so simple a thing as calling ters, and make one cautious rather than able-bodied men together in any organi- impulsive? If war is the hell it is genzation that distinguishes it from a mob. erally said to be, then reasoning minds The pacifists are objecting to national would be filled with added caution at

as never before or since.

over night. That isn't an army. It -A. T. Burrows, in the Urbana (Ill.) Courier, July 29, 1924.

EXTENDED HOLIDAY

Officials and clerical workers of the week-end holiday. The office will be closed all day September 1, Labor Dry.

Cut Flowers Potted Plants

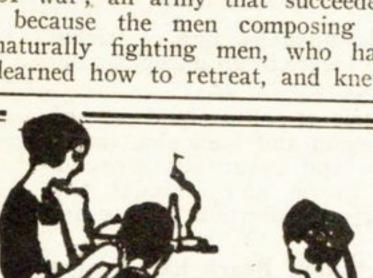
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Social Contract of the Contra

Caddies Turn Players in Annual Indian Hill Event

Caddies at the Indian Hill Golf club did something besides carrying sticks Shore Golf club, on Glenview road, will hole match play. and retrieving elusive balls Monday of this week. The boys were the guests a dinner-dance in the evening, and of the club in the annual Caddy tournament and banquet and, needless to ments, during the day. say, a "good time was enjoyed by

Special tennis events for Labor Day at the Indian Hill club were announced as follows this week:

Singles events for men, women and juniors; "Racquet Wielders" contest for boys and girls; "Ball Chasers" contest for older boys and girls;

The 1924 club championship will be sist of singles and doubles events, according to G. J. Higgins, tennis pro-



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North Shore Club Opens Formally on August 30

The formal opening of the North take place Saturday, August 30, with qualifying rounds in several tourna-

Members of the club entering the tournaments will initiate the new golf



course on Saturday. Those qualifying in the early rounds will play for the championship on Labor Day in two ball mixed foursomes and an 18

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