

PUBLIC FORUM

LESS MOSQUITOES HOPED FOR

The WINNETKA TALK of Saturday, May 23, had no less than three items of interest about mosquitoes, our unwelcome summer visitors. The first column of the first part described the changed conditions in Panama and ended with the question if the "enlightened Winnetkans care less for their comfort and well being than the cannibalistic San Blas Indians" of Panama? The answer is that they do care very much more for their personal comfort than these Indians even if they are a bit more protected against the mosquitoes by clothes.

Last year, as most Winnetkans remember, mosquito abatement work had hardly got well started in the Skokie region west of the town, as well as in the town itself, when the torrential rains of early August flooded the whole Skokie Valley and filled all the town ditches and all places where mosquitoes most easily breed and as we did not have the advantage of a Panama Canal to carry off the floods the work for the year was ruined and the flooded area so large that the attempt to control the mosquitoes under such unusual conditions was almost hopeless. A start in the collection of funds for this year's defense was, however, made and enough was collected to make a start on the work this year. The Village authorities have been fully awake to the desirability of mosquito abatement work this year and a start was made on some of the worst breeding places by a small force under Village Manager Woolhiser.

Mr. John S. Miller, president, of the Village, also appointed a "volunteer" or perhaps it would be more accurate to say a "Drafted" committee, as authorized by the council, to assist in the work.

Later in the month, taking advantage of the presence near us of Mr. Anselmo F. Dappert, assistant sanitary engineer of the Illinois Department of Health, who, as noted in the TALK, is supervising the very extensive work in mosquito abatement, which Mr. Louis Eckstein has undertaken through the region within a mile in every direction Ravinia Park, and Mr. Dappert was called into consultation on our Winnetka situation. Mr. Dappert was good enough to spend a day meeting with those interested in the mosquito situation from Glencoe and Winnetka and another day in going in detail over the situation in Winnetka with Manager Woolhiser, and making detailed recommendation for the conduct of the mosquito abatement work in Winnetka this year. In brief, Mr. Dappert's report is that the mosquitoes vexing us in Winnetka are not of the malarial kind and, therefore, the State Health Department, while cheerfully according us the very desirable expert advice in the premises, is not warranted in undertaking to combat the mosquitoes as primarily a health menace, and it, therefore, devolves upon the government and citizens of Winnetka to combat this nuisance the same as any other disorderly and objectionable collection of individuals which may stray within its borders. This, he says, can best be done by stopping the breeding of the mosquitoes through the elimination of stagnant water, or oiling its surface so that the larvae cannot develop to the mosquito stage. He tells us too that such measures must be taken with all standing water at intervals not to exceed seven days or the crop which is permitted to get away will be with us for 30 days. A further fact in his report, which was rather a surprise to some of us, is that a practically ideal series of breed-

ing places for the mosquitoes is furnished by the standing water in the drainage catch basins along our principal paved streets. As Mr. Dappert expressed it, a mosquito in Winnetka would nowhere have to fly more than two blocks to find a new home and convenient breeding place. Of course the Village authorities will take action to abate this form of nuisance. The other principal sources of mosquitoes for Winnetka are, first, the ditches, particularly the so-called Kenilworth ditch, which runs through the southwestern part of the village and then through the grounds of the Indian Hill club, and the ditches along Willow road, and a trifle more remote is the stream of the Skokie itself, not so serious in dry times as when large areas of its adjacent valley are flooded.

The ordinary funds of the village are not available to do more than the catch basin work and the oiling of the ditches is expected to be met by a subscription from the citizens, or otherwise arranged for. Mr. Dappert estimates that there should be expended about \$4,000 in Winnetka for the mosquito abatement work during the current season. The forces will all be under the direction of the Village Manager. The Indian Hill club, when the matter was brought to their attention, promptly authorized the work to be extended along the ditch in its grounds and said it would meet the expense for this portion of the work, and a syndicate of land owners outside of the village but near it on the southwest, has also requested that similar action be taken in their unoccupied property at their expense.

The floods of last year were such a menace to the community of Winnetka aside from the intolerable mosquito condition that they brought about, that a committee from Winnetka and a committee from Glencoe, which is also interested in the mosquito abatement movement, this year appeared before the Engineering committee of the Sanitary District directors on May 22 and to their representations the Sanitary board later voted a substantial sum to clear away vegetation and debris from the Skokie channel and thus aid in the mosquito campaign, as was also noted in the last issue of the TALK.

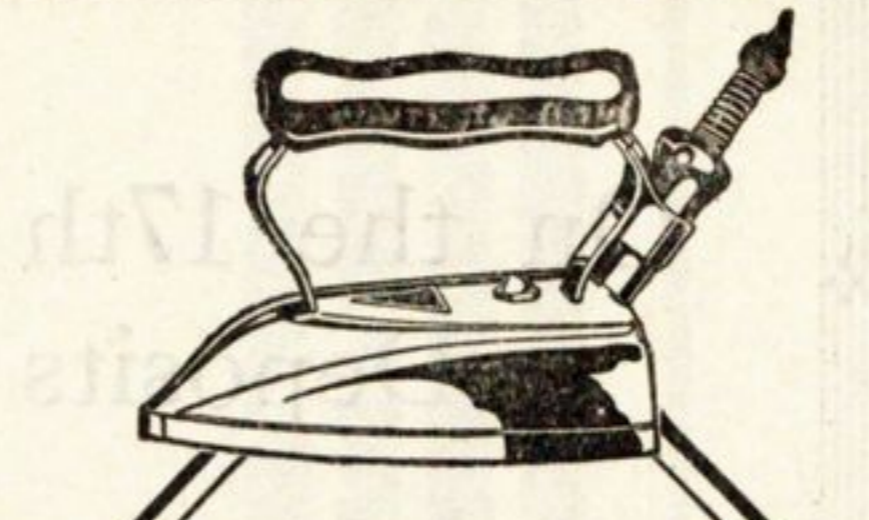
From the above brief outline it may be seen that at least an effort will be made by Winnetka, and also by Glencoe, to have this year a better one for the citizens in their gardens and a worse one for the mosquitoes than last year, but having neither the funds

of the United States Government, nor its unlimited forces to bring about complete sanitation, as at Panama, no promises are made that the elimination will be absolute, but it is certain that with the efforts put forth there should be a very material reduction in the numbers of the pests.

A Citizen.

FRENCH CLUB MEETS

New Trier French club held its regular meeting Thursday at the home of Mrs. Auguste L. Babize, 484 Sheridan road, Glencoe. Officers were elected from those members nominated from the present Junior class.



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Marcus Richards' Father Passes Away in Chicago

J. T. Richards, father of Marcus Richards, 1240 Tower road, passed away at his residence, 1236 Madison park, Chicago, Friday, May 22. Funeral services were conducted Monday,

May 25, at the home and burial was in Oakwoods cemetery.

Mr. Richards was born in Tuscola, Ill., in 1852. He was a member of the Union League club. He is survived by his widow and two sons, George D. and Marcus.

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