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GIVING AND RECEIVING ARE OF COMPARATIVE  
BLESSIDNESS IT SEEMS

Give us your money to care for. Receive it when you  
care for it. At the store of

J. J. Barry & Co. Main Street, AYER

JANUARY 19-5 to 8 o'clock

FITCHBURG CO-OPERATIVE BANK

### HAERVARD

#### News Items.

Harry B. Whitney, sixty-three years of age, died this week Friday noon. The funeral services will be held at his late home on Monday afternoon at two o'clock.

"The rose of Plymouth town," to be given by the Woman's club the last of January, is having a fine preparation. Mrs. J. Danio Smith has been coaching for the past week and in the annals of Harvard's dramatics this promise in lines and acting to be one of the best productions ever given. The cast denotes its length in the following names: Mrs. H. E. Putnam, Miss Harriet Thayer, Mrs. Harold Webber, Mrs. Herbert Cleaves, Miss Dolly Peters, Miss Ruth Peters, Miss Josephine Baker and Miss Scorgie, with Mrs. N. A. Dill and Miss Annie Reed in charge of the play.

The date is set for the annual ball of the Complimentary Ball club on Thursday evening, January 18. Music by Newell's orchestra.

At the Congregational church Sunday the young ladies' chorus will render the music. Last Sunday Mr. West sang "Just as I am," a beautiful song particularly adapted to his voice, at the morning service.

Fiske Warren and Alexander MacLennan, who sailed several weeks ago for Andorra, cabled their safe arrival there this week.

Hamilton Warren, attending the boys' school in Concord is taking a forced vacation on account of sickness.

On Tuesday evening, January 9, Messrs. Dadmun and Maynard will run a special motion picture show for the benefit of the Clinton hospital. As this is a very worthy subject, the townspeople should make a special effort to patronize it. Mr. Maynard is promising one of the best shows of the season. The hospital needs funds and the neighboring towns are all doing something to help. Let Harvard do a good share.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Parsons have taken two children, brother and sister, from a charity home to care for. The boy is three and the girl eight years old.

Albert Brown is the owner of a new Ford car. Mr. MacLennan has a carload shipment arriving this month, one of which will be used by Mr. McCleary in his passenger and express business.

Mrs. William Blanchard has been on the sick list, but is much better at present.

#### Still River.

Miss Eleanor Hudson, of Winchester, was the guest of her cousins, Ruth and Mrs. Willard, over the week-end.

Carl Haskell is enjoying electric lights in his house, which he has recently had installed.

There will be a supper and entertainment in the vestry on Thursday evening, January 11. Supper will be served at 6.30.

## "FAIR AND COLDER"

You'll see these words a lot this winter, we believe. This country is about due for one of those old-fashioned winters. Have you seen our

## Hart, Schaffner & Marx Overcoats?

They're husky enough to stand any wind or cold weather; not heavy or cumbersome, just warm, comfortable, business-like and above all, stylish. If you're out in the cold much here's what you want.

How about GLOVES, CAPS, MUFLERS, SWEATERS, OVERSHOES? We are headquarters for all kinds of Winter Wear for the Men and Boys. Satisfaction guaranteed or your money back.

## Fletcher Bros. AYER - MASS.

Store Open Monday, Friday and Saturday Evenings

Geo. H. Brown  
RELIABLE CLOTHIER  
AYER, MASS.

## Overcoats

OF EVERY KIND FOR MEN AND BOYS

You will find here a very large stock of handsome and desirable Overcoats. Every man will find here an Overcoat that will be sure to please him. Here is the Dressy Overcoat in Black or Oxford with Velvet Collars and cut 42 inches long. Here is the very attractive Fancy Mixture Overcoat in a variety of styles of fabrics and colorings, all very stylish and well tailored. Here is also the long Storm Coat with the large Storm Collar, cut 52 inches long. We are offering every one of these coats at prices that range from \$2.00 to \$5.00 under the market value today.

Come in and look them over as it is the only way you can be convinced of their superior values.



- Men's Fancy Mixture Overcoats \$10.00, \$15.00, \$18.00, \$20.00 and \$22.00
- Men's Black Kersey Overcoats \$15.00, \$20.00 and \$22.00
- Youths' Fancy Mixture Overcoats \$8.47, \$10.00, \$15.00, \$18.00 and \$20.00
- Boys' Fancy Mixture Overcoats \$5.00, \$7.47, \$8.47, \$10.00 and \$12.00

### Fur Coats

A good stock of FUR COATS and all at remarkably low prices. We cannot replace them at anything like present prices—Dogskin, Horsehide and Galway Calf, made with heavy quilted linings and with large storm collars.

Prices—\$25.00, \$30.00, \$35.00 and \$40.00

### Sheep-lined Ulsters

Sheep-lined Ulsters, ankle length, made of Duck or Molekin outside and with large fur collars. An ideal coat for the man who drives an automobile in cold weather. They will interest you—better step in and have a look.

Prices—\$15.00, \$18.00, \$22.00 and \$25.00

### Sweaters

How about a good Sweater? We have them all kinds and colors.

- Men's Sweaters 50c to \$7.00
- Boys' Sweaters 98c to \$3.00
- Children's Sweaters 50c to \$2.00

### Winter Caps

Every kind of Winter Caps; also, a good line of Toques and Toques and Scarfs. Remarkably low prices for the qualities offered.

- Men's Warm Caps 50c to \$1.50
- Men's Golf Caps 50c to \$1.25
- Boys' Golf Caps 25c and 50c
- Toques for Boys or Girls 50c
- Toques and Scarfs \$1.00 to \$2.00
- Toques for Children 25c and 50c

### Rubber Footwear

We have everything you can possibly need in way of Rubber Footwear to keep your feet dry and warm. We carry the very best makes and the very best qualities to be found in the country. You will find here such makes as

GOLD SEAL, RED SEAL and GOODYEAR GLOVE

Are you acquainted with the above makes of Rubber Footwear? You will find that they cost you no more than what you usually pay for the ordinary kinds.

## Calendar Week

Next week will be *Calendar Week* at this store. As per our custom for many years past, during the coming week we shall present to all customers making purchases at our store, a *Beautiful Art Calendar* for the year 1917. We are sure that you will like our calendar and you will find it well worth having and keeping. Out-of-town customers who cannot get here will receive one by parcel post upon request.

Store Open on Monday, Friday and Saturday Evenings

Geo. H. Brown

## A. G. Pollard Co.

THE STORE FOR THRIFTY PEOPLE

LOWELL, MASS.

## January Clearance Sale

### Women's and Children's Suits Coats, Dresses, Furs

We are offering the most attractive selections that you can find—for not only do our garments show the lines and workmanship of the best makers, but our price cuttings are so sharp even at this early season that economical shoppers will find this sale of more importance as a money-saving proposition than any other. Note the values.

### Plush Coats

- \$30.00 Plush Coats \$20.00
- \$35.00 Plush Coats \$25.00
- \$40.00 Fur Trimmed Plush Coats \$30.00
- \$45.00 Fur Trimmed Plush Coats \$35.00
- \$50.00 and \$60.00 Fur Trimmed Plush Coats \$40.00

#### SKATING SETS

- \$1.98 Skating Sets \$1.50
- 50c. Separate Caps 39c

### To Close Out

- 98c. Children's Colored Dresses 49c
- \$5.00 Children's White Dresses \$1.98
- \$5.00 Skirts \$2.98
- \$5.00 Striped Silk Sweaters \$3.98

Cloak Department—Second Floor

### Corduroy Bath Robes

- \$2.98 Corduroy Bath Robes \$1.98
- \$3.98 Corduroy Bath Robes \$2.98
- \$5.00 Corduroy Bath Robes \$3.98

#### SUITS

- \$18.50 Winter Suits \$12.50
- \$25 and \$30 Winter Suits \$15.50
- \$35 and \$40 Winter Suits \$25.00
- \$45 and \$50 Winter Suits \$30.00

#### CHILDREN'S COATS

- Children's \$5.00 and \$7.50 Coats \$3.98
- Children's \$10.00 and \$12.50 Coats \$7.50

#### SILK DRESSES

- \$12.50 Taffeta Dresses \$5.00
- \$16.50 Taffeta Dresses \$10.00
- \$25.00 Satin Dresses \$15.00
- \$30.00 Satin Dresses \$18.50
- \$35.00 Satin Dresses \$25.00
- \$5.98 Lingerie Dresses \$2.98
- \$7.50 Lingerie Dresses \$3.98
- \$10.00 Lingerie Dresses \$5.00
- \$15.00 and \$18.50 Lingerie Dresses \$7.50

#### SERGE DRESSES

- \$7.50 Serge Dresses \$5.00
- \$10.00 and \$12.50 Serge Dresses \$7.50
- \$15.00 Serge Dresses \$10.00
- \$18.50 Serge Dresses \$12.50
- \$18.50 and \$22.50 Serge Dresses \$15.00

#### COATS

- \$15.00 Coats \$10.00
- \$18.50 and \$22.50 Coats \$15.00
- \$25 Coats \$18.50
- \$30 and \$40 Coats \$25.00

### LITTLETON

#### News Items.

The War Relief association will meet with Mrs. William C. Brown next Thursday afternoon.

A very pleasant and successful parish meeting followed the annual meeting in the United vestry last Monday evening. It was very gratifying to have a large representation present. J. M. Hartwell was chosen to the position on the parish committee until recently held by E. A. Hartwell. Hon. E. A. Patch was elected to the music committee. The parish officers were generally re-elected. Reports indicate that the society is thriving. Bills are paid and the society begins the new year free from debt. A present of \$100 was given to the pastor in appreciation of his services.

Henry Elmer has moved back into F. C. Hartwell's tenement on King street and entered Mr. Hartwell's employ. G. A. Barber's man moved the furniture and had the misfortune to run into the ditch near Westford town. Mr. Barber went to the rescue next day and hauled out the truck and then did the same with another man's truck that had met a similar fate.

A. Eugene Robbins will run the jitney bus between station and church the next two Sundays. It is hoped that some arrangement can be made for transportation the following Sundays.

Miss Anna Woodbine, a former teacher in Littleton, is visiting Mrs. Walter Speirs.

Mrs. Norman Cobb and young son from Newbury, Vt., are expected this week Friday evening at the home of his mother, Mrs. Theodor Fletcher in Newtown.

Millard Sawye of Groton installed the newly elected officers of Littleton Grange Wednesday evening, assisted by Mrs. R. T. Barrow, Mrs. J. H. Kimball played for the marching. The following officers were taken: R. A. Priest, master; L. Crosby, o.; S. L. Crosby, L. Norr on Bonnell, s.; R. T. Barrow, a.s.; Alice M. Blodgett, e.; Edward Bigelow, treas.; Augusta Nellie Smith, sec.; J. H. Couch, a.s.; Nellie Childers, a.s.; Rebecca V. Millett, Pomona; Pleura M. Crane, Flora; Mary Callahan, a.s.; Mattie E. Kimball, ex. com. A past master's jewel was presented to P. H. Hill by Rev. J. Alvord and H. Rennie and assistants served ice cream, cakes and coffee. January 17 there will be a roll call answered by quotations from the grange manual. How can we improve our grange? will be considered by Mrs. Wright. Vocal solo by Miss Josephine Foley. R. T. Barrow and Mrs. C. A. Kimball will discuss "What constitutes a successful grange? The farce which was postponed at the Christmas entertainment will be presented.

#### Death.

The funeral of Edward Wilson took place Saturday, December 30, at his old home on Harvard road, Rev. O. J. Fairfield officiating. The officers of the superior court of which staff he was a member, were present, among other friends and gave one of the beautiful floral tributes that surrounded the casket. The interment was made in Westlawn cemetery. Mr. Wilson is survived by his wife and one son, Thomas, who is engaged in chauffeur service for a boot and shoe firm in Boston.

The deceased was forty-six years and eight months old. He and his family had lived in town a comparatively short time and his name was well known chiefly to the neighbors and associates on the train whom he met in his daily trips to and from Boston. They speak in the pleasantest terms of Mr. Wilson and have greatly missed his friendly conversation since he was obliged to give up his work several weeks ago on account of Bright's disease. Mrs. Wilson plans to keep her home in Littleton, which she and Mr. Wilson had enjoyed so much together.



ONE DOLLAR AND FIFTY CENTS PER YEAR IN ADVANCE
GEORGE E. B. TURNER, Publisher
JOHN H. TURNER, Editor

We publish the following papers:
Turner's Public Spirit, Ayer, Mass.
The Groton Landmark
The Peppercorn, Clarion-Advertiser
The Littleton Guide
The Westford Wardsman
The Harvard Highside
The Shirley Oracle
The Townsend Tocsin
The Brookline (N. H.) Beacon
The Hollis (N. H.) Homestead

Entered as second-class matter at the postoffice at Ayer, Mass.

Saturday, January 6, 1917.

WESTFORD

Center.
Miss Bertha H. Norris, whose home is in Nashua, and who teaches in Willimantic, Conn., spent part of her Christmas holidays in town renewing old friendships. Miss Norris is pleasantly remembered as one of the former academy teachers.

Miss Marion Hathaway was a guest for over the week-end and the holiday of Miss Hazel B. Hartford.

Mr. and Mrs. Alonzo H. Sutherland observed the twenty-fifth anniversary of their marriage last Sunday. No special festivities were planned, but the day was spent pleasantly with the family circle of mother, father, two sons and two daughters.

Westford friends are sorry to hear that Edward Childs is in the hospital in Lowell, threatened with a nervous breakdown.

Arthur Hildreth, who teaches in Munson academy, has been spending his Christmas holidays at home.

Miss Evelyn Hamlin, who teaches in Providence, R. I., made a brief visit in town this week.

At the Congregational church last Sunday Rev. John W. Lincoln gave excellent morning and evening addresses suitable to the new year. On Sunday the communion service will be held at the close of the morning service. On Monday the annual meeting will be held to hear the reports for the year of officers and committees of the church and to choose officers and committees for another year. This will be preceded by a dinner at noon at the home of Mrs. J. W. Lincoln in charge of the deacons and their wives.

The work of removing the old blacksmith shop, harness shop and sheds is nearly finished, although considerable debris remain to be taken care of. Located centrally as they were, they were an unattractive group and their removal is one of the real village improvements of the year. When the space is smoothed up, and with a view of John M. Fletcher's well kept orchard at the back, the transformation of that spot will be appreciated by everybody.

Albert W. Heywood, who was in town at Christmas time, has recently joined the navy for a period of four years. He is on the Gunboat Dubuque which was then at Portsmouth, N. H.

Mrs. O. V. Wells and daughter Elizabeth enjoyed a visit of several days last week with relatives and friends in Amesbury.

Annual Appraisal and Dinner.

The annual appraisal and dinner to the town officers took place at the town farm last Saturday afternoon. This year were L. W. Wheeler, S. H. Balch and Fred L. McCoy. Those present at the dinner were J. Willard Fletcher, C. D. Colburn and J. Austin Heald of the board of assessors; H. Choate, Fred H. Blodgett and S. H. Balch, of the board of overseers of the poor; Charles L. Hildreth, town clerk; C. A. Blaney, town physician; Harold W. Hildreth, clerk of the board of selectmen; L. W. Wheeler, collector of taxes; Oscar Spalding and Frank L. Furbush, selectmen; Sherman H. Fletcher, selectman; Harwood L. Wright, treasurer; and Edward T. Hanley, auditor, were unable to be present. The dinner was given by Mrs. Murray Pratt, Charles Warren, Miss Whitney, Stow; Fred A. Smith, Mrs. G. D. Brooks, Ayer; Mr. and Mrs. Howard P. White, Ashby; Galen Proctor, Mrs. N. A. Barber, Townsend.

In New-Quarters.

The Edward M. Abbot hose company held their regular monthly meeting with supper Tuesday evening at their new quarters in the upper floor of the old academy building. These quarters serve their new purpose nicely, and the members have equipped the room with a large stove for heating; also, at one side of the room which might be called the kitchen side, a cook stove, sink, table and dish closet are arranged. Little is left either upstairs or down to remind former academy scholars of old school days, although a number of the members are old backbones and written there on are the class mottoes of by-gone years, some going back to the classes in the seventies. The teacher's platform, minus its desk where Preceptor William E. L. W. Wheeler presided, remains the same. The room is now lighted with large hanging oil lamps. Electric lights and fresh paint will be one of the improvements to look forward to.

At the meeting on Tuesday evening Mr. and Mrs. Knight served an appetizing oyster and cold meat supper. There was no special business besides an inspection of apparatus and arrangements of last week's Friday evening.

Tadnuck Club.

The first meeting of the new year of the Tadnuck club took place Tuesday afternoon in Library hall with a representative attendance present. Miss Howard, the president, read new year's greetings for the club; also, a petition from Winthrop Packard of the Massachusetts Audubon society, who gave an address last year before this club, to feed the birds during the winter, especially while the ground is covered with snow.

Mrs. Howard A. Lincoln was welcomed into membership. Miss Sarah W. Lake reported for the work she had done in town for the American relief work for the soldiers during the winter, especially while the ground is covered with snow.

Hon. Herbert E. Fletcher gave a valuable talk on current events, his subject being taxation especially as related to the new income tax law of the state constitution, particularly as referring to suffrage laws, and lastly some phases of the great war. Mrs. Louis H. Buckhorn gave a book review, choosing for her subject, "The Channing" by Mrs. Henry Wood, a charming old story of English life in a cathedral town. Mrs. Buckhorn gave a scholarly and sympathetic interpretation of the book and its characters and was much enjoyed by those present. Mrs. Fred L. Roberts interspersed the program with a group of songs given in excellent voice and happy informality.

About Town.

The W. C. T. U. met on Wednesday afternoon with Mrs. Daisy Colburn, with ten members and two visitors present, the storm blocking a larger attendance. The president, Mrs. Janet Wright, presided. Rev. Howard A. Lincoln led in the devotional exercises. After the usual transaction of business five delegates were chosen to attend a convention to be held in Arlington on January 24. Mrs. Lincoln read a paper on "National prohibition," sent to the Westford branch by Mrs. Stevens, the state president, read in Maine five years ago. A letter of thanks and appreciation from the Frances Willard home in Boston was read, acknowledging the gift from the Westford W. C. T. U. of a large Thanksgiving donation.

Edward Littlefield, of Fitchburg, has been visiting at the home of his uncle and aunt, Charles E. and Miss Belle Walker.

At the Unitarian church last Sunday Rev. Louis H. Buckhorn gave an eloquent and sensible sermon on "Futurity."

Wallace W. Johnson & Son commenced to cut ice Wednesday on Burgess pond. Considering the weather has got down to ice business only once below zero this winter, we ought to be thankful for a ten-inch cake of ice this afternoon.

The F. W. Banisters held installation services at the installing of a telephone on Wednesday.

The incorporated milk farmers held a meeting in Lowell on Tuesday evening. Ingles Wetmore was chosen a director and Frank C. Miller of Westford to increase the membership.

The Branch Alliance will hold its next meeting on Thursday afternoon, January 11. Subject, "Hymns and hymn writers." Mrs. L. H. Buckhorn.

Directors Elected.

The Middlesex County Farm Bureau which is now incorporated, held its second meeting at the town hall, Wednesday afternoon. The towns in Northern Middlesex were well represented. The Lowell Board of Trade has joined the bureau and everything is on the boom boost side of getting ready for better farming and a wider and better range of social life and simplified and healthier indoor living. The directors to teach and stimulate a healthier household life are Mrs. James J. Storrow of Lincoln, Mrs. Frank C. Miller of Westford, Ida P. Miller of Wakefield, Mrs. Leon R. Richardson of Pepperell, Mrs. Harold Thompson of Arlington, Miss Alice Howard of Westford, Miss Anna Murphy of Framingham.

The following towns nearby towns, were elected general directors of the Farm Bureau, a part of whose duty will be to engage instructors for the Farm Bureau, Capt. and Mrs. William F. White, Robert Gardner, Mrs. Mayaret, Sarah Lower, Harry Dawson, Mrs. Carrie Chase, Tewksbury; Claude A. Bell, Mrs. Warren A. Sherburne, Tyngsboro; Mrs. Frank C. Wright, William R. and Samuel L. Taylor, Westford; Charles A. Wright, Mrs. H. B. Hosmer, Mrs. George P. Greenwood, Billerica; Hon. and Mrs. Arthur W. Colburn, Dracont; N. H. Tenney, Ernest Teel, Mrs. Gertrude Daniels, Acton; Luther Ford, J. R. Comley, Miss Mary Nellie O. Wilson, Carlisle; Frank H. Hill, Mrs. J. M. Hartwell, M. C. Pratt, Albert Shedd, Littleton; Howard Fuller, Mrs. A. R. Cummings, Shirley; Fred Payne, James E. Kendall, Mrs. J. W. Shaw, Dunstable; Mrs. Wallace A. Brown, George S. Knapp, Groton; Mrs. Leon R. Richardson, O. M. Nash, Mrs. C. H. Mills, Pepperell; Hon. John M. Keyes, Miss Grace Keyes, Charles A. Neome, Concord; Mrs. J. W. Water, H. E. Deane, Mrs. Murray Pratt, Chelmsford; Lyman Priest, Charles Warren, Miss Whitney, Stow; Fred A. Smith, Mrs. G. D. Brooks, Ayer; Mr. and Mrs. Howard P. White, Ashby; Galen Proctor, Mrs. N. A. Barber, Townsend.

Several are missing in the above list who will be notified by the secretary of the bureau of their election.

Hon. Nathaniel Bowditch, of Framingham, spoke against the right to strike on public service corporations and Bertram Tupper, county agent for Plymouth, gave a hold-over audience address on the working of the Farm Bureau in the County of Middlesex. It was adjourned to meet at the call of the president.

Graniteville.

At the regular meeting of Court Westford, M. C. O. E., held in the rooms of the organization Thursday evening, December 28, the following officers were duly elected for the ensuing year: Mrs. Julia H. Wall, p. e. r.; Mrs. Emma Carpenter, c. e. r.; A. R. Wall, rec. sec.; Agnes F. Charlton, fin. sec.; J. A. Hoyle, treas.; Miss Isabelle Carpenter, s. r.; Robert J. McArthur, s. c.; Charles E. Dubevoir, s. c.; Mrs. Julia H. Wall, J. A. Healy, delegates to grand court convention, R. J. McCarthy and C. E. Dubevoir, alternates.

Last Monday being a feast day and a holy day of obligation, two masses were celebrated at the Catholic church by Rev. Henry L. Scott. As January 1 was a holiday, with the mills and shops closed, both masses were largely attended.

Over forty people from Graniteville and Forge Village and several from Lowell, Londonderry and North Chelmsford attended the reception of novices that was held at the Convent of Mercy in Manchester, N. H., on Monday afternoon at 3.15. At that time Miss Mary G. Provost, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Provost, of Forge Village, was admitted to the convent and hereafter will be known as Sister Ignatia. The service was very impressive and made a lasting impression on the large number in attendance. Sister Ignatia has the distinction of being the first young woman from St. Catherine's parish to become affiliated with the sisterhood. She will be stationed with the Sisters of Mercy in Manchester, N. H.

Mrs. J. A. Healy, who has been ill at the Carney hospital in Boston for the past few weeks, returned to her home here last Tuesday.

Miss Mary Ferrin of Lowell, has been the guest of the Misses Rebecca and Dora LeDuc.

Mrs. Clarence Wiley, of Cuttingsville, Vt., formerly known as Miss B. B. Wiley, of North Westford, visited friends here recently. The watch night service that was held in the M. E. church last Sunday evening was well attended. Refreshments were served.

Mrs. Lillian McEneaney, with her daughter, Miss Inez, are visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence McEneaney in Ayer.

George Reese is seriously ill at the Lowell General hospital.

Many from here attended the ball of the Peace and Unity club held in Ayer on Monday night.

LITTLETON

News Items.
Eighteen persons were present at the meeting of the United Workers held with Mrs. John A. Kimball last Wednesday afternoon. After listening to the report of the secretary, Miss Susie Robbins, the president, Mrs. W. E. Conant, gave the meeting over to Miss Marion W. Flagg, who introduced the subject of the afternoon, "Re-deciding the southwest." Mrs. Julia Stevens, of the devotional group, read the subject were given by Mrs. J. W. Dodds, Miss Kimball reading her paper, Mrs. J. C. Alvord and Mrs. A. S. Barker. Current events were presented by Mrs. Alvord. The meeting closed with the mizpah benediction given in unison.

The annual parish dinner and business meetings of church and parish will be held in the Orthodox Congregational vestry this week Saturday.

The young people held a stringing and card party at the home of Mrs. Sunday evening at the common, and after the service in the vestry visited the homes of Robert Wood and H. J. Sauler, remaining at the latter place until the clock struck ten. The party began the new year. On Sunday evening the meeting will be led by Mr. Wood; subject, "Are you evading moral issues?"

BOXBOROUGH

News Items.
Schools in town will reopen Monday with the same teachers, except at No. 2, where Mrs. Grace Potter, of Mountaintop, N. H., will take the place of Miss Cutler.

Mrs. Harry Adams was a recent guest in town.

Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Knight were week-end guests at the home of Clarence Braman in Stow.

Mrs. William Gooden and Arthur visited relatives in Groton last week.

Misses Lucie and Ina Wetherbee attended a new year's party in Hastings, being the week-end guests of Miss Elmer Harrington.

Asa Frost, who has been on the sick list since his return from Framingham for better farming and a wider and better range of social life and simplified and healthier indoor living. The directors to teach and stimulate a healthier household life are Mrs. James J. Storrow of Lincoln, Mrs. Frank C. Miller of Westford, Ida P. Miller of Wakefield, Mrs. Leon R. Richardson of Pepperell, Mrs. Harold Thompson of Arlington, Miss Alice Howard of Westford, Miss Anna Murphy of Framingham.

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Mrs. J. A. Healy, who has been ill at the Carney hospital in Boston for the past few weeks, returned to her home here last Tuesday.

Miss Mary Ferrin of Lowell, has been the guest of the Misses Rebecca and Dora LeDuc.

The coal production of Montana in 1916, which according to C. E. Lesche of the United States Geological Survey, was 2,789,756 short tons, valued at \$4,526,509, was almost equal to that in 1914, being smaller by only 15,413 tons, or about one-half of one percent.

The principal hobby of the Dowager Queen of Spain is the collecting of playing cards.

The production of gold in Japan during the calendar year 1914, according to statistics published by the Imperial Bureau of Mines and Mining, was valued at \$4,696,504, compared with \$2,638,400 for 1913. The production of silver amounted to \$2,881,369 in value, against \$2,863,600 for 1913.

The first sixteen years of this century have seen the State of Idaho leading the world with 1,400,000 divorces.

A caterpillar can eat twice its own weight in leaves in 24 hours.

More than \$1,000,000,000 was spent last year by the American public for tobacco.

DON'T LET SKIN TROUBLES SPREAD. Red, pimply skin that itches and burns is embarrassing, and gets worse if neglected. Bad skin is a social handicap and constant source of worry. Correct it once with Dr. Hobson's Eczema Ointment. This healing ointment kills the germ, soothes the irritation and quickly restores, but not cures, the sufferer from suffering the tortures of eczema, or for grown-ups who have long sought relief. Write for a free trial. Dr. Hobson's Eczema Ointment is a guaranteed remedy. At your Druggist, 50c.

Alice Worcester Weeks

Teacher of the ART OF SINGING Windsor Ave. West Acton, Mass. 3ms Telephone Connection

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS. Worcester, ss. Probate Court. In and for the County of Worcester, in said County of Worcester, do hereby certify that MARY J. BROWN late of Harvard in said County, deceased, a petition has been presented to said Court to grant a letter of administration of the estate of said deceased to FRANK L. BROWN of Harvard in said County of Worcester, without giving a surety on his bond.

You are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court to be held at Worcester, in said County of Worcester, on the 11th day of January, A. D. 1917, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, to show cause, if any you have, why the same should not be granted.

You are hereby directed to give public notice thereof, by publishing this citation once in each week, in the Standard News, in the Harvard Hillside, a newspaper published in Ayer, the last publication to be one day at least before said Court.

Witness my hand and the seal of said Court, this twenty-seventh day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and sixteen.

HARRY H. ATWOOD, Register.

ADMINISTRATOR'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of a license from the Probate Court within and for the County of Middlesex, the subscriber will sell at public auction at the office of Albert A. Hillebronn, on East Main Street in Ayer, Massachusetts, on Saturday, January 27th, A. D. 1917, at two o'clock in the afternoon, all the right, title and interest which John Neat, late of Shirley in said County of Middlesex, had at the time of his decease in and to the following real estate, namely:

A certain tract of land situated in the Northern part of said Shirley, containing twenty-two (22) acres and ninety-four (94) rods, more or less, and bounded as follows: Beginning at the Southwesterly corner thereof at a stake and stones; thence South 29° East by land formerly of Eleazer Jewett twenty-five (25) rods and eighteen (18) links to a stake and stones; thence North 1/4° East by land formerly of Eleazer Jewett forty-two (42) rods and twenty (20) links to a black oak tree; thence North 5 1/2° West by land formerly of Nathaniel Holden fifteen (15) rods to a stake and stones; thence North 41 1/4° East by said Holden land thirty-six (36) rods and ten (10) links to a stake and stones; thence North 41 1/4° West by land formerly of Richard Pierce fifty-three (53) rods and twenty (20) links to a stake and stones; thence South 31° West by land formerly of Peter Tarbell and Eleazer Jewett seventy-nine (79) rods and fifteen (15) links to the place of beginning; subject to the easement granted to the Connecticut River Transmission Company to place and maintain lines of poles and wires across said premises.

Said premises consist largely of woodland with a growth of wood and timber thereon. Terms and conditions will be announced at the time and place of sale.

Previous to this, in 1897, Morton A. Souther, better known as "Phil," played at the band concerts given from the present bandstand the Fourth of July and the Decoration day jobs, and at Frank Hemmaway's funeral. He took lessons for about a month before entering the band of an itinerant painter, with whom he worked. This man, whose first name was Frank, but whose last name we have not yet learned, was a very good trombone player and an enthusiastic member of the band during his stay in town. He was very anxious before he left town to make Phil a first-class player, and used to give him lessons gratis three and four times a week. Souther got sick of it after awhile on account of working at it so hard and steadily. He gave it up before his teacher left town, much to the latter's disappointment. He kept trying to induce Mr. Souther "to keep it up," but he would not.

Phil had taken violin lessons previously of Miss Addie Lovejoy, of Ayer, at the instance of his grandmother, who bought him a violin; but not being ambitious of becoming a star on a stringed instrument, he discontinued on the violin after awhile. But he aspired to become a proficient bandman, at that time, and so solicited a band instructor, who received no aid or encouragement on the trombone from his grandfather.

Mr. Souther says that the band had a very good full trombone section, when he played, consisting of Fred Gale, Lester Adams, his teacher and himself. He recalls, with pleasure the good times that they used to have at the band concerts.

(To be continued.)

FOR YOUNG FOLKS
Sleepy Time Story About Two Mischievous Forest Folks.
A FRIEND IN TIME OF NEED.
Remarkable Bravery of a Little Feathered Biped in Behalf of His Four Legged Playmate—Building Sand Forts on the Beach.
Tonight I am going to tell you a story that I am sure will interest you. It is about a...

A BEAR AND A CROW.

"If you wish some of your favorite blackberry pies, Bobby, you must go to the field and gather berries," said Mrs. Bear one morning.

A little later Bobby Bear left home, a new tin pail over his arm and his mother's old pink sunbonnet on his head. He looked cautiously about to see if any one he knew was watching.

"Don't you dare take off that bonnet, Bobby," warned his mother. "The day is very hot, and you might get a sunstroke. If that naughty Jimmy Crow laughs or says anything to you, just don't pay any attention to him."

Now, although Mrs. Bear did not know it, Jimmy Crow was perched out of sight on a nearby tree, and he heard every word she said.

Before long Bobby was hard at work among the blackberry bushes.

Unknown to Bobby, Jimmy Crow had followed him, and his sharp eyes spotted something that Bobby would have missed, even had he not been hampered by the sunbonnet. Just ahead of the little bear boy lay a snake, small but poisonous, which had been disturbed by Bobby's presence, and was in a very nasty temper. Its tail switched angrily, and the darting fangs were ready to strike at the first chance.

"Look out, Bobby! Look out!" cried Jimmy; but, mindful of his mother's words, Bobby paid no attention. "He's only trying to tease me," thought Bobby, and he advanced a step further. Then he heard a rustle among the dry leaves and the hiss of the snake. The little bear boy dropped his pail and started to run, but the brambles caught

his thick fur and held him prisoner. He screamed in fright and struggled frantically to tear himself loose, but the thorns only gripped him the tighter.

The snake was almost upon him when something flashed from above like a streak of lightning, disappeared among the leaves, and next moment emerged in triumph. It was brave Jimmy Crow, grasping the snake firmly back of the neck, close to the head, so that it was powerless to strike. Jimmy flew to the brook and dropped the enemy into the deepest pool, then hurried back to help Bobby.

It was some time before the little bear boy was untangled, and it took still longer to fill the overturned pail. Then the pair started happily for Bobby's home.

When Mrs. Bear heard the story of her boy's danger and rescue she forgot all about the scolding that was waiting for Jimmy Crow. Instead, she insisted that he stay for supper, and when Jimmy finally said, "Good night," he carried home with him a beautiful blackberry pie all his own.

Why Dogs Turn Around.

The habit of dogs turning around several times before lying down is said to be one of the wild traits of this animal's prehistoric ancestors, who did so to make a bed in the grasses and leaves. Foxes and wolves have the same habit when lying down in the open where there is no grass.

The Industrious Bee.

Busy, busy little bee. Work all day industriously. Gathering honey drop by drop. From each nodding clover top.

Golden beads of sunny light. Gladly kiss you in your flight. Golden treasure store for me—Sunny, sunny little bee.

A Fort in the Sand.

Down near the beach at Southampton, N. Y., lives little Charlie Smith. There with his playmates he spends many pleasant hours. Here you see

PLANTS GEO. E. FELCH FLORIST

Designs a Specialty AYER, MASS. SHRUBS

Engraved Cards

Business and Social Wedding Stationery. Card Showing Styles and Prices Willingly Furnished

50 Engraved Cards in Script, \$1.25 Public Spirit Office, Ayer

PLAN TO RESUME RAILWAY INQUIRY AFTER MARCH 4TH Postponement Forced by Press of Congressional Business. COUNTRY DEMANDS ACTION Shippers, Investors and Representatives of All Branches of Business Demand Unification of System of Railway Regulation—Roads Ask Fewer Masters.

Washington, Dec. 18.—The Congressional Joint Committee on Interstate Commerce, which has been conducting the inquiry into government regulation and control of transportation, last week decided to suspend its hearings on the subject and adjourned, subject to the call of the chairman, because of the pressure of other work before Congress. According to the resolution creating the committee, it is required to submit a report by January 8th next. It is understood that before that time the committee will ask for an extension of time and that the hearings will be resumed at a later date, when some of those who already have appeared before the committee will be questioned further and a great many others will be heard. It is probable, however, that the hearings will not be resumed until after adjournment of Congress on March 4th. In addition to regular routine business the commerce committees of the two houses are charged with the important duty of preparing and presenting the legislation asked for by President Wilson to make impossible a railroad strike without previous investigation. This will leave little or no time for the consideration of the general questions of railway regulation.

Country Wants Something Done.

Members of Congress and others who are interested in the inquiry undertaken by the Newlands Committee insist that there is no intention of abandoning it.

It seems doubtful, indeed, if the country would permit the matter to be dropped if there were evidence of a desire on the part of Congress to do so. The nation-wide evidences of interest evoked by the initiation of the Newlands inquiry show that the people of the country—shippers, consumers and investors, as well as railway men themselves—are alive to the fact that the railway situation is highly unsatisfactory and that steps must be taken without unnecessary delay to make it possible for the railroads to meet the growing needs of the nation.

From reports received here it seems as though almost every commercial organization and business interest in the country were engaged in studying the railroad question. The Chamber of Commerce of the United States has been conducting an elaborate inquiry into various phases of the subject for many months past. Many local and state commercial bodies in every part of the country have committees engaged in study of the problem and have indicated a desire to come here and present their views. National organizations of manufacturers, lumbermen, coal operators, wholesale and retail dealers, have expressed through resolutions their desire for the unification of the system of railway regulation. The National Industrial Traffic League, speaking from the viewpoint of shippers using the railways, has endorsed exclusive federal regulation providing it is accomplished in such a way as to give full protection and prompt adjustment in matters relating to transportation within the states.

Many Interests Studying Problem.

All these organizations represent primarily the shippers of the country, but they are not the only ones who are taking a hand in the discussion. The investors of the nation, through their own associations and through committees representing the savings banks and other financial organizations, are preparing to show the necessity of improving railroad credit and protecting the rights of those whose money is invested in railway securities. Finally the railroads themselves, being vitally concerned in the improvement of existing conditions, are planning to submit their views through their executives, operating officials and traffic experts and to assert their willingness to accept far-reaching federal regulation along lines that will enable them to attract capital and to provide the facilities needed for the prompt and efficient handling of the country's transportation business.

Main Trouble is Too Many Masters.

Not all of these interests are in accord as to the remedies that should be adopted. There seems to be a general agreement, however, that many of the difficulties which confront the railroads and which make it impossible for them to meet the requirements of the nation's commerce promptly and satisfactorily arise from the haphazard and often conflicting measures of regulation that have been adopted from time to time by the federal government and the forty-eight states and that what is needed is a well ordered, systematic scheme of federal regulation that shall cover the whole country and make it possible for the railroads to provide the extensions and improved facilities so badly needed, while at the same time protecting fully the public interests.

Headaches come mostly from disorders of the stomach, liver and bowels. Regulate these organs and keep free from headaches by using BEECHAM'S PILLS Largest Sale of Any Medicine in the World. Sold everywhere. In boxes, 10c., 25c.

Sleds

Flexible Flyers \$3.00, \$3.75 Speedway \$1.25, \$1.50 Ice Kings 98c Girls' Sleds 85c

Skates

We have a few of Barney & Berry Clamp-and-Hockey Skates which we are selling out at Half Price.

Skate Straps, Skate Keys, Hockey Sticks and Balls

AYER VARIETY STORE

Telephone Connection

For Father and Son

360 PICTURES 360 ARTICLES EACH MONTH ON ALL NEWS STANDS

15 Cents POPULAR MECHANICS MAGAZINE

WRITTEN SO YOU CAN UNDERSTAND IT All the Great Events in Mechanics, Engineering and Invention throughout the World are described in an interesting manner, as they occur—3,000,000 readers each month.



ONE PIECE GOWN.

What Paris Says About This Delicately Garment.

The one piece dresses shown at the fall opening of the Martel-Armand collection are made on straight lines...

A variety of materials is embraced for these one-piece frocks, including cloth, thin silk, velvet, muslin and satin.

The evening dresses in this collection are of full, satin and velvet and show a plentiful use of metal, tulle, jet and lace.

Long court mantles of embroidered tulle or lace are attached to many of the evening gowns at the shoulders in such a way as to form a square.

Maison Agnes also features one piece dresses at her opening. They are combinations of satin and serge, are elaborately embroidered and finished with high neck and long sleeves...

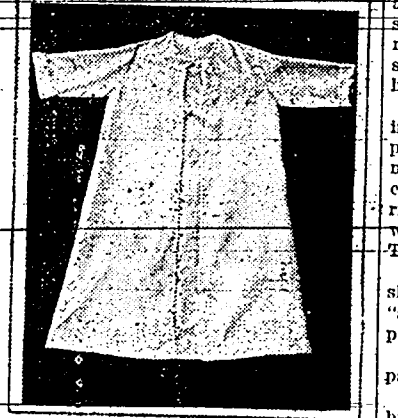
Some of the costumes have embroidery design continuing down on to the skirt in Louis XV. waistcoat effect. Gowns that are combinations of satin with chiffon, also charmeuse with mousseline are popular.

Still quite short are the evening dresses. They are made with a pointed train and square décolletage, are most often fashioned of metallic tissue or a brilliant metallized silk, veiled with vivid color tulle.

Simple mantles, with sleeves, are made of all kinds of velvet. They have large standup fur collars and are developed in rather dark colors.

COAT IN MINIATURE.

Wee Babies Need This the First Cool Day. White cashmere loosely cut gives this adorable garment. Edges are scalloped in white silk and the hem and seams...



featherstitched. What gives the babyish finish is dainty sprigs of flowers in a double row down the front, which closes with two ribbon bows.

Canning Hints. In boiling or steaming fruits the sugar should always be added after the fruit is taken from the fire.

Baked apples are among the most wholesome and most digestible of food products. Children and invalids are seldom harmed by them, even when other fruits might not agree.

Apples are more than 84 per cent water. Watermelon—rightly named—contains more than 92 per cent of water.

Berries should always be washed before being hulled to prevent washing away of considerable fruit juice.

The quickest way to peel peaches and plums is to immerse them quickly in boiling hot water, when the skin can be removed very easily.

Hint to Jelly Makers. When using paraffin melt in an old tea or coffee pot, and you will be interested to see how easy it is to pour the contents of the pot into jelly glasses or other receptacles after they have been filled and need to be sealed.

An Artistic Courtship

By ETHEL HOLMES

Gabriel Martel painted pictures for a living, but made a very poor one. At last he gave it up and became an instructor in his art.

One spring morning Winifred was sitting by an open window in the living room, facing the street, making clothes for herself, for her father had no money with which to buy them.

He noted the position of the room in which she was sitting and, crossing the street, entered the studio building, mounted the stairs and proceeded to the door leading to the room.

"Beg pardon," said Beardslee; "I am desirous of taking some lessons in painting."

"Are you a beginner?" asked the instructor.

"Oh, no! I have had some practice," Martel stated the terms, which were satisfactory, and Beardslee said he would take a lesson then and there.

"Isn't that like this window, papa?" she said, showing it to her father, "and that work stand is an exact reproduction of mine."

"It says the picture will be on exhibition at Gambrell's for a few days. I'm going to see it."

There is a break in the story which cannot be supplied. When Winifred went home to her father happiness bubbled up like a spring of limpid water.

There is more that does not appear in this version of the story, and that is, what was going on between Beardslee and Winifred during the next month?

"I came," said Beardslee, "to ask you, Mr. Martel, for your daughter." "My daughter! You, Clarence Beardslee!"

SHIRLEY

The Alliance will meet with Mrs. Lavonne Edgerton on Thursday afternoon of next week.

Edward J. Harkins has been appointed postmaster for the town of Shirley, succeeding Mrs. Kate E. Hazen, who has held the position for the past fifteen years.

Miss Marion L. Holden, who has been spending a two weeks' vacation at home, returned Monday to her school in Templeton.

Robert H. J. Holden returned Monday from Cambridge after a ten days' vacation spent at the home of his mother, Mrs. Hattie P. Holden.

Mrs. Janette E. Hewes, who has been ill with pneumonia, has recovered sufficiently to be out again.

The Girls' Sewing Guild spent a pleasant afternoon last Saturday with Miss Edith Longley.

Mrs. Almond Wing and Forrest B. Wing of Brookfield have been spending a few days at the Adams' home on Center road.

Rev. Grover Harrison of Groton School will have charge of the services at Trinity chapel Sunday afternoon at 3.15.

Miss Christine G. Longley, who has been spending her Christmas vacation with her mother, Mrs. M. W. Longley, returned last week Friday to Halifax.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Knowles, with son Edward and daughter Doris spent last Sunday at the home of their daughter, Mr. and Mrs. French, Fitchburg.

Irwin Livermore, Memphis, Tenn., spent the holidays at the home of his mother, Mrs. Louise Livermore, Chapel street.

Miss Mary A. Park in company with her sister, Mrs. Nellie W. Holbrook, spent the holidays the first of the week with relatives in Flushing.

Mr. and Mrs. H. O. Peasley, of Dorchester, spent the holiday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. P. H. Authier, with son Allen and daughter Helen, spent over the holidays with relatives in Webster.

Annual Meeting and Supper. The W. W. S. club held their annual meeting and banquet last Saturday evening at the Brookside.

There was a hearing in the town hall last week Friday night relative to the recent fire that destroyed the North schoolhouse.

On Monday afternoon the Woman's club will have the pleasure of hearing one of the ex-presidents, Miss Alice M. Howard, who will speak on "American folk lore."

John H. Hardy's orchard of one acre of standard apple trees of the McIntosh variety, to have been planted anywhere from three to six years ago, has won first prize in the Massachusetts orcharding contest for the best in that line in the state.

Rev. O. J. Fairfield will begin Sunday a series of five sermons on the distinguishing characteristics of Unitarianism, his subject for Sunday being "Our method in religion, perfect mental freedom, rational bondage to any one's external authority."

Christmas and new year's greetings, with helpful suggestions, have been received by parishioners of the different churches from the several pastors.

Attractive calendars have been distributed by the churches. Those of Hartwell & Hosmer contain pictures of "The home of specked beauties," from a painting by Eugene Hall, and E. L. Parker's have a picture of "The finest stock," Landon, Frouty, insurance agent, has given away very neat, practical calendars.

Mr. and Mrs. Jessie Dodge opened their home on Russell street on last week Thursday evening to the high school seniors, who gave a surprise party to their classmate, Miss Gladys Jewett, who, with her people, will soon leave town for Florida.

From the Lowell Courier-Citizen of January 2, we quote as follows: "The many friends of Larkin T. Trull, Jr., will be much grieved to hear of his death, which occurred yesterday afternoon at the home of his uncle, Larkin T. Trull, on Belmont street. About two months ago he met with a painful accident and after

Mrs. Ruth Clark, who had been spending a few days with Mr. and Mrs. N. B. Graves, returned last Saturday to her home in Springfield. Marcuerite Sargent at the North went with her, returning home on Tuesday.

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Advertisement for GRAHAM CRACKERS. Includes text: "N.B.C. GRAHAM CRACKERS Children love because they taste so good... slightly sweetened to satisfy youngsters' palates..." and an image of a cracker box.

Large advertisement for SOCONY KEROSENE. Includes text: "Save Money and Keep Warm BURN SOCONY KEROSENE For heat—For cooking—For light—Say SOCONY to the Grocer's Boy" and a logo for SOCONY KEROSENE OIL.

Advertisement for National Mazda Lamps. Includes text: "Good First Mortgages on Real Estate" and "National Mazda Lamps For Service Use National Mazda Lamps for first-class lighting service."







Saturday, January 6, 1917.

AYER

News Items.

Some unknown person rang in a false alarm of fire from box 14 at the corner of Grove and Forest street at 12:45 Monday morning. While responding to the call James King, of the hook and ladder company, slipped on the ice as he was assisting in putting the truck up the incline on the western approach of the overhead A chimney fire at the house of Charles W. Mason gave the firemen another run at 11:30 Monday morning. The alarm was sounded twenty minutes after the alarm was given from box 6 at the corner of Pleasant and Cambridge streets. There was no damage.

The Unitarian Girls' club will meet at the home of Mrs. F. Verne Pillman, Washington street, Wednesday evening, January 10. Hostesses, Mrs. Geo. O. Filibrown and Mrs. Pillman. The following is taken from the January issue of Service Talks: Back in July, Manager Whitcomb of the Ayer Electric Light Company was asked if he could increase by the first of January the number of his meters by ten percent. Mr. Whitcomb said he could, and Service Talks wished to congratulate him on the fact that he did.

Holden C. Harlow, Leon A. Downing, c. c.; Edward E. Sawyer, treas.; Thomas J. Ryan, sec.; S. Bassett Dickerman, p. i.; Leon A. Downing, g.; Ellis E. Harlow, chap.; John H. Craig, c. b.; Henry Waterman, o. g.; HOWARD A. Blandhard, r. s. Fifty-fourth Anniversary. The fifty-fourth anniversary of the emancipation of the colored race from slavery was celebrated Monday evening with a concert and ball in the town hall.

November 23, 1877, at North Adams, Mass. Leonard J. Spaulding was married to Myron W. Haynes of Franklin, Ind. Myron W. Haynes of Franklin, Ind., and Melissa A. Haynes of Leominster, Mass. In 1914, after living for a house on East Main street she moved from Ayer to Leominster, where she has since made her home.

Beginning this month the office of the library will be used one Sunday a month only. On Sunday, by many requests, the Christmas music will be repeated. The cantata will be sung entire. The preacher will give a brief interpretation of the cantata. District Court. Henry Cook of Shirley, was found guilty of assault and battery in that town and was assessed the expenses of the prosecution last Saturday amounting to five dollars. A complaint against him for drunkenness was filed.

The New England Trust Company BOSTON, MASS. Capital \$1,000,000 Surplus and Profits over \$3,000,000 ACTS AS EXECUTOR, ADMINISTRATOR, TRUSTEE, GUARDIAN, ATTORNEY OR AGENT

Union Grains SAVES YOU THE LABOR OF MIXING YOUR OWN FEED. A COMPLETE RATION FOR DAIRY COWS 24% Protein 7% Fat 9% Fiber 50% Carbohydrates

The Old Red Store A. E. Lawrence, Manager Park St., Ayer Several witnesses appeared, including the defendant and plaintiff, who testified in his own behalf.

Genuine THERMOS Products 1/2 Pint Bottles \$1.50, \$2.00 Carafe \$1.50 One Pint \$1.50 to \$2.50 One Quart \$2.50 to \$2.75 Lunch Sets \$2.75

I. G. DWINELL Fine Groceries and Hardware Telephone 15-2 Ayer, Mass. J. W. MURRY DYEING, CLEANING and REPAIRING

P. Donlon & Co. Meats Groceries Provisions BARRINGTON HALL COFFEE REGENT FLOOR PAINTS, OILS and VARNISHES

White Pine Cough Syrup WITH Tar and Honey Safe for children. Contains no morphine or other narcotic. 25c. Made and for sale at DRUG STORE AYER

Ayer Farmers' Co-Operative Exchange Flanagan's Crossing, Ayer G. B. SCHULTZ, Mgr.







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**Thomas F. Mullin**  
 THE REAL ESTATE AGENT  
 In regard to Investment?  
 Room 3 Bank Bldg. Ayer  
**E. D. STONE**  
 Fire Insurance Agent  
 Automobile and Cordwood Insurance  
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**Speedwell Farm**  
 Pasturized  
**CREAM**  
**BUTTER**  
**FANCY CHEESES**  
 We carry in stock the following first-class cheeses:

**Camembert**  
**Pineapple**  
**Swiss**  
**Roquefort**  
**Parmesan (Italian)**  
**Roquefort and American**  
**Full Cream (American)**  
**No. 1**  
**Young America**  
**Chilly Cheese**  
**Club**  
**Gifford**  
**Cream-Cheese**

**Mullin Bros**  
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 CUTFLOWERS, PLANTS, FLORAL  
 DESIGNS, ETC. HARDY  
 ORNAMENTAL TREES,  
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**H. Huebner**  
 Florist  
 Groton, Mass.  
 Greenhouses near Groton School

**Democrat**  
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 CONCORD BUGGIES

**Carriages,**  
**Butcher**  
**Carts**  
**Harnesses**  
 A good assortment and at all prices—call and see them

**CARRIAGE REPAIRING IN ALL ITS**  
**BRANCHES PROMPTLY DONE**  
 ALSO, HORSESHOEING AND GENERAL BLACKSMITHING

**FREDERICK WHITNEY**  
 AYER, MASS.

**Union-Cash Market**  
 Ayer, Mass.

FIRST RIB ROAST BEEF	18c lb.
FOWLS	23c lb.
FORES OF LAMB	13c lb.
ROAST PORK	18c lb.
BEST TOP-OF-ROUND	28c lb.
BEST SIRLOIN STEAK	30c lb.
GOOD SIRLOIN STEAK	25c lb.
RUMP STEAK	25c lb.
SMALL HAMS	22c lb.
POT ROAST	15c lb.
SALT SPARE RIBS	13c lb.
FAT SALT PORK	17c lb.
CRANBERRIES	8c quart
HIGH-GRADE COCOA	23c lb., 5 lbs. \$1.00
KELLOGG'S CORN FLAKES, 6c pk.	
SHREDDED WHEAT, 10c pk.	
VAN-CAMP'S MILK, 11c can	
FRESH PACKED SEEDED RAISINS	2 pks. 25c
RUMFORD'S BAKING POWDER	Large can 23c

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**FRANK S. BENNETT**  
 Successor to ARTHUR FENNER  
 Insurance Agent and Broker  
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 AYER, MASS.

**State Income Tax**  
 Do you understand the new state income tax law? You are running the risk of severe penalties if you disregard its provisions.  
 In this column there will appear each week an article explaining the things you should know about it. These articles are written under the direction of the Tax Commissioner. Questions will be gladly answered by mail or in this column if addressed to the State Income Tax Attorney, State House, Boston. If reply by mail is desired, enclose postage. No attention will be paid to questions on any other subject. Mention newspaper in which you read this. So far as possible the state will furnish speakers to explain this law to any organization on request. Save these articles for future reference.

**JOSEPH E. PERRY,**  
 State Income Tax Attorney.

**MORE ABOUT**  
**INCOME TAX**

**THREE PER CENT TAX.**  
 The excess of the gains over the losses received by the taxpayer from purchases and sales of intangible personal property (and this time the provision applies to "non-taxables" as well as to "taxables") shall be taxed at the rate of three per cent (3%) per annum. If a person buys and sells securities making gains on some and suffering losses on others he may deduct his losses from his gains and pay the tax on the excess of gains over losses. Regular brokerage commissions, if any, for both purchase and sale may be deducted in computing the gains. If the securities were purchased prior to January 1, 1916, their value on that date is to be considered as the purchase price for the purposes of this section. This tax applies to every one who has sold a share of stock or a bond, or any "rights" during 1916—whether he is an investor, trustee, broker or speculator.

**TAX ON INCOME FROM PROFESSION, EMPLOYMENT, TRADE AND BUSINESS.**  
 If a person receives a gross income of less than \$2000 from his profession, employment, trade or business, and if he has received no other income taxable as heretofore outlined in these articles, he need make no return whatever.

**Nota Bene.**  
 On the other hand, if a person's gross income from profession, employment, trade and business exceeds \$2000 in 1916, he must make a return even though by reason of exemptions or deductions he may not have to pay any tax.

If husband and wife are engaged in separate employment each must make a return if his or her gross income exceeds \$2000.  
 If an individual is engaged in more than one business, he must make his return on their combined income, and may combine his deductions as hereafter explained.

**Exemptions.**  
 If a taxpayer is living with either husband or wife an additional exemption of \$500 is allowed. For each child under eighteen years of age, or parent wholly dependent on the taxpayer, an additional \$250 may be exempted, but the total exemption cannot exceed \$3000 for any taxpayer. These deductions shall not be made by both husband and wife but may be made by either, as they shall mutually agree, or shall be prorated between them in proportion to the net income of each in excess of \$2000.

**United States Government Employees and Officers.**

The wages and salaries of United States Government employees and officers are not taxed under the new law no matter how large such salaries may be. But if any such employee or officer is at the same time engaged in any other profession, employment, trade or business, and receives any income therefrom, all of such other income will be taxed except such part, if any, as would have to be added to the United States Government payments to bring the latter up to \$2000 (or 2250, 2500, 2750 or 3000, depending on the number of dependents for which the taxpayer may claim deduction).

**Ministers versus Farmers.** How income is computed.  
 In determining income from profession, employment, trade and business, the rental value of living quarters furnished to any individual as part of his compensation shall be included. Thus a minister who has a parsonage furnished him as part of his compensation would be obliged to count in the fair rental value of the parsonage as part of his income, but the farmer who owns the farm buildings in which he lives does not have his living quarters "furnished" him by anyone else and, as he pays his real estate tax on the buildings, he need not include the rental value as part of his business income.

**"Gross"—What?**  
 The taxable "gross" income must include gains from the sale of capital assets employed in the business—but not including securities or other intangible property. The hardware man would include all the money he received in connection with the business including income from the sale of capital assets, i. e., in his case his hardware and other stock in trade sold in the course of the year.  
 As to the method of computing gross and net income see next week's article.

**BRYAN AGAINST OWNERSHIP BY THE GOVERNMENT**

**Gives Newlands Committee His Views on Railroad Control.**

**COMPETITION PREFERABLE.**

**Federal Regulation Should Not Be Allowed to Exclude Exercise of State Authority, He Contends—Thinks Railroad Stocks Should Represent Actual Value and Be Stable as Government Bonds.**

Washington, Dec. 11.—William J. Bryan, who started the country ten years ago by advocating government ownership of railroads, appeared before the Newlands Joint Committee on Interstate Commerce last week in support of the claim that the states should be allowed to retain authority over the regulation of all transportation lines within their borders. Mr. Bryan explained that he had long regarded government ownership as inevitable, but only because of railroad opposition to effective regulation.

**Against Government Ownership.**  
 "Personally I cannot say that I desire government ownership," he explained, "because I lean to the individual idea rather than to the collective idea; that is, I believe that government ownership is desirable only where competition is impossible."  
 Alfred P. Tilton, counsel to the Railway Executives' Advisory Committee, previously had presented before the members of the Newlands Committee as one of his reasons for urging a better balanced and more systematic regulation of railroads the argument that this is the only alternative to government ownership. Calling attention to the restrictions imposed upon the transportation lines by conflicting state laws and regulations, to the practical cessation of new construction and to the impossibility under existing conditions of securing the new capital needed for extensions and betterments of railway facilities, he warned the Congressmen that unless they provided a fair and reasonable system of regulation that would enable the railroads to meet the growing needs of the country's business the national government would be compelled to take over the ownership of the lines with all the evils attendant upon such a system.

**Preservation of Competition.**

Mr. Bryan, on the other hand, holds that the further extension of federal authority over the railroads would be a step in the direction of government ownership. He advanced the view that the centralization of control in the hands of the national government would impose too great a burden upon the regulating body, would offer strong temptation to railroads to interfere in politics and would encourage the general movement toward centralization of power in the federal government at the expense of the states. He said that he did not object to consolidations of railroad lines so long as they did not destroy competition, that he knew of no complaint against great railway systems because of their size and that he believed that the preservation of competition was the test to be applied to all consolidations.

**Regulation of Securities.**

Mr. Bryan declared himself in favor of national regulation of railway stock and bond issues, but added that he saw no reason why that should exclude the states from acting on the same subject as to state corporations. "I would like to see the stock of a railroad, as long as it is in private hands, made as substantial and as unvarying as the value of a government bond," he asserted.

He suggested that railroad capitalization be readjusted to equalize it with actual valuation of the property represented, making due allowance for equities, and that when this was done the roads should be allowed to earn sufficient income to keep their stock at par and to create a surplus. The latter, he tentatively proposed, might be allowed to amount to 25 per cent of the capital.

**Railway Earnings Low.**

This subject of railroad capitalization and the amount of railroad earnings received further attention from the committee during its recent sessions. In answer to questions by Senator Cummins, Mr. Tom submitted figures showing the net earnings of the roads in recent years. These figures show that during the five years from 1905 to 1910 the average net earnings were 5.25 per cent of the net capitalization, while for the five years from 1910 to 1915 the average was only 4.50 per cent. The total earnings on the stock, computed by adding to the net operating income the income from the securities owned and deducting bond interest, were for 1910, 7.00 per cent; for 1911, 6.17 per cent; for 1912, 4.97 per cent; for 1913, 5.94 per cent; for 1914, 4.00 per cent; for 1915, 3.44 per cent, thus showing an almost continuous decrease throughout this six year period. It was announced that Harold Erickson, formerly chairman of the Wisconsin Railroad Commission, would submit more complete information on this subject to the Committee at a later date.

**HARVARD**

**News Items.**  
 Joseph E. Perry will speak before the Men's club of Harvard on the new income tax law Sunday evening. The public will be invited to attend a public meeting at 7:45 in the town hall. Mr. Perry has been connected with the tax department in Boston as attorney, but has recently been appointed in the district office. He is acquainted with the details of the law, and the subject being one of interest to all residents of Harvard a general attendance is desirable in order that the new law as it affects Harvard, may be better understood.  
 On last week Friday evening the ladies of the Congregational church gave a supper and entertainment at the town hall. The following entertained: William H. Ford, host; Miss Agnes O'Brien, of Clinton; Miss Grace Tawksbury, reader; Miss Frances M. O'Brien, of Harvard; story teller, Kent Royal, vaudeville artist; Arthur West, tenor soloist. Following the entertainment games were played until 10.30.  
 On Tuesday evening the officers-elect of 1917 were installed into office at the meeting Harvard Grange by James B. Tuttle, installing officer, assisted by two ladies from the Grange, as follows: Arthur T. West, m.; Fred J. Wrangham, o.; Frank P. Abbott, lect.; Charles E. Sammorian, secretary; William H. Ford, host; Rev. H. C. Merrill, chap.; Herbert A. Thayer, treasurer; Harry A. Knight, sec.; Alston C. Keyes, g. k.; Beryl S. Bigelow, Ceres; Elsie F. Knight, Pomona; Anna West, hostess; Flora; Blanche L. Davis, l. a. s.; Benjamin S. Keyes, ex. com. 3 yrs. Supper was served at ten o'clock, followed by a social hour.  
 On last week Friday Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Russell, Kenneth Russell, with Miss Helen Locke, and J. Earl Arnold, with Miss Dorothy West, to Berlin and attended the chicken-pie supper and leap year dance in that town.  
 Miss Helen Locke was a guest last week with her sister, Mrs. O. C. Dog, at Blacklock Grange, Old Mill district.

Miss Bernice Sears is ill at her home in Providence with tonsillitis, but expects to return to her work at Bromfield next week.  
 Miss Blanche Dabney and Miss Carrie Rhoads, of Somerville, spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. George Maynard.  
 Miss Eva Sammorian entertained the "Mac" Camp-fire Girls with the guardian at her home on Oak hill on Friday afternoon of last week.  
 At her Cambridge home, to Mr. and Mrs. Horton Hildreth, a son was born on January 1.  
 The next lecture of the Warner course will be given on Friday evening, January 12, by Morris Gershon Hindus. Mr. Hindus is a native of France and knows the joys and sorrows of peasant life in that country and the vicissitudes of church and state as only a native can. He has been several years in America and is a graduate of Colgate university.  
 At the moving picture show at the town hall on Saturday evening the following is the program: The first act play, "Living lips" featuring Winnifred Greenwood and Franklin Ritchie, a heart interest drama, written by Julian Lamoth, "Our Peckey," a comedy, "Dad's darling" director, Tuesday evening, January 9, the Clinton hospital benefit.

**Death.**  
 The funeral services of the late William H. Savage, whose death occurred on December 23, was held in the Congregational church on Saturday, December 30, at 1:30 p. m. Rev. H. C. Merrill, preaching the funeral service. Miss Viola Parker, Mrs. M. Elaine Sargent and Arthur T. West sang "Nearer my God to thee" and "Face to face." Members of Geo. S. E. Church post, G. A. R., of Ayer of whom the deceased was a member, performed the last rites. Burial was at the Center cemetery.  
 Mr. Savage was one of Harvard's most respected citizens and a man of industry and integrity. He was born in Weston on November 22, 1831. The first few years of his life were spent in Roxbury and Salem. When he was some five years old, his father, Charles T. Savage, was killed in the employ of Charles Dabney, consul for the United States at Fayal, one of the Azor islands, the captain moved the family there, where they resided for a few years. When about twenty years old he went with several others to Melbourne, Australia, to work in the newly discovered gold mines. On returning to Boston he was agent for the old-fashioned hand sewing machine.  
 On September 25, 1856, he married Annie Wentworth Thayer, daughter of Henry S. Thayer, a former bank cashier of Saco, Me. At Northfield while at work on the railroad he became engaged in 1861, and President Lincoln called for volunteers, he was one of the first to go to the front. He was in the war until it was finished, then he returned to the States and served for two years as recruiting officer. His office being in Philadelphia, Pa., some of the notable battles he went through were Fredericksburg, Antietam, South Mountain and was wounded at Bloody Run, in the battle of Gettysburg.  
 After serving two years as recruiting officer he went to the Boston postoffice as clerk, from that position he was promoted to postmaster. For two years he worked for Fletcher Bros. at their sawmill. He then bought the farm now owned by Mrs. Wilbur Sawyer, where he lived for eight years. For several years he was engaged at the old iron foundry mill. The latter part of his life he was pastor at the Congregational church and town hall and also a field school for some eighteen years. He was a town clerk for several years. When he was sixty-six years old he went to his boyhood all the way from Harvard to Gettysburg, Pa., to see the place where he was wounded. The next year he rode his horse all the way from Harvard to Montreal and at seventy-five he would take a ride to Boston quite easily.  
 Mr. Savage was the father of ten children, six of whom are living—Frederick, Elizabeth, Charles, Joseph, Lucy and Helen; also, thirteen grandchildren and three great grandchildren. He spent the last few years of his life with his youngest son Joseph, with whom he passed away on December 28 at Randolph, Vt.

**H. W. C.**  
 The program for the last meeting of the Harvard Woman's club on New Year's day was by home talent, being a club magazine under the able editorship of Mrs. Herbert B. Royal and Mrs. Henry H. Putnam, and freely illustrated with tableaux. A look at the "opening pages," two young girls in pink and white livery with powdered wigs, was so promising that all

were eager for what was to follow and soon were absorbed in the contents from cover to cover, there was no skipping or idle turning of leaves. As the two pages "opened" or drew aside the curtains, the cover designed by Miss Mary E. Willard, was revealed, a typical American girl standing between the two words of the title, Clover Leaves, arranged vertically in green letters on a white background, a combination of the club emblem and the club colors.  
 The table of contents is as follows:  
 Greeting—Verse, Emily E. Hildreth  
 Clover Leaves, Editorial essay  
 The Little New Year—Tablets and songs  
 A Recent Trip to Bermuda. (With map)  
 Cynthia's Preparations—George H. Cobb  
 Story, Illustrations, Frances O'Brien  
 Mule Sol's Christmas—Toem  
 Looking Backwards—Bills of local history  
 Local History of the Past Year was no  
 of limericks. Eight illustrations  
 New Year's in Germany—Mary P. Abbott  
 Illustrated Jokes  
 Letters to the Editor:  
 What I Don't Want in your Magazine  
 How Shall We Keep Young?—Verse,  
 The Advantages of Our Town  
 What Might Have Been—A story of the  
 Alcott children as "Fruitlands," with  
 Illustrations, Elsie M. Hubachek  
 Answers to Correspondents—Allying  
 the anxieties of the inquirers on various  
 matters—from current fashions to  
 the income tax  
 Illustrated Jokes—Alma T. Royal  
 Advertisements  
 Harvard's Woman's Club Cook Book  
 and Jan  
 The Famous Exchange Bread  
 "A Rose of Plymouth Town," the last  
 a dramatic sketch by members  
 of the club on January 24.  
 All in all it was one of the highest  
 and most interesting programs the  
 club has ever had.

**BROOKLINE, N. H.**

**News Items.**  
 Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Russell drove to Wilton last Sunday and spent the day at the home of his sister, Mrs. Anson Rideout.  
 James Gilson spent the last weekend with friends in Nashua.  
 Miss Mary Regan spent the last weekend and New Year's at the home of Miss Mary Richards of Pepperell.  
 Some of the Christmas visitors whose names we did not learn in time for last week's edition were Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hall and son of Pithsburg and Clarence Stacey of Boston, at Mrs. Della Whitcomb's; Herbert Hall and two sons of Ayer at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Hall and William Burns and family of Milford at Willis Wheeler's.  
 H. E. Woods of Ayer, who gave weekly picture shows here for almost a year until about two months ago, gave a splendid show at the town hall December 26.  
 Mrs. Clara Russell and Mrs. Edna Hall attended a meeting of masters and lecturers of the Hillsborough County Pomona and subordinate Granges which was held in Milford last week Friday.  
 Miss Alice Whitcomb spent the last week at the home of her sister, Mrs. Harry Hall of Whitecomb.  
 Mrs. John Whitecomb was called to Gardner, Mass. last week Thursday on account of the serious illness of her father, David Perrin.  
 Mrs. William Shattuck has returned home and is recuperating from a serious operation she underwent at St. Joseph's hospital in Nashua, about three weeks ago.  
 Andrew Marshall has been engaged to install electric lights in Tarbell's hall, otherwise known as the Grange hall. The work will be paid for by the Grange funds, being raised by the some of the younger members, who conducted a series of whist parties and entertainments for that purpose.  
 Little Leon Greeley met with a painful accident last week when in stepping backward he accidentally set down in a pail of hot water which had been set down for just an instant. But for the quick action of his mother in removing his clothes and applying lotions the little fellow would have been badly scalded. As it is he has suffered quite badly from the burns he received.  
 Frank Teuyer went to Pithsburg on Monday to spend new year's with his brother, Alexander Teuyer, and other relatives.  
 Frank Hammond left for Amherst last Monday, where he is to take up studies in the Agricultural college there.  
 Mr. and Mrs. Patrick O'Connell and daughter Mary went to Cambridge on last Saturday to spend the week-end and new year's with friends and relatives.  
 Mrs. Marie Wheeler and children spent last week Thursday in Milford, visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Willis Burns.  
 The Grange held a pleasant and social meeting on last week Wednesday evening which was attended by quite a number. A program was given which consisted of piano solos by Miss Grace Whitcomb and Miss Mabel Porter; readings, Mrs. Hattie Pierce and Mrs. George O'Connell; Glee Standley; essays, Mrs. Clara Russell; cornet solos, Harold Whitcomb, after which there was an exchange of Christmas gifts. The installation of officers for the present year was held on January 1st, and is to be open to the public. The installing officers will be Clarence Russell, president; Miss Blanche Hall, Mrs. Della Hall and Mrs. Elsie Hildreth. The different parts of the new year's program will close with a short play program to be presented.  
 Mrs. Lizzie Haverford returned to her grandson last week from the home of Somerville, Mass.  
 Mrs. Nancy Dabney was obliged to call in a doctor last week to treat a sore foot which has been bothering her for some time.  
 Mrs. Walter Cope entertained her brother, James Lawrence, over the last week-end.  
 A French company has obtained possession of an island in the South Pacific that is believed to contain 10,000,000 tons of high-grade phosphate and many more million tons of inferior quality.

**SLOAN'S LINIMENT FOR STIFF JOINTS**

Rheumatic pains and aches into the joints and muscles, making every movement torturous. Relief comes suffering with Sloan's Liniment, it quickly penetrates without rubbing, and soothes and warms your sore muscles. The concentrated blood is stimulated to action; a single application will drive out the pain. Sloan's Liniment is the best, convenient and quickly effective. It does not stain the skin or clog the pores. Get a bottle today at your druggist.



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**PERFECTION**  
**SMOKELESS OIL HEATER**  
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 It is clean, smokeless and dependable. It is economical, too, and can be carried easily from room to room, just as needed.  
 Ask your dealer to show you a *Perfection Heater*, or write us for a descriptive booklet, mailed free on request.  
 For best results use *Socony Kerosene*—insist on So-CO-ny.  
**Standard Oil Company of N. Y.**  
 Stove Dept., 50 Congress Street, Boston

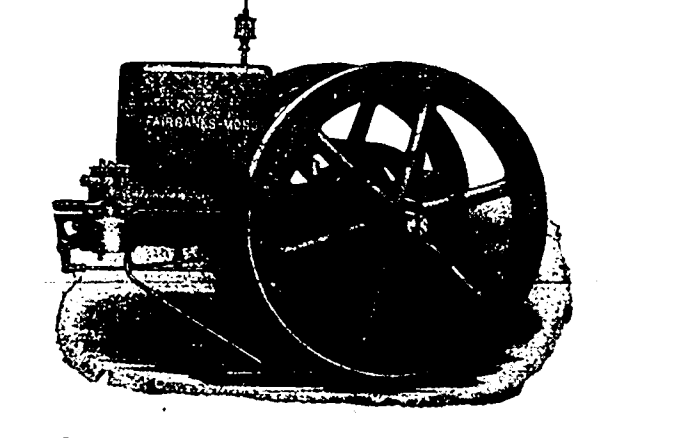


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 West Street PLUMBER AYER, MASS.



TOWNSEND

Last week Thursday evening at the meeting of the Townsend Hill Improvement society held at the Brick College on the hill, Mr. Charlton gave a very worthy lecture on "The Relation of the sea to agriculture..."

ber were present in spite of the snow-storm and several stayed until evening in order to attend the evangelistic meeting... Rev. Lewis Bachelder will occupy the Baptist pulpit Sunday morning and evening...

Heath, sons of John M. Heath, lured by the better prospects of work as carpenters, and a desire to escape the rigors of a Boston last week Thursday for Jacksonville, Fla. Both are natives of this town and the best wishes of many friends go with them to the sunny south...

POLITENESS IN CHINA. It Takes a Peculiar Form at Times. Particularly at Dinner. A Chinaman prides himself on his politeness more than on anything else...

HOW To Make a Huge Success Of Your Life Work. GENERAL CHARLES H. TAYLOR of Boston is one of the most widely known newspaper men in the country and, popular everywhere, is especially esteemed among those in the newspaper business...

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N. A. SPENCER & SON. Wish to call your attention to their stock of GEMETERY MEMORIALS which they would be pleased to have intending purchasers inspect and obtain prices. PARK STREET Ayer, Mass.

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COMPETITION PREFERABLE

Federal Regulation Should Not Be Allowed to Exclude Exercise of State Authority, He Contends—Thinks Railroad Stocks Should Represent Actual Value and Be Stable as Government Bonds.

Washington, Dec. 11.—William J. Bryan, who started the country ten years ago by advocating government ownership of railroads, appeared before the Newlands Joint Committee on Interstate Commerce last week in support of the claim that the states should be allowed to retain authority over the regulation of all transportation lines within their borders. Mr. Bryan explained that he had long regarded government ownership as inevitable, but only because of railroad opposition to effective regulation.

Against Government Ownership. "Personally I cannot say that I desire government ownership," he explained, "because I lean to the individual idea rather than to the collective idea; that is, I believe that government ownership is desirable only where competition is impossible."

Alfred P. Thom, counsel to the Railway Executives' Advisory Committee, previously had presented before the members of the Newlands Committee as one of his reasons for urging a better balanced and more systematic regulation of railroads the argument that this is the only alternative to government ownership. Calling attention to the restrictions imposed upon the transportation lines by conflicting state laws and regulations, and to the practical cessation of new construction and to the impossibility under existing conditions of securing the new capital needed for extensions and betterments of railway facilities, he warned the Congressmen that unless they provided a fair and reasonable system of regulation that would enable the railroads to meet the growing needs of the country's business the national government would be compelled to take over the ownership of the lines with all the evils attendant upon such a system.

Preservation of Competition. Mr. Bryan, on the other hand, holds that the further extension of federal authority over the railroads would be a step in the direction of government ownership. He advanced the view that the centralization of control in the hands of the national government would impose too great a burden upon the regulating body, would offer strong temptation to railroads to interfere in politics and would encourage the general movement toward centralization of power in the federal government at the expense of the states. He said that he did not object to consolidations of railroad lines so long as they did not destroy competition; that he knew of no complaint against great railway systems because of their size and that he believed that the preservation of competition was the best to be applied to all consolidations.

Regulation of Securities. Mr. Bryan declared himself in favor of national regulation of railway stock and bond issues, but added that he was not ready to say that should exclude the reasons from acting on the same subject as to state corporations. "I would like to see the stock of a railroad, as long as it is in private hands, made as substantial and as unvarying as the value of a government bond," he asserted. He suggested that railroad capitalization be readjusted to equalize it with actual valuation of the property represented, making due allowance for equities, and that when this was done the roads should be allowed to earn sufficient income to keep their stock at par and to create a surplus. The latter, he tentatively proposed, might be allowed to amount to 25 per cent of the capital.

Railway Earnings Low. This subject of railroad capitalization and the amount of railroad earnings received further attention from the committee during its recent sessions. In answer to questions by Senator Cummins, Mr. Thom submitted figures showing the net earnings of the roads in recent years. These figures show that during the five years from 1905 to 1910 the average net earnings were 5.25 per cent of the net capitalization, while for the five years from 1910 to 1915 the average was only 4.56 per cent. The total earnings on the stock, computed by adding to the net operating income the income from the securities owned and deducting bond interest, were for 1910, 7.09 per cent; for 1911, 6.17 per cent; for 1912, 4.97 per cent; for 1913, 5.94 per cent; for 1914, 4.06 per cent; for 1915, 3.44 per cent, thus showing an almost continuous decrease throughout this six year period. It was announced that Harold Erickson, formerly chairman of the Wisconsin Railroad Commission, would submit more complete information on this subject to the Committee at a later date.

HARVARD

News Items. Joseph E. Perry will speak before the Men's Club of Harvard on the new income tax law Sunday evening. The meeting will be open to the general public at 7.45 in the town hall. Mr. Perry has been connected with the tax department in Boston as attorney, but has recently been appointed income tax collector for the Middlesex district. He is well acquainted with the details of the law, and the students of Harvard, a general audience is desirable in order that the new law, as it affects Harvard, may be better understood.

On last week Friday evening the ladies of the Congregational church gave a supper and entertainment at the town hall. The following entertainers were on the program: Miss Anne O'Brien, Clinton, violinist; Miss Grace T. Kibbutz, violoncello; Miss Frances M. O'Brien, of Harvard, storyteller; Kent Royal, vaudeville artist; Arthur West, tenor soloist. Following the entertainment games were played until 10.30.

On Tuesday evening the officers-elect of 1917 were installed into office at the meeting Harvard Grange by James B. Tuttle, installing officer, assisted by two brothers from Lexington Grange, as follows: Arthur C. West, m. Fred J. Wrangham, o. Frank P. Abbott, lect.; Charles E. Sammorlan, m. William J. Ford, asst. stew.; Rex H. Merrill, chap.; Herbert A. Thayer, treas.; Harry A. Krieger, m. Alston C. Keyes, g. k.; Beryl S. Bigelow, Ceres; Elsie F. Knight, Pomona; Edna Webster, Flora; Blanche L. Davis, m. c.; Benjamin S. Keyes, ex. com. 3 yrs. Supper was served at ten o'clock, followed by a social hour.

On last week Friday Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Russell, Kenneth Russell, with Miss Helen Locke, and J. Earl Arnold, Berlin and attended the chicken-pie supper and leap year dance in that town. Miss Helen Locke was a guest last week with her sister, Mrs. O. C. Don, at Hawbrook Grange, Old Mill district. Miss Bernice Sears is ill at her home in Providence with tonsillitis, but expects to return to her work at Bromfield next week.

Miss Blanche Daddum and Miss Carrie Rhonstock, of Somerville, spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. George Maynard. Miss Eva Sammorlan entertained the Mac Camp-fire Girls with the ladies at her home on Oak Hill on Friday afternoon of last week. At their Cambridge home, to Mr. and Mrs. Horace Hildreth, a son was born on January 1.

The next lecture of the Warner course will be given on Friday evening, January 12, by Morris Gershon, Hindu. Mr. Hindu is a native of Russia and knows the joys and sorrows of peasant life in that country and the tyrannies of church and state as felt by a native. He has been several years in America and is a graduate of Colgate university. At the moving picture show at the town hall on Saturday evening the following is the program: The five minutes, "Lying Lips," featuring Winnifred Greenwood and Franklin Ritchie, a heart interest drama, written by Julian Lamotte; Our Weekly; a comedy, "Dad's darling daughter," by Theatricals and Arthur D. Person. Death.

The funeral services of the late William H. Savage, whose death occurred on December 25, were held at the Congregational church on Saturday, December 30, at 1.30 p. m. Rev. H. B. Mason preaching the funeral service. Miss Viola Parker, Mrs. Madeline Sturges and Arthur T. Sturges sang "Nearer my God to thee" and "Face to face." Members of Gen. S. Bourwell post, G. A. R., of Ayer officiated. Mr. Savage was a member of the last post. Burial was at the Center cemetery.

Mr. Savage was one of Harvard's most respected citizens and a man of high character, honesty and integrity. He was born in Westport on November 22, 1831. The first few years of his life were spent in Roxbury and Salem. When he was some five years old, his father, Charles H. Savage, was in the employ of Charles Dabney, consul for the United States at Fayal, one of the Azor Islands, so the captain moved the family there, where they resided for a few years. When about twenty years old he went with several others to Melbourne, Australia, to work in the newly discovered gold mines. On returning to Boston he was sent for the old-fashioned hand sewing machine.

On September 25, 1856, he married Annie Wentworth Thayer, daughter of Henry S. Thayer, a former bank cashier of Salem. A Northfield when the war of the rebellion broke out in 1861, and President Lincoln called for volunteers, he was one of the first to go to the front. He was in the war until he finished, then he enlisted in the regular army and served for two years as recruiting officer. His office being in Philadelphia, Pa., some of the notable battles he fought were: Fredericksburg, Antietam, South Mountain and was wounded at Bloody Angle, in the battle of Gettysburg. After serving two years as recruiting officer he came to Harvard and for some two years he worked for Fletcher Bros. at their sawmill. He then located the farm now owned by Mr. Wilbur Sawyer, where he lived for eight years. For several years he was engaged at the old leatherboard mill. The latter part of his life he was janitor of the Congregational church in town hall and also at the town hall for some eighteen years. He was also town clerk for several years. When he was sixty-six years old he went on his bicycle to the town of Harvard to Gettysburg, Pa., to see the place where he was wounded. The next year he rode his wheel all the way from Harvard to Montreal and a seventy-five he would take a ride to Boston quite easily. Mr. Savage was the father of ten children, six of whom are living—Frederick, Elizabeth, Charles, Joseph, Lester and Helen, also thirteen grandchildren and three great grandchildren. He spent the last few years of his life with his youngest son Joseph with whom he passed away on December 25 at Randolph, Vt.

were eager for what was to follow and soon were absorbed in the contents from cover to cover; there was no skipping or idle turning of leaves. As the two pages "opened" or drew aside the curtains, the cover designed by Miss Vera P. Willard, was revealed, a typical American girl standing between the two words of the title. Close to her, arranged vertically in green letters on a white background, a combination of the club emblem and the club colors. The table of contents is as follows:

Greeting—Verse Emily E. Hildreth (Lower Leaves, Editorial Leaves) Alma T. Royal The Little New Year—Tableau and song Aiden Leavess A Recent Trip to Bermuda. (With many illustrations) Gertrude H. Cobb Cynthia's Preparation—Campaign—Story, Illustrations, Frances O'Brien Mule's Christmas—Poem. Looking Backward—Tableau—Illustration Katherine L. Lawrence Local History of the Past Year—Group of Ilmericks. Eight Illustrations Cordella H. Putnam New Year's in Germany Mary P. Abbott Illustrated Jokes Letters to the Editor: What I Don't Want in your Magazine Josephine E. Haynes How Shall We Keep Young?—Verse Louise H. Putnam The Advantages of Olden Row Louise F. Turner What Might Have Been—A story of the Alcott children at the Newlands with Illustrations Elsie M. Hubachek Answers to correspondents—Allying the anxieties of the Inquiries on various matters from current fashions to the income tax Alma T. Royal Advertisements—Harvard's Woman's Club Cook Book The Famous Exchange Bread "A Rose of Plymouth Town," the last drama to be presented by members of the club on January 24.

All in all it was one of the brightest and most interesting programs the club has ever had. BROOKLINE, N. H.

News Items. Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Russell drove to Whiton last Sunday and spent the day at the home of his sister, Mrs. Anton, of Whiton. James Gilson spent the last week-end with friends in Nashua. Miss Mary Regan spent the last week-end and New Year's at the home of Miss Mary Richards of Pepperell. Some of the Christmas visitors whose names we did not mention in time for last week's edition were Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hall and son of Fitchburg and Clarence Stickey of Boston at Mrs. Della Whitcomb's; Herbert Hall and two sons of Ayer at the home of Mrs. William Hall and Willis Burns and family of Milford at Stas Wheeler's.

H. E. Woods of Ayer, who gave weekly picture shows here for almost a year until about two months ago, will give an applied show at the town hall December 26. Mrs. Clara Russell and Mrs. Edna Hall attended a meeting of masters and lecturers-elect of the Hillsborough County Pomona and subordinate societies of the State at Milford last week Friday. Miss Alice Whitcomb spent the last week at the home of her sister, Mrs. Harry Hall of Fitchburg. Mrs. John Whitcomb was called to Gardner, Mass., last week Thursday on account of the serious illness of her father, David Person. Mrs. William Shattuck has returned home and is recuperating from a recent operation she underwent at St. Joseph's hospital in Nashua about three weeks ago.

Andrew Marshall has been engaged to install electric lights in Fitchburg hall, otherwise known as the Grange hall. The work will be paid for by the Grange, funds being raised by some of the younger members, who conducted a series of what-ifs and entertainments for that purpose. Little Leon Greedy met with a painful accident last week when in stepping backwards he accidentally sat down in a ball of hot water which had been set down for just an instant. But for the quick action of his mother in removing his clothes and applying lotions the little fellow would have been badly scalded. As it is he has suffered quite badly from the burns he received.

Frank Eueyler went to Fitchburg on Monday to spend new year's with his brother, Alexander Eueyler, and other relatives. Frank Hammond left for Amherst last Monday where he is to study in the Agricultural college there. Mr. and Mrs. Patrick O'Connell and daughter Mary went to Cambridge on last Saturday to spend the week-end and new year's with friends and relatives. Mrs. Maria Wheeler and children spent last week Thursday in Milford, visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Willis Purcell.

The Grange held a social and social meeting on last week Wednesday evening which was attended by quite a number. A program was given which consisted of piano solos by Miss Wheeler, Miss Mabel Porter, readings, Mrs. Hattie Brown and Mrs. George Cook's recitation, Good Standby, essay, Mrs. Clara Russell's poem, Solos, Harland Whitcomb, after which there was an exchange of Christmas gifts. The regular meeting of the Grange for the present year will take place on January 14 and is to be held at the public. The meeting which will be held at the Grange, assisted by Miss Blanche Hall, Mrs. H. Hall and Mrs. Elsie Rockwood. The different parts of the work will be accompanied by tableaux and the evening will close with a song and a program. Everyone is invited to be present.

Mrs. Lizzie Hovey, of Milford, let grand old last week Grand Old Days of Somerville, Mass. Mrs. Nancy Dyer was obliged to call in a doctor last week to treat a sore foot which has been bothering her for some time. Mrs. Walter Corey entertained her brother, James Corey, over the last week-end. A French company has obtained possession of an island in the South Pacific that is believed to contain 10,000,000 tons of high-grade phosphate and many more million tons of inferior quality. SLOAN'S LINIMENT FOR STIFF JOINTS. Rheumatic pains and aches get into the joints and muscles, making every movement torturous. Relieve your suffering with Sloan's Liniment. It quickly penetrates without rubbing, and soothes and warms your stiff muscles. The effect of blood is stimulated to action, a single application will drive out the pain. Sloan's Liniment is clean, convenient, and quickly effective. It does not stain the skin or clog the pores. Get a bottle today at your Druggist.



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