

## Everything Electrical

### Mazda Lamps



FOR  
Household  
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Flashlights

Electrical Wiring for Light, Heat and Power

## Robert Murphy's Sons Co.

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS

SALESROOM Telephone 86-4  
BANK STREET AYER, MASS.

MAKE UP YOUR MIND TO SAVE NOW WHILE  
THE SAVING IS GOOD

It will probably never be better, perhaps never as good  
again. Sufficient a word to the wise is

FITCHBURG CO-OPERATIVE BANK

J. J. BARRY & Co. Main Street, Ayer

FEBRUARY 16-5 to 8 o'clock

and Mr. Harry R. Draper, died last week Friday at St. Joseph's hospital, Nashua, following an operation for mastoid. Besides his parents he leaves three young sisters, Betty, Jane and Rachel Draper. The funeral occurred on Monday afternoon with services at the house, conducted by Rev. Frank B. Crandall. The remains were placed in the receiving tomb at Woodlawn cemetery.

The following rhetorical were given at the high school this week Friday: "His systematic way," Catherine Devaney; "Look out for your thumb," Dudley Whitney; piano solo, Mildred McGuane; "Be true," Annie MacDonald; "In the catacombs," Allan MacDonnell; "The true story of a kicker," Clarence Beard; selections from "Rebecca of Sunny Brook farm," the Journey, Hilda Osgood, Marion Webb, Cora Curtis, Rebecca's relations, Dorothy Romick; piano solo, Ruth Griffin; "The faith that moves mountains," Cecelia Maynard; "The belle of Atrie," Roger Johnson; "Bobby Unwelcome," Ruth Zoller; piano duet, Irene and Deulah Hassan; "A tale of long ago," Fred McGuane; "Selecting a piece," Robert Tibbets; "Onsartin and On-reliable," Lucy Smith.

Miss Alice Sanderson was taken ill on Sunday with diphtheria and is under the care of her sister Evelyn. The house is quarantined and every precaution has been taken to stop the spread of the disease.

#### New Signal Tower

The new signal tower at the railroad station will be installed Sunday, according to present calculations. The work has been started and for the past few days men in the employ of the New England Structural Company, which has the contract, have been putting the different sections together. The foundations of cement, which were put in last summer, had to be changed, as they were a few inches out of the proper position.

The structure will be made of steel and will span both Fitchburg division and the Greenville branch tracks, resting on solid cement foundations on either side. There will be three signal men working eight hours each, whose position will be at the top of the structure to operate switches and signals. All the power used in this work is furnished by electricity.

After the installation of the tower the old ball target, which has been used as a signal for many years, will be discontinued. The large number of telegraph employees have been at work for the past few days moving the large pole and hundreds of wires to make room for the new structure.

The new method of signals has been talked about for years, but not until a year ago had anything definite been done.

#### Deaths

Mrs. Elizabeth (Ewing) Saunders, widow of the late Edwin Saunders, died at her home on Central avenue, Monday morning. Had she lived till the 28th of the present month she would have been seventy-seven years

## "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, MUFFLERS, SWEATERS, OVERSHOES? We are headquarters for all kinds of Winter Wear for the Men and Boys. Satisfaction guaranteed or your money back.

## Fletcher Bros.

Opposite Depot  
AYER - MASS.

Store Open Monday, Friday and Saturday Evenings

of age. Mrs. Saunders had been a resident of Ayer for more than fifty years. She was born in Andover, Me., February 23, 1840, and spent her early life in that place, later coming here to live.

Mrs. Saunders was a charter member of the Methodist church and a member of the W. O. B. for many years. She leaves one sister, Mrs. Fannie Rokes of Lawrence; five children, Mrs. Oren N. Kidder and Robert T. Saunders of Ayer; J. Bradford Saunders of Fitchburg; Charles E. Saunders of Bradford and Mrs. Fannie M. Holmes of Belmont. She also leaves thirteen grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

The funeral took place Wednesday afternoon from the home of her daughter, Mrs. Oren N. Kidder at two o'clock. Rev. Arthur D. Stroud of Hudson, a former pastor of the Ayer Methodist church, officiated at the service. He was assisted by Rev. J. V. Thomas of the Baptist church, Mrs. Carrie Lowell and Mrs. Alta H. Hollis rendered the beautiful selections, "Sometimes we'll understand" and "He leadeth me." The bearers were Oren N. Kidder and Frank Reed of Ayer; J. T. Eaton, Samuel J. Fitchburg and Ebbie A. Dustin of Townsend. The remains were placed in the receiving tomb in Woodlawn cemetery. The abundance of beautiful flowers and the sympathy and kind words of neighbors and friends showed the high respect in which the deceased was held by the people among whom she had lived so long.

#### To the Editor:

Now that town meeting is over and the town officers have been elected for the ensuing year, appropriations voted, and other business of the town favorably transacted, it seems that any statement or suggestion made so long as it does not appear dictatorial, is signed by the author of the same and does not criticize any single individual in particular will be accepted by the reader thereof for its face value and the spirit in which it is written.

Every year at our elections and at our town election in particular, we find on the ballot several offices to fill for which none has filed papers and for which ostensibly there are no candidates. But, when the ballots are removed from the ballot box for counting, it is found that in some instances for an office which no one seeks, forty or fifty voters have inserted the names of a corresponding number of different men, whom they are apparently desirous of seeing elected, and we have no reason to suppose that anyone has voted for himself for any of these offices. For if he felt that he wanted the office, he would have filed nominating papers and informed his friends of his candidacy.

A humorous side is presented sometimes when we find that one of our friends has been duly elected a town officer, and his name is read out and he is declared elected by reason of having received two votes. We loudly applaud his election, and in almost every instance two votes is sufficient to elect.

The humor of the thing is lost for the very great number of voters who have inserted names, however for the name of the person they have voted for, has received but the one vote, namely that one in which they placed the name on the ballot, and such names are not read out by the town clerk nor printed in the town report except under the word "scattering."

The practical and material result of this "scattering" is found in the counting of the votes when by reason of such a variety of names of voters inserted it takes about twice as long to count the votes and for the clerk to make up his tally sheet.

The personal view of the writer is that if any voter desires to see a fellow townsman elected to a certain office, let such voter do a little electioneering and induce other voters to cast their ballot for that particular person. It can be done and on a large scale as has been demonstrated the last couple of years when certain men have received big votes for offices unsought by them, and without so much as a "kicker" candidacy.

Therefore it would seem that a little less random voting would be a good

#### New Advertisements.

HAVE YOUR

### Chimneys Cleaned

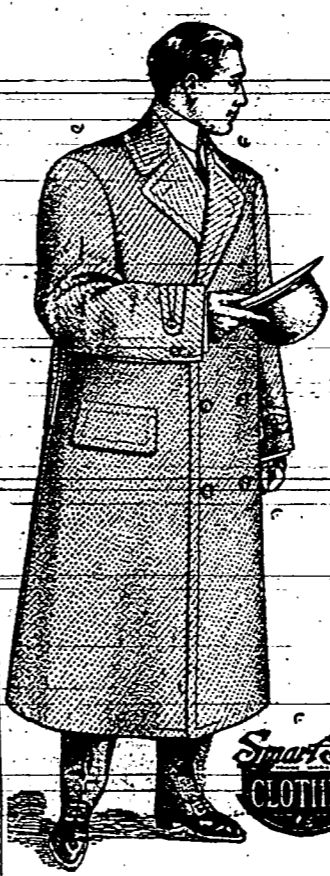
NOW IS THE TIME to have your Chimneys Cleaned Out before they cause you trouble by burning out.

Including Ayer, Harvard, Shirley and Littleton \$1 each

### Harvey W. Winslow

MASON CONTRACTOR

Tel. Con. Ayer, Mass.



Geo. H. Brown  
RELIABLE CLOTHING AYER MASS.

SOME FACTS ABOUT

## SUITS and OVERCOATS

In view of present conditions at home and in Europe it is certain there will be a big advance in prices of good clothing of all kinds. It is even now impossible to duplicate clothing of any kind for anything like the prices we are now selling it for.

The scarcity of wool and the attendant high prices have brought large quantities of inferior fabrics into the market. So if you are looking for really good Suits or Overcoats you had better come straight to this store where you will find a large stock and all at old prices—no advance while present stock holds out. It's safe to say that the values we are now offering will not be duplicated again in a long time, if ever.

Far-sighted and well informed men are supplying their future as well as their present needs. A word to the wise is sufficient.

- |                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 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 \$25.00                   |
| Boys' Fancy Mixture Overcoats | \$7.47, \$8.47, \$10.00 and \$12.00            |
| Men's Fancy Mixture Suits     | \$10.00, \$15.00, \$18.00 \$20.00 and \$22.00  |

### 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 Galoway Calf, made with heavy quilted linings and with large storm collars.

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

### Underwear

Every kind of Warm Underwear in abundance. Still selling many kinds at old prices—no advance while present stock holds out.

- |                                 |                  |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| Derby Ribbed Shirts and Drawers | 50c              |
| Fleece lined Shirts and Drawers | 50c              |
| Heavy Wool                      | \$1.00 to \$1.75 |
| Union Suits                     | \$1.00 to \$3.00 |
| Boys' Fleece lined              | 29c              |

### Hosiery

Big stock of Hosiery in both Cotton and Woolen. Our Cotton Hosiery is still the same old fast color—no cheap colors here.

- |                       |                  |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Men's Cotton Hose     | 10c, 15c and 25c |
| Men's Wool Hose       | 15c to 75c       |
| Children's Fast Black | 15c to 35c       |

Store Open on Monday, Friday and Saturday Evenings

### 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.

## Geo. H. Brown

think, and we can do it without curtailing our right to vote and think independently, or without any infringement upon our franchise to vote, it being solely a matter of judgment on our part as to whether we want to get our election returns early, or whether we would rather sit down and wait from the time the polls close at four o'clock until the returns are given out at seven or eight o'clock, or as was the case at our last primary election at 1.30 in the morning, the delay being attributable to the counting of the number of persons voted for. Perhaps it would not be out of order to present another side of the matter.

The town clerk is at the town hall shortly after five o'clock in the morning, and while we won't censure him at this time for working more than eight hours per day, the fact is that he gets there bright and early and remains at the polls all day, not even leaving for his meals, and is ever ready to render his assistance, if needed. He does all the work of getting out the final tally and it would seem that his courage and patience must compare favorably with that of the biblical Job, to hustle to get the returns out when with a ballot containing approximately twenty-five printed names he finds that between one hundred and two hundred persons have been voted for, and he must check up all the names and see that every vote is accounted for.

In closing the writer wishes to thank the town clerk and the election officers for their attention to their duties at town meeting, and the assistance they rendered him and to compliment the voters of the town in the orderly and business-like manner in which they transacted the town business on that day and extends to the selectmen and the other town officials his best wishes for a successful year.

George L. Wilson,  
Moderator town meeting, 1917.

## A. G. Pollard Co.

THE STORE FOR THRIFTY PEOPLE

LOWELL, MASS.

## Splendid Shirts

at 69c.

## Our Annual February Selling

Offers a better value, today prices considered, than ever before. Made from fast color percales, in handsome patterns, medium and light, with soft double cuffs or the laundered ones; split neck band, pearl buttons, etc. All the good things about a good shirt that make it fit and wear well.

These 250 dozen were ordered eight months ago and are better than the average dollar shirt of today.

ONLY **69** c. Each 3 for \$2

See Window Display

Left Aisle

East Section



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

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

Saturday, February 10, 1917.
WESTFORD

Center.
At the recent meeting of the Westford Water Company, held at the home of George T. Day, the following directors were elected: George T. Day, John C. Abbot, Charles O. Prescott, Alan A. Cameron and Sherman H. Fletcher. At the same meeting the following officers were elected: George T. Day, pres.; Charles O. Prescott, sec. and treas.; Sherman H. Fletcher, mgr.; Alonzo H. Sutherland, supt.; Charles F. Kellogg, aud. The meeting of the last year has been the installing of the big new pump, a Rumsey triplex pump, 10x14 feet. This means added safety to property within the water district and a reserve power in case of accident or breakdown to the original pump.

The monthly meeting of the Edward M. Company in the old academy building Tuesday evening. An excellent supper in charge of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Knight was served. There were twelve members present.
The meeting of the community sing took place at the Westford Congregational church on Tuesday evening under the direction of Mrs. W. R. Taylor. There were over twenty in attendance and much interest and enthusiasm was manifested in the singing of old and new musical favorites.

The plan for the program for next Tuesday afternoon at the Tadnuck club has been changed owing to the illness of the one in charge. The resourceful program committee have secured for the afternoon Hugh F. Molloy of Lowell, who will give a lecture on "Marie Antoinette." Mr. Molloy's connection with the Lowell Normal school and his present work as superintendent of schools in Lowell make him well known to many. He is a thoughtful and able speaker and has given before larger clubs, especially the Middlesex Woman's club of Lowell, has been most favorably received. The Tadnuck club is to be congratulated upon securing this speaker, and attendance at the members is hoped for.

The Boy Scouts are to be present in a body at the Congregational church Sunday morning, in charge of William C. Roudenbush, scoutmaster. Mr. Lincoln's sermon will be appropriate to the occasion and the attendance of this preacher will be an interesting feature of the day's service.
The Ladies' Aid society of the Congregational church held an all-day meeting Thursday at the vestry with a luncheon at noon. A good portion of the work was completed and a special good time was enjoyed as the result of the gathering.

Mrs. Harry B. Prescott, who underwent a serious operation at the Homeopathic hospital in Boston earlier in the week, is reported resting as comfortably as can be expected.
The heaviest snowstorm of the season came on Monday, making traveling hard and affecting the school sessions, etc. The branch line electric had their full quota of trouble with the bulk of snow all along the line and heavy drifts in exposed places. In spite of much work by the crew, the town trains and others, it was impossible to get back to regular schedule before Wednesday afternoon.

Mrs. O. V. Wells entertained the Christmas club Wednesday afternoon very pleasantly with an attendance of nine members.
A sad coincidence coming with the death of Mrs. Caroline M. Whitney was the death of her eldest daughter, Mrs. S. B. Edwards, widow of Dr. N. B. Edwards, of North Chelmsford, the deaths coming but a few hours apart. Mrs. Whitney died at her home in this village at her last illness on February 8. Mrs. Whitney's last illness was of brief duration, having been stricken with paralysis Friday at noon and never having regained consciousness. She had not enjoyed the best of health for a number of years, but by using good and good sense had been able to live her school days and care for her home in which flowers, plants, and fruiting baskets and baskets of flowers were her life. Also, she had been a member of the community for many years, and she was a very kind and generous friend. One last week Mrs. Whitney was present at the annual meeting of the Tadnuck club and enjoyed its hospitality.

Mrs. Whitney united with the Congregational church on March 3, 1899, and during the period of nearly thirty years had been loyal to its best interests and had never removed her membership elsewhere. She was a member of Ida McKinley chapter, O. E. S., of Lowell, and attended its meetings when ever health and circumstances permitted. She was also a member of the W. C. T. U. of Westford, and a firm adherent to the principals it represented for a number of years. Mrs. Whitney had been a member of the Tadnuck club and of the Ladies' Aid society of her church.

Mrs. Whitney is survived by her husband, Emory J. Whitney, and the sympathy of the community goes out to him in his bereavement.
The funeral service took place on Tuesday afternoon at the Congregational church at two o'clock in the presence of a large gathering of relatives, friends and neighbors. Rev. Lincoln presided, and the service was held in the presence of the officiating clergyman and brought a sincere message of sympathy, comfort and help. Mrs. Charles H. Wright and Mrs. Charles D. Colburn sang two selections, "O, Jesus Christ, and I shall see thee whether at the river?" with Miss Edith A. Wright at the organ. The bearers were Harwood L. Wright, Charles H. Wright, Arthur E. Day and Leonard W. Wheeler. Interment was in the Westford cemetery.

Relative to the present from Lunenburg, Lowell, Concord Junction and Boylston.
The floral offerings were very beautiful from the husband a large pillow with the word "Wife" and a group of neighbors sent a large wreath of red leaves, roses and violets. Mrs. W. R. Carver, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Colburn, Mrs. Phoebe Isles, Mr. and Mrs. H. V. Hildreth, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Pickett, Mr. and Mrs. George A. Walker, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Stiles, and Mrs. Freda Stiles, Mrs. Joseph Moran, Mr. and Mrs. Perley E. Wright; spray of white calla lilies, Union Congregational church; sprays of roses, Mr. and Mrs. Victor Edwards; sprays of pink, Mrs. H. E. Edwards; Mrs. A. H. Perry; Mrs. Perry VanHorn; Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Jamison; Mr. and Mrs. George H. Jamison; basket, Mr. and Mrs. Leon P. Alford; spray of carnations, Mrs. E. J. Fletcher; Mrs. J. L. Kimball, Mrs. John Wright; Mrs. Fred Myers, Mrs. Arthur E. Day, Mrs. Emma Day, Mrs. Labouteley, Mrs. Pitkin and Mrs. F. E. Miller.

About Town.
The underground water system at the Prairie farm, with Amos Polley as the contractor, is being installed during the below zero snap, but thawed out during the recent Boston-thunder shower snap.
There will be a meeting of the directors of Middlesex County Farm Bureau at the town hall, Littleton, next Tuesday evening at 7.45.

Westford Grange will observe Valentine day next Thursday evening, in charge of the Misses Grant and Osborne.
Mr. and Mrs. Frank W. Hanister and eldest daughter, Frances, observed their birthday last Saturday. It is so unusual for three in one family to have a birthday on the same day that it was really worth the while for friends to specialize and individualize the event.

Foxes are seemingly abundant and certainly tame. Two were recently seen at Danvers' corner, close to the road. They appeared not to be afraid of shot or shot. Several had been seen on Francis hill, and close by one was recently shot by J. Herbert Fletcher. Better hold the annual fox hunt in Westford next year if the foxes are still there. It is the woodchuck which does more damage and is destructively abundant.
The lecture and lantern slides on "Practical poultry keeping," which was to have been given last Monday evening, was postponed on account of the storm until Monday evening, February 12, at the vestry of the Unitarian church. The lecturer, J. H. McKinlay, will operate the lantern and Harold Hildreth will act as end man interlocutor.

The first thunder shower of the summer passed over Boston and vicinity Monday morning, and the first big snowstorm passed over Brookside and larger territory and places the same morning.
Announcement is made of the organization of Mrs. Edith A. Wright, of Lowell, to Harriet Hill Fletcher, of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert E. Fletcher, of Westford.

The Lowell Fish and Game club were represented at an open meeting of Westford Grange last week Thursday evening. Among those who showed up were: J. H. McKinlay, who showed the club is organized; Mrs. S. B. Harris, president of the club; W. R. S. Hill, A. A. president and game warden; and Robert McArthur, treasurer. Down was told some of the club's work in the town and in which flowers, plants, and fruiting baskets and baskets of flowers were her life. Also, she had been a member of the community for many years, and she was a very kind and generous friend. One last week Mrs. Whitney was present at the annual meeting of the Tadnuck club and enjoyed its hospitality.

Warrant Posted.
Town meeting, the one of all others in the calendar, will be held on Monday at the town hall. There will be no contest for offices. The relocation and straightening of the road from the Center to Grantville ought to pass, but the aesthetic taste of those who curves can't be beat, for danger those curves can't be beat.

Article 35, the last one, calls for lighting Lowell road from Westford station to Brookside corner. The inhabitants on this road have to light their way on this road largely by the light of their own candles. This is good when it is all there, but when it is not all there, then as of old it must be said, "Give us of your oil for our lamps have gone out." The amenity of this article is all with the finance committee's report.

Article 21, to raise and appropriate \$200 for the George Washington Memorial building in Washington. Don't stand on ceremony in this matter, but good authority says Washington, D. C., is already covered over with memorials and monuments.
Article 26 calls for an appropriation of \$50 as salary for a game and fish warden. Yes, he will all the money for his attitude on whole question of protection to game. Joseph Wall, in his report says: "I would like to call your attention to the good work done by reading citizens of the town, the Lowell Fish and Game association, through their efforts we have received a larger lot of fish than any other town in the state. We are expecting a shipment of about 3,000 fish, which will be placed in Flushing pond, except for a few in the pond in Kroyer pond, 104,500 in Long-Sought pond, \$17,000 in Nabness pond and 92,200 brook trout, besides eight mallard ducks as a foundation were liberated in the pond south of Porterville. The fish warden has been a bountiful benefactor to the town in the above allotments.

Article 27, to see what action the town will take towards continuing the work of the Westford Water Company—continue.
Grantville.
The Ladies' Aid society of the M. E. church met with Mrs. Elsworth York on Tuesday afternoon, February 8, at three o'clock.
Many people from this village attended the joint installation of officers of Court Warrant and Court Westford of Grantville that was held in the town hall at North Chelmsford on last Sunday afternoon at three o'clock. The officers installed were: Justice Deputy Peter P. Welch of Boston, assisted by the young women's degree staff from Merrimack court of Haverhill, under the direction of Michael Roche, Daniel H. McGuire, high secretary, representing the high standing committee, was present.

The members of Cameron Circle, C. F. A., held a very successful dance in Forge Village on last week Friday evening that was largely attended.
Charles Wiley, father-in-law of Mrs. Mary McDermott Wiley, died at his home in Cuttingsville, Vt., on Saturday. The funeral was held on last Tuesday.
The worst snow storm of the season visited here on last Monday and during the day it reached the height of a regular blizzard.
The annual town meeting will be held in the town hall on next Monday.

GROTON
A Close Call.
H. O. Templeton, a Maine guide and trapper, is making his first visit to Boston telling the 4000 Boy Scouts of Greater Boston what to do in the woods Saturday several hundred of the scouts spent the day at Camp Fells, where under Mr. Templeton's direction they built shelters, cooked their food, built their fires and had a good time. Mr. Templeton from his birth has been a resident of the deep woods of Maine. He has had many adventures which makes good story telling around the campfire. His closest call was in the midst of a severe winter, the ice had melted over a spring on the shore of a lake, the snow had drifted and frozen, and he had come down on snowshoes stepped on the snow and found himself up to his waist in icy water, with a 20-pound pack on his back and slippery footing underneath. He slipped off his pack and got out of the hole and started for his tent and a half in the face of a piercing northwest wind for the nearest shelter, a small hunting cabin. Before he had gone ten steps his wet clothes were like ice and he was frozen to the bone. He had that day saved his life, but that there was a kindling and ready to set the match to. With much difficulty he finally accomplished this little feat with his own hands. The next day Mr. Templeton was able to warm his hands and feet and that he had escaped without serious frost bites, but doesn't deny in fact that it was a pretty close call.

PEPPERELL
List of New Library Books.
The following works of fiction have recently been added to the list at the Lawrence library:
"Adam's Bed," by H. The unspeakable.
"Black and White," by H. The unspeakable.
"Black and White," by H. The unspeakable.
"Black and White," by H. The unspeakable.

Committee was chosen to make arrangements for the celebration of the centennial of the birth of George Washington, Feb. 22, 1732. The committee was composed of Mr. F. M. Blood, C. H. Shattuck, T. E. Dunahue, Charles Raddin and James Bywater. This dance was duly held on Wednesday evening, January 3, 1906, the ideal orchestra of Fitchburg furnishing the music.
The bandstand was repaired and painted during the year of 1905. We read from the band record book, under the date of Saturday, February 23, "Band met for rehearsal and business. Voted to give the Village Improvement society permission to paint, repair and remove the bandstand, subject to the approval of the band," and under the date of Saturday evening, March 11, "Band met for rehearsal and business. Voted the following committee to look after the repairs of bandstand: Henry Adams, James Bywater, Charles Buidy.

Gleason, Arthur. Young Hilda at the war.
Grimshaw, Beatrice. My lady of the island.
Harris, Herbert. A lad of Kent.
Hopkins, William J. The meetings of Eve.
Thou, Gillespie.
Johnston, Mary. The fortunes of Garin.
King, Basil. The side of the angels.
King, Grace. The pleasant ways of St. Monday.
Lincoln, Joseph C. Mary-Gusta.
Mable, Louise K. The lights are bright.
MacLaurin, William. The blind man's path.
Maher, Richard. The shepherd of the north.
Nicholson, Meredith. The proof of the pudding.
Norris, Kathleen. The heart of Rachel.
Olinstead, Florence. Father Bernard's parish.
Paterson, Isabel. The shadow riders.
Phillips, Eden. The beacon.
Old, Deanna.
Porter, Eleanor H. Just David.
Richmond, Grace S. Under the country sky.
Sholl, Anna M. This way out.
Smith, John C. The sailor.
Spearman, Frank H. Nan of Music Mountain.
Tarkington, Booth. Seventeen.
Turnbull, Margaret. Handle with care.
Walpole, Hugh. The dark forest.
Webster, Henry G. The real adventure.
Wells, Herbert G. Mr. Britling sees it through.
Wright, Harold B. When a man's a man.

The library hours, which may not be remembered by all newcomers to town, are on Mondays and Thursdays from nine to twelve a. m., and from two to five p. m. On Wednesdays and Saturdays from nine to twelve a. m., and from two to five and from 6.30 to nine p. m.

LINGERING COUGHS ARE DANGEROUS
Get rid of that tickling cough that keeps you awake at night and drains your vitality and energy. Dr. King's New Discovery is a pleasant balsam remedy, antiseptic, laxative and promptly effective in soothing the irritated membrane and kills the cold germs. Your cough is soon relieved. Delay is dangerous—get Dr. King's New Discovery now—before it becomes a chronic cough, croup, coughs and colds. Get a bottle today at your druggist, etc.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS
CARD OF THANKS
I wish to sincerely thank all who sent the beautiful floral offerings at the time of the death and funeral of my beloved wife, Caroline M. Whitney; also, for the many acts of kindness and sympathy from friends and neighbors, all of which will be held in grateful remembrance.
EMORY J. WHITNEY,
Westford, Mass., February 7, 1917.

BIG CROPS NOT ACCIDENTAL
Of all the different things necessary to grow big crops there is none so important as good seeds.
No really big crop can come from any but superior quality—grade "A" seeds. WHITE MOUNTAIN SEEDS are grade "A" seeds, first, last and always. They are never anything else. Of course, the first cost of all superior seeds is more—but from only one viewpoint. There are other ways of looking at the subject. Many practical farmers go so far as to state that when seeding cost per acre is accurately figured WHITE MOUNTAIN SEEDS are the least expensive. Why not order now for Spring delivery?

THE HOLBROOK-MARSHALL CO.
Wholesale Distributors
Nashua, N. H.
VALENTINES
Hearts and Panels
Cut Out Mounts
Cut Out Figures
LETTERS, LACE, NOVELTIES
Leaflets
Pulling Cards
Folders
SHAPED MECHANICAL NOVELTIES
Double Comic Figures
Baseball Hearts
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Designs a Specialty
AYER, MASS.
SHRUBS

B. F. Keith's Theatre
LOWELL, MASS.
WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12
"The Miracle"
A Modern Svengali. The Master Mind of Mystery
Assisted by His Trilby, the Song Dreamer
In a Remarkable Demonstration of Thought Transference

Winifred Gilrairie & Co.
IN MODERN AND SOCIETY DANCES
Featuring Her Own Original "BACK TO NATURE DANCES"
6—Beautiful Girls—6 Special Scenery and Effects
CLIFF DEAN and PLAYERS
In "Done in Oil"
THORNTON & THORNTON
Up-to-Date Entertainers
VAN DEU MEER
The Act Different
TWICE DAILY—Matinee at 2:15; Evening at 8:15
Prices—Matinee, 10-15-25c. Evening, 10-15-25-50c. Everything Reserved.
TELEPHONE, LOWELL 28. CARS FOR ALL POINTS AFTER THE SHOW

Ralph H. Wylie
DENTIST
Successor to Charles F. Flagg
Barry Bldg. AYER MASS.
Telephone Connection 3m46
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex, ss. Probate Court.
To the heirs-at-law, next of kin, creditors, and all other persons interested in the estate of ALICE M. WRIGHT, late of Littleton, in said County, deceased, in estate.

The Shaker Weave Shop
are taking orders now for spring delivery on my regular line of Rugs, Portieres, Pillow and Couch Covers in fancy and plain weaves; also, Superior Hammocks and Lap Robes. See me for work which you wish to express your own individuality. I furnish patterns which will not be called for anyone else.
Call or address MRS. IDA SMITH DREYER, Shaker, Village, Ayer, Mass. 3m11
WANTED—A girl for general housework in a family of two adults. Public Spirit Office, Ayer, Mass.
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
In Board of Gas and Electric Light Commissioners
Boston, January 31, 1917.
On the petition of the Shirley Electric Company for approval of an issue of additional capital stock of the par value of twenty-seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$27,500) to pay outstanding indebtedness of the company, the Board will give a hearing to the parties interested at its office, 603 Ford Building at 15 Ashburton Place, Boston, on Thursday, the fifteenth day of February next, at two o'clock in the afternoon.

By order of the Board,
R. G. TOBEY, Clerk.
A true copy. Attest:
2w22 R. G. TOBEY, Clerk.
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Worcester, ss. Probate Court.
To the heirs at law and all other persons interested in the estate of NELS G. WOODMAN, late of Harvard in said County, deceased.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex, ss. Probate Court.
To the heirs-at-law, next of kin, creditors, and all other persons interested in the estate of said deceased, in estate of THOMAS L. HAZEN, late of Townsend in said County, deceased.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex, ss. Probate Court.
To the heirs-at-law, next of kin, creditors, and all other persons interested in the estate of said deceased, in estate of CHARLES J. MCINTIRE, late of Townsend in said County, deceased.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex, ss. Probate Court.
To all persons who are or may be interested in the estate hereinafter mentioned, held in trust under the will of JONAS H. DENNIS, late of Townsend in the County of Middlesex, and to all persons whose issue not now being made so interested.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex, ss. Probate Court.
To the heirs-at-law, next of kin, creditors, and all other persons interested in the estate of MARGARET BENEDECT late of Groton in said County, deceased, intestate.



Why Elephants Fear Mice.

It seems almost incredible that so small and harmless an animal as a mouse is able to frighten an elephant almost out of his senses...

More Labor Than You Thought.

To write a single letter of the alphabet, it is roughly estimated, requires from 200,000 to 300,000 distinct processes, all of which are controlled and directed by the mind.

Discovering a Star.

Long had he worshipped her at a distance, but his shyness prevented him from proposing.

The King's Way.

It was characteristic of the late King Edward VII. that he never showed too much or too little courtesy...

Family Harmony.

"I am very easy on my shoes," said the stout lady complacently. "Look at this pair. I've worn them three years, and they're still as good as new."

That Settled It.

She—You remind me so much of my brother. He—Indeed! In what way? She—Well, Harry seems awfully fond of me, yet he never offers to kiss me.

Early Astronomy.

Anaxagoras, a distinguished Athenian, in 525 B. C. taught that the sun was not a deity, but an inanimate fiery mass.

Masked Balls.

Henry VIII. introduced the bal masque into England. As this form of amusement gradually spread the people began to hire halls and charge admission fees...

Postal Savings Banks.

All the money the postal savings banks receive they immediately re-deposit in national reserve banks and so keep it in circulation instead of allowing it to remain hoarded and hidden.

Of all our infirmities, vanity is the dearest to us.

A man will starve his other vices to keep that alive.—Franklin.

HARVARD

The semi-annual meeting of the Harvard club will be held in the Harvard Memorial on Wednesday afternoon, February 14, at 2.30 o'clock.

Annual Town Meeting.

Article 1. Voted to accept annual reports of selectmen, overseers of the poor, school committee, treasurer, and other town officers.

Article 2. Voted to authorize the town treasurer, with the approval of the selectmen, to borrow during the municipal year such sums of money as may be necessary for the current expenses of the town...

Article 3. Voted to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the celebration of the Fourth of July.

Article 4. Voted to raise and appropriate \$75 for the George Washington Memorial building, Washington, D. C.

Article 5. Voted to raise and appropriate \$350 to complete the circuit of electric street lights on the Harvard and Ayer roads, was laid on the table.

Article 6. Voted to see if the town will raise and appropriate a sum of money for the purpose of continuing the work of school gardening during the next season, was laid on the table.

Article 7. Voted to raise \$75 provided that the trustees of Bromfield school put in a like amount, to install an electric motor and pump at the grammar school.

Article 8. Voted to pay \$5 per day for work of a man and pair of horses engaged in highway work.

Article 9. Voted to raise and appropriate \$500 to be used to purchase a small auto truck for use in the moth department.

Article 10. Voted to accept and adopt the recommendations made by the cemetery commissioners on the acceptance under the wording of rule 19 of the rules and regulations for the government of the cemeteries for perpetual care of lots, \$100 from Harry P. Whitney for care of lot No. 6, section E, Bellevue cemetery; \$100 from Mrs. Mary E. Hardy of Bolton for the care of lot No. 14, section A, center cemetery; \$100 from George Wright for care of lot No. 156A, section B, center cemetery; \$150 from the First Congregational Church, Inc., for care of lot No. 131, section C, center cemetery; \$100 from Henry H. Gale and George T. Gale, jointly, for the care of lot No. 161, section C, center cemetery.

Article 11. Voted to be left with a committee of three and report later, to see if it is taken to reimburse the general of woodland on Littleton road damaged by a fire set May 16, 1916, by the town of Harvard's steam roller.

Article 12. It was voted not to raise and appropriate a sum of money to continue the electric light service on the corner of the Slough road to Mr. Cleaves' corner.

Article 13. To see if the town will raise and appropriate a sum of money to build a sidewalk from the house of John Noyland south to Still River village, in accordance with conditions offered in a petition received by the selectmen, signed by Hiram Drury and others, was laid on the table.

Article 14. Voted to pay each fireman an annual salary of \$110, and \$2 for each fire, aside from brush fires attended.

Article 15. Voted to raise and appropriate \$1,500 to be used to complete the Still River road layout of 1916.

The following town officers were elected for the coming year.

Moderator, 1 yr., Clifford L. Russell; selectmen, 3 yrs., Spurgeon M. Farnsworth, 2 yrs., Benjamin J. Priest, 3 yrs., Benjamin J. Priest, assessor, 3 yrs., Fred J. Wrayburn, school committee, 3 yrs., Harvey C. Merrill, collector of taxes, Isaac P. Baker, treasurer, Arthur H. Turner, constables, Rowell C. Davis, William Hanna, fire wardens, George W. Maynard, auditor, William C. Haswell, highway surveyor, Frank O. Ryan, cemetery commissioner, 3 yrs., Howard H. Stone, park commissioner, 3 yrs., Albert H. Buelow, board of health, 3 yrs., Spurgeon M. Farnsworth, trustee of Warner Free Lecture fund, 2 yrs., Lyman H. Morse, trustee of the library trustees, 3 yrs., Charles B. Bicklow, Emogene A. Gale, field drivers, Orlando C. Doe, Benjamin S. Kyles, Charles E. Sammaritano, fence viewers, Arthur W. Bryant, Herbert Cleaves, George E. Hardy, liquor license, No. 121, Yes 21.

The following is a list of the appropriations.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Schools, dog money, Conveying scholars, Highways, bridges and sidewalks, Oil for roads, Breaking roads, Town indebtedness, Fire department, Town officers, Repairs on public buildings, Soldiers' relief, Memorial day, Care of soldiers' graves, vet. war, Library, Street lighting, Town's liability for suppression of gypsy and brown-belt, Tree Warden, Suppression of elm-leaf beetle, Bonding town officers, Board of Health, Incidents at almshouse, including garden's salary, Interest on notes, Inspection of meat, Guide boards.

Inquest.

The following is a report of the inquest held in Clinton February 2 on the fatal automobile accident which occurred at Still River railroad crossing, January 21.

Edward Portley, crossing tender at Still River, the scene of the accident of Sunday, January 21, when Dr. James P. Ferry, his daughters, Ethel and Esther, and brother Richard, all of Cambridge, and George Howard of Harvard, were killed, when the Ferry automobile was struck by a freight train on the Boston and Maine railroad, last week Friday morning at the inquest into the cause of the accident.

Witness said he heard the warning whistle given by the engine. As to the duties of the crossing tender he said he was supposed to look out for extra trains as well as regulars. Mr. Portley then read rule number 922, which has to do with this duty and witness said he was familiar with it. He said he saw the crossing tender in the depot after he had telephoned for a doctor.

Harry C. Clark, fireman of the locomotive in question, was able to give very much information concerning train orders, speeds, distances, etc., because he said he has been in the service only a few days. He said he was sitting on the seat in the engine when the collision took place.

Witness says Portley had a key to the station and had permission to go there any time. When the first saw Portley after the accident he said, "Well this is rather bad business" and asked him where he was when the collision took place. Witness said Portley gave an "evasive answer."

Mr. Portley was in the station at 7.20 a. m. and quits at 8.41 a. m. with one hour from 12 to 1 o'clock at noon and from 6.30 to 7.15 p. m. off duty. Sundays, the flagman is on duty from 7.30 a. m. to 5.45 p. m. continuously, not being allowed any time off duty.

Witness said he is permitted to make thirty-five miles an hour on this trip when passing the Clinton depot. He slowed down to seven or eight miles an hour. When he approached the Still River station he was not running faster than twenty or twenty-five miles per hour.

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Save Money and Keep Warm. SOCONY KEROSENE. For heat—For cooking—For light—Say SOCONY to the Grocer's Boy. STANDARD OIL CO. of NEW YORK. Principal Offices: New York, Buffalo, Albany, Boston.

AYER

To the Editor: Permit me to say through your columns to an inquiry regarding the opportunity afforded in this section by a young man contemplating immigration as the way to better things.

Union Meeting.

The meeting of the union held last week was a very successful one. It was held in the hall of the union and was attended by a large number of members.

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Saturday, February 10, 1917.

GROTON

News Items. Charlie McKean went to Boston last week Friday, visiting friends in Boston and Watertown. Saturday morning he was present at the North station to witness the return of the soldiers of the first and second corps from the Texas border. They occupied four Pullman cars. They were very happy to get home. On the outside of the cars they had fastened these words: "We are glad to get back to Boston—and Boston baked beans."

Malcolm Woods is successor to Frank Harrington at the store of Harlow & Parsons, of Ayer. The alarm sounded for no school on Tuesday morning on account of the deep snow and unshoveled paths. Mr. and Mrs. George L. Boynton returned home last Saturday night from Groton. All milk producers in Groton are earnestly urged to attend a meeting to be held in the lower town hall on Friday afternoon, February 16, at two o'clock for the purpose of organizing a local branch of the New England Milk Producers' Association. Gen. and Mrs. William A. Bancroft of Cambridge, formerly residents of this town, are spending the winter months at Riverside, Cal. Other Groton matter on page 2.

Art. 5. Voted that all single poll taxes be collected before the first day of October, and all other poll taxes on or before October 15; that interest at the rate of six percent per annum be charged and collected on all unpaid bills after that date. Collector to receive one-half of one percent on all taxes collected. Art. 6. Voted same compensation as last year, viz: Chief engineer \$35, assistant engineers \$30 each, engineer \$25 each. Art. 7. Voted that the town treasurer, with the approval of the selectmen, be and hereby is authorized to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of the revenue of the financial year beginning January 1, and to issue a note or notes therefor payable in cash or in kind, and to pay the interest thereon under this vote to be paid from the revenue of said financial year. Art. 8. To raise and appropriate a sum of money to purchase a stone crusher was indefinitely postponed. Art. 9. To raise and appropriate \$1,000 to build a garage and storehouse in the rear of the electric light station, was indefinitely postponed. Art. 10. Voted to raise and appropriate \$1,000 to purchase an automobile, of a chemical fire automobile. Arts. 11, 12, 13, 14, to build a cement sidewalk on the right side of the Boston road, commencing at the corner of Park and Ayer road, to continue on the right side of the road to the gravel sidewalk along Farmers' row from where it now ends to the Groton School; to repair the present sidewalk on Farmers' row; to repair Farmers' row from William Hill to the Ayer line; all indefinitely postponed. Art. 15. Voted to raise and appropriate \$1,100 to purchase the parcel of land adjoining town hall lot on west side of Groton and also on Common street. He moved to Beverly about nine years ago, where he was employed as an engraver and jeweler. He was married in 1899 to Annie Leber. They had six children, one of whom, Henry, resides in Groton. Groton Military Training School. The standing of the squads in drill attendance is: Corp Sabine's squad 1,000, Corps Sabine's, Malley's and Robinson's squads 928, Corp. Smith's squad 813, Corp. Wharton's squad 750, Lance Corp. Denahy's squad 563. On Wednesday evening the first platoon drilled as a company under command of the sergeants, with corporals as guides and privates as corporals. This was followed by a drill in which the commands were given by bugle and whistle signals alone. Capt. Powers talked on the second stage of the attack. The second platoon took in the loadings and fringes, under instruction of Lieut. Branigan, who also gave a talk on the second stage of the attack. Groton Corner Band. On Tuesday evening, February 20, the band will show at the town hall a few movie reels of more than usual interest. The exact details will be announced next week. The next concert and dance is scheduled for April 9, Easter Monday. Mark the date. The management book for it is going to be something unusually good. New uniforms for the band men will cost \$16 each; \$19 for coat and \$6 for trousers. A resume of our accounts shows that at present we have only funds enough to allow for purchase of coats. It is hoped that enough additional can be realized from entertainments and a few more honorary members to enable the purchase of uniforms. The public is entitled to know how the money raised to date has been expended and it is to be expended, so here is a statement, or more properly a budget of expenses incurred out of the band's fund. Wages of teacher and director, 9 months, \$199, traveling expenses, \$25; cost of changing to low pitch, \$25; new music, \$18, total, \$248. As the total receipts to date have been \$250.50, it may be seen that to buy uniforms for eighteen men, costing \$288, it will be necessary for us to raise \$138 more. And we are sure of doing this because we feel that you all are interested to see this organization flourish and prosper. The committee is pleased to have accomplished so far and is confident that the boys themselves, thank you very much, will do the rest.

West Groton. The building on Main street long known as the "Baptist" store, which was formerly had living rooms above and a kitchen only, has been converted into a comfortable and much more commodious dwelling by its owner, Henry Adams, of Groton. The building forms a large living-room, while the back store makes a pleasant dining-room. It is occupied by Mr. Thomas and family, who have moved from one of the Adams houses on the opposite side of the street. Mr. Cordeau has lately moved from the pine cottage, so-called, to another part of Groton, some three miles away, but he retains his position in the leather-board mill here. Mrs. Cordeau reported that the upper apartment in the Hunkins house is now occupied. Mrs. Martha Tarbell is confined to the bed as the result of a severe attack of the grippe, which has left her in a weakened condition. Miss Kate Tarbell has suffered with a severe cold and had throat for several days. On Wednesday she was unable to attend to her duties as librarian. Her substitute, Mrs. Spaulding, was in charge. Mr. Buddy, employed by the Bixby-Webber Co., has been off duty several days this week, owing to the sickness. Mr. Cordeau has been in bed with the grippe, attended with ear trouble. On Sunday Mr. Byndy journeyed to Nashua to visit his youngest child, a little boy of eleven months, who has been in the hospital more than a month. Mrs. E. K. Harrington leaves this week for a visit with her son and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe Harrington, of Long Island. Frank Collier, of Cambridge, remembered here as a school boy, spent his vacation at the home of E. K. Harrington. The executive board of the Improvement society will meet with the president on Monday evening. The Ladies' Aid society will meet on Thursday afternoon with Mrs. John Llacon. This is anniversary week for the Boy Scouts of America, which were organized on February 8, 1910. The West Groton Scout troop organized the same year under Mr. Trowbridge. Following the program the scouts are to follow: February 8, visit the sick and take flowers; at 8:15, each scout will stand at attention, salute and repeat the Scout law, which ever he may be; on Friday each scout will do something good; on Saturday they will feed the birds; there will be scout meetings at Miss Hill's at ten in the morning and at two in the afternoon. A postponed hockey game with Lincoln, on Sunday they will attend church and read page three in "Scout-land," an address by Colin Livingstone, president of Boy Scouts of America. On Monday they will read the life of Lincoln, Boy Scout book, page 435. The log cabin just completed by the scouts was modeled from the log cabin in which Lincoln was born and with the exception of the roof has been built the same. Quotations from the report of the supervisor of school gardens for 1916 may be seen in the "Scout-land" competition with Lowell Normal school and home gardens, best looking garden judged on the grounds, Groton 1st, West Groton 2d; collection of vegetables at Lowell fair, 1st and 2d; flowers at Fitchburg fair, 1st; competition with Shirley Industrial school, Lunenburg, Leominster and Fitchburg school and home gardens, best collection of vegetables and flowers, school gardens of Groton and West Groton, 1st and 2d; 2d second and 10 1st prizes, Amherst gave 60 ribbons, 20 each of red, blue and white. A number of these were won by West Groton pupils. The school garden cup was won the second time by Bernard Brown. Guy Winton has been at the Groton hospital for an operation on the ear. It is understood that he returned on Thursday. The Messrs. Dorothy and Myra Thompson wish to extend their thanks to the Boy Scouts for their beautiful offering of contributions and gifts of clothing, hats, scarves, etc., which they are all so rapidly gaining. A supper and Valentine social, in the parlors of the L. A. society will be held on Tuesday evening. Chairman, supper committee, Mrs. E. B. Bixby, in charge of social, Mrs. Elizabeth Brown. A musical show under the auspices of the Groton school will be held on Friday evening, February 17. There will be vocal solos by Misses Helen Carey, Whalen and Gagnon; also, such other entertainment as a minstrel show usually furnished. People are asked to keep an open eye on the matter. Mrs. Winton will give a party on Saturday night. Monday services at the chapel will be held on Sunday by Rev. M. B. Ripley, of Groton. BOXBOROUGH. At about an o'clock last Saturday afternoon, a young man was awakened by a knock at the door and found there a young man in a dazed condition who claimed he had been chased by a man with a knife. Although the mercury stood at zero the lad was taken to the hospital in the morning when Leon Wetherbee carried him to Ayer, accompanied by Constable Furbush and P. W. C. Harrington. It was ascertained that the man was Frank Hoyle and that he had been in a rooming house, where the festivities continued and with appetites sharpened by their lack of exercise they fully appreciated the delicious refreshments served at the close of the evening. Miss Eleanor Harrington, of Weston,

was the guest of the Wetherbee girls over Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. B. C. Steele and Frank Dodge attended the funeral of an uncle, Nahum H. Farmer, in Worcester, Tuesday. Mr. Y. Nelson attended the meeting of the American Road Builders' association held in Boston three days this week. Mrs. B. C. Steele was the guest of her sister in Clinton most of last week. Town Meeting. The annual town meeting was held on Monday, opening at twelve o'clock noon. After choosing Charles E. Sherry as moderator, it was voted to take a recess one hour, and at 1:15 the meeting was opened for business by the moderator. Art. 2. It was voted to accept the reports of the town officers. Art. 3. Voted to lay the matter over for one year by laws compiled by the by-laws committee appointed in special town meeting on October 28, said laws to be revised by same committee. Art. 4. The following town officers were chosen by ballot: Simon B. Eager, town clerk; S. D. Salmon 3d, Albert Littlefield, George W. Burroughs, selectmen; Albert B. Hartwell, assessor, 3 yrs.; overseers of the poor, selectmen; Albert B. Hartwell, treasurer; William H. Furbush, school committee, 3 yrs.; Phlo W. Cunningham, B. C. Steele, A. Y. Nelson, John Coffey, highway surveyors. Art. 17. Voted to pass over this article, to see if one or two highway surveyors will be elected in place of four. Art. 25. Voted not to adopt the Australian ballot system at all future annual town meetings. Art. 32. Voted to pass over this article, to see if the town will do away with the office of highway surveyor and choose a committee who shall let the road work to contract. Voted to adjourn until Monday noon, February 12. The most excitement came with the election of the selectmen. S. D. Salmon 3d, who has served several years. The vote stood Salmon 33, Steele 20. It was after this vote was declared that the surprise came by bringing into prominence two hitherto unknown names, those of Albert Littlefield and George Burroughs. The opponent of Albert Littlefield was Michael Griffin, the vote standing Littlefield 25, Griffin 10; George Burroughs 31, Augustus Chester 8. Church Notes. Sunday services—Morning worship at eleven o'clock; preacher, Rev. G. M. Missirian, the minister; subject, "Gain by loss." Sunday school at 12:15, C. E. meeting and evening service at seven o'clock. The church supper held under the auspices of the Ladies' Aid circle, last week Friday evening at the vestry, was a delightful success. Fully fifty people gathered around the tables, when they were served with hot-corn chowder, crackers, coffee, fancy pies and puddings. F. W. Dodge had charge of the supper, assisted by Miss Maria Steele, The Misses Mabel, Lucy and Ina Wetherbee, Miss Harrington of Waltham, Burpee F. Steele and Charles Wait waited on the tables. The supper was followed by singing of the old folks' songs by a voluntary chorus; violin solo, Miss Harrington; piano solo, Mrs. Salmon 3d, and reading of stories, which caused a great deal of entertainment for those who were present. The clear profit from the supper was five dollars. The Women's Missionary meeting will be held on next Wednesday afternoon with Mrs. A. W. Nelson at three o'clock. The members of the society are requested to be in attendance. The rehearsal of the Adelphian Camp-joint play will be held in the vestry on the evening of February 10, at seven o'clock. The cast are requested to be prompt in their attendance. LITTLETON. News Items. Mrs. Minna F. Tenney Peck will give a lecture on "Quaint nooks and Holland, the home of the Pilgrim Fathers," illustrated by the stereopticon, at the next meeting of the Concord Women's club, Monday afternoon, February 12. Erad Cook is home from Tufts for the week-end, following mid-year examinations. In the absence of the pastor through continued illness, Mrs. J. C. Alvord preached at the Congregational church last Sunday. The exchange with Rev. G. M. Missirian, of Boxborough, was postponed until April on account of the severity of the weather. Thermometers registered as low as 10 and 12 degrees below zero during the recent cold wave. A meeting that brought together eighteen devoted members of the United Workers was held Wednesday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Elmer W. Fletcher. Mrs. George H. Kimball, who had charge of the program, led the singing. The subject considered was Cuba and Mrs. Charles A. Kimball gave a map talk. Mrs. Margaret F. Flagg gave the history of Cuba. Mrs. Elmer Fletcher discussed "Cuba of today." Miss Florence Wilcox presented the religious work among converts. Mrs. J. Alvord presented current events. Charlotte Pickard sang "Brighten the corner," accompanied by Elizabeth Pickard. Miss Hazel Wainwright is assisting Mrs. Thurston, who has suffered much from illness in the stomach. She is reported somewhat improved in condition. John Adams, instead of serving the contract for which has been given to an out-of-town party, J. H. Rimek will put up the private wire line from the Langhale to the Newtown line. Monday afternoon, February 12, the Women's club will hold an open meeting. The program is to be in charge of the music committee. Mrs. Alice J. Frouy, chairman, and will consist of selections of American music and composers by local talent. Tuesday evening, February 13, at 7:15 o'clock there will be an important meeting in town hall to listen and to plan the aims and objects of County Farm Bureau. V. H. Parker, county agent, leader, will tell us of the making of the organization. Mr. Tupper of Plymouth county and W. A. Munson will tell of the work in their respective counties. The Middlesex Farm Bureau has a section of residents and property owners of the county who are seeking to promote improvement in methods of food production and distribution and the betterment of country life. It aims to help those already engaged in agriculture by placing at their disposal the best of the assistance of experts and the best information made available by the state and national departments of agriculture. The Alliance listened with intense interest to a most excellent paper on "Shakers and Shakerism" by Miss

SPECIAL SALE OF FINE White Goods FOR WAISTS AND DRESSES Embroidered Voiles, Lace Stripe Voiles, Heavy Cord Stripe Voiles, regular value 37 1/2c to 60c. per yard Special at 25c GET YOUR SUMMER WHITE GOODS NOW Sideboard and Bureau Scarfs, 50 inches long, in handsome Battenberg patterns, regular value \$1.25 and \$1.00. 75c SHIRT WAISTS MARKED DOWN Lace Trimmed Voile Waists, Embroidered Lawn Waists, Heavy Cord Stripe Voile Waists, regular values \$1.25, \$1.39 and \$1.50, sizes 34 to 46. Special at 98c JAP SILK WAISTS Made in high or low neck styles; colors, white, few pink and yellow, regular value \$2.50. Special Price \$1.99

The Boston Store GEOB. TURNER & SON AYER, MASS.

Alice M. Howard, who traced the growth and development of the movement and gave familiar illustrations from our neighboring community of Harvard Shakers. Barbara Priest played a piano solo. On account of the storm last Monday evening the Ladies' Aid postponed their meeting two weeks. The invitation holds good to all ladies who are interested to know more about the order to attend the meeting in Oddfellows' hall, February 19. Mrs. Peterson of Portland, Me., is visiting her sister, Mrs. F. H. Hill. There has been more or less confusion in the name of Susan, Etta Hill at the Common. Mail matter intended for one has been sent to the other, thus causing delay and information relating to one has been applied to the other. In a case of this sort it is always a convenience to the two men to distinguish carefully between them. The Grange held its regular meeting Wednesday evening when a splendid program was given as follows: Song with encore, quartet of girls, Misses Ruth and Rebecca Straight, accompanied by Mrs. J. H. Kimball; a practical and helpful talk on "Hints and helps for the household" by Mrs. R. T. Barrow; reading, Miss Augusta Smith; song and recitation by Miss Hazel Wainwright; an excellent paper on "Labor-saving devices for the home" by Mrs. Thomas Mannion; song with encore by girls' quartet; games and dancing completed the entertainment of the evening. The vestry will be held with the Grange August 1. Mr. Pratt spoke on the open meeting of the farm bureau to be held in town hall next Tuesday evening with the hope that many would be present and join the bureau. Many were reported sick at the meeting over the matter of debate with Harvard Grange June 5. There was a large representation present from Littleton at the Pomona Grange meeting in Lunenburg Thursday. The Valentine party scheduled for February 14 at the Congregational church will probably take the form of a sleigh party ride followed by an oyster supper upon the return home. Several local sleigh ride parties and others from neighboring towns have been seen and heard this week. Sunday evening "The race of Abraham Lincoln, or the mountain whites" will be the subject of Rev. J. C. Alvord's talk. We note with regret the sudden death of Mrs. E. F. Whitney, formerly of Littleton, at her home in Westford last week Friday, following a paralytic shock. At the town meeting the subject of contributions to the war relief fund was discussed briefly and followed by passing the hat, \$25.26 being realized. Chairmen of the committee, who in behalf of the organization expresses her grateful appreciation of these gifts, which will help out very far for the present. A check for \$25.26 is made up into bandages, etc., at a single meeting. The cover cloth used with bandages costs \$5 a piece. The express of materials to Littleton and then to the city after the supplies are made are to be reckoned in the expenses. New Enterprise. Concord Junction has a new industrial enterprise in the form of a machine shop for the building of power-driven loading machines for handling coal, gravel, crushed stone, etc. The business has recently been started in one of the buildings on Main street, owned by the Conant estate, and Wallace E. Conant, of Concord, is the proprietor, carrying on the business under the name of the Machine Shop. Several men are regularly employed at the work of building the machines, which are the design of Mr. Conant, who has had several years' experience in the study of electrical and other power machinery. This rocky occupation being correspondent for a number of engineering publications. The machines are built entirely of steel and iron. Each one weighs one to two tons, and is mounted on iron wheels, which make it portable. The idea is not a new one, as it has been put to commercial use for a number of years, but certain new features are embodied in the machines that are being built in Concord Junction. Already four loading machines have been practically completed, and the prospects are that the plant will continue to construct these practical machines in increasing numbers. New Advertisements. CARD OF THANKS We wish to express our heartfelt thanks to all those who helped us to obtain the loss of our little one; we cannot express our gratitude to our friends for the sympathy extended to us. MR. and MRS. J. W. DAVIS, Ayer, Mass., February 9, 1917.

LOST—On five o'clock trolley from Ayer car barn to Fitchburg, a Black Purse containing, with change, two gold dollar bills, and a check for \$1. Please notify K. C. HENNINGAN, 31 Chestnut Street, Malden, Mass. GARD OF THANKS We wish to express our sincere thanks to all who by their many kind acts and expressions of sympathy aided us in our recent bereavement, also, for the many floral tributes. MR. and MRS. GEO. L. BOYNTON, Groton, Mass., February 6, 1917. FARM MARE FOR SALE Offered at reasonable price because of loss of her team mate. Mare is sound and well able to do moderate farm work for indefinite time. Weight about 1250. Is at my farm near Badcock Pond. WILLIAM P. WHARTON, Groton, Mass. James H. Gilbride of Lowell INCOME TAX ASSESSOR will be at the TOWN HALL, AYER Every Wednesday until March 1, from 2 to 9 P. M., to give information and offer any assistance in making-out statements Ayer will be the headquarters of the Income Tax Assessor for the towns of Pepprell, Shirley, Groton, Harvard, Littleton, Westford and Townsend. WANTED AT ONCE—Men to work in paper mill; steady work and good pay. Company's boarding house will furnish comfortable quarters for men to live. HOLLINGSWORTH & VOSE, West Groton, Mass. 87

Poultry Wanted I Want 500 and Will Pay 20c. and Better Telephone 51-2, Pepprell DAVID SAPERSTAN 25 H. J. Webb REGISTERED OPTOMETRIST Opposite Depot Ayer, Mass. 3m10 J. W. MURRY DYEING, CLEANING and REPAIRING NEATLY DONE Garments Remodeled Suits Made-to-Order Turner's Block Ayer, Mass. Telephone Connection

Fortify Yourself AGAINST pneumonia and similar troubles by breaking up a cold before it gets a good hold on your system. In other words, nip a cold in the bud, then you will not have to worry about its future stages. Rexall COLD TABLETS Are the best thing in the world to break up a cold. They have the advantage of similar preparations because they are made for one specific purpose—that of curing colds. They strike at the root of the trouble, equalizing blood conditions, and opening the pores so that the body can breathe and purify itself once more. Rexall Cold Tablets positively cure colds, grippe and catarrh. They also prevent diphtheria, pneumonia and bronchial troubles. You should never be without them. WILLIAM BROWN DRUGGIST Main Street Ayer, Mass.

Wanted at once—Men to work in paper mill; steady work and good pay. Company's boarding house will furnish comfortable quarters for men to live. HOLLINGSWORTH & VOSE, West Groton, Mass. 87

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Saturday, February 10, 1917.

AYER

News Items.

Joseph H. Richardson of this town, now in Florida, announces the engagement of his daughter, Florence Josephine, to Charles M. White, formerly of Detroit, Mich., but now living in St. Cloud, Fla.

As the legal machinery of the state is now after the manufacturers and dealers of bread for proper labels and short weight, might it not be well to have an inspection of the milk that is being sold to the people in this vicinity. Some of the milk sold looks as if it were far below the standard. Surely at nine cents per quart the public ought to get a square deal in buying the lactical fluid.

The Ayer Woman's club will present "Dad's girl," a story of the south in four acts, under the direction of Mrs. Lucius C. Fairchild in Page's hall, on Friday evening, February 16, with the following in the cast: Archer Nutting, L. C. Parker, Earl Merrill, Harold Scruton, Marion Young, Evelyn Fairchild, Blanche Whitney and Lillian Baker. Tickets for this play will be on sale at the store of George H. Brown, at the home of the custodian, Albert Perkins, at the club meeting of February 14, and at the door on the evening of the entertainment. Club members will be admitted free upon presentation of membership ticket.

The selectmen have re-appointed Chief Beatty and Officer James I. Mills.

Mrs. E. H. Longley has returned from the Groton hospital, where she, a short time ago, underwent an operation. She is doing well.

Mrs. Paul M. Neville and her sister, Mrs. M. Priscilla Evans, of San Francisco, Cal., are spending a few weeks with their mother, Mrs. H. Hayden, of Groton.

A special meeting of the Special Aid Society for American Preparedness will be held in the lower town hall on Monday afternoon at two o'clock. A nurse from the Peter Bent Brigham hospital will teach the making of new surgical dressings. On Friday afternoon, February 3, Dr. Ayres gave the fifth lesson in Red Cross, first aid instruction. At the present time the society is making comfort pillows. Pieces of cretonne, flingham or any washable material suitable for small pillows will be most acceptable. If sent to the lower town hall any Friday afternoon will be most gratefully received.

The meeting of the Woman's club on February 21 is in charge of the Special Aid for American Preparedness. Mrs. M. Priscilla Evans, of San Francisco, Cal., will be the speaker at the Methodist auditorium. There will be a talk on surgical dressings with slides by Mrs. Agnes McNamara, field secretary in the woman's department of the National League of Women's Clubs, and a talk on "The Living Word" by Mrs. Y. P. U. social on Tuesday evening, February 14, at 7.30.

Acting on orders from headquarters of the Boston and Maine railroad, men have watched the Nashua river bridges the first of the week, but later the men were withdrawn. The object of the watch was to prevent any possibility of fanatics blowing up the bridge as a result of the excitement following the notice that the federal government had broken off diplomatic relations with Germany. It is expected that the bridge will be guarded in the future by men in the employ of the federal government. The Nashua river bridge being on one of the main lines of travel to the west, it was which an immense amount of food supplies and war munitions pass to Boston, to be shipped to the Allies, was considered as a proper place to put under guard. The other bridges in this vicinity were guarded by the telephone company. The telephone company has also taken measures to prevent any possible interruption to the service. Henry E. Farnum, wire chief, is stationed at the office nights to look after the company's interests.

At a meeting of the library trustees on Thursday evening Howard H. White, a recently elected permanent trustee, was chosen secretary. Mr. White's election came after the positive declension of Huntley S. Turner to stand for re-election. Mr. Turner has held the office of secretary continuously for sixteen years and wished to retire from such duties. Mr. White was elected to the finance committee and Mr. Turner to the committee on the library building and grounds. Miss S. Adelaide Blood, recently elected librarian, and Miss Louie A. Sherman, asst. librarian.

Mrs. Susan M. Barker and Norman Fletcher attended the Unitarian mass meeting in Boston last Sunday night. They were so fortunate as to secure seats in Symphony hall. This hall was filled to its limit and many stood at each entrance during the whole session. Horticultural hall, closely, was filled with the overflow. The speakers in Symphony hall were Charles W. Eliot, president emeritus of Harvard college; Rev. W. F. Sullivan of New York, and Hon. Robert B. Bruce, of Boston. The music was singing of hymns by a choir of several hundred young people.

Mrs. Clara F. Hill, Mrs. Susan M. Barker, Miss Esther Stone, Mrs. Nina M. Beverly, Mrs. Snney Kinney, Mrs. Nina Lovejoy and Miss Mary H. John, members of the Woman's club, attended the Federation meeting in Wakefield on Wednesday.

A social afternoon of the Ayer Branch Alliance will be held with Mrs. H. A. Bixby and Mrs. J. F. Hall on Thursday afternoon, February 15, at 2.30.

The Ladies' Benevolent Society of the Federated church will have a valentine party in the vestry of the church on Tuesday evening, February 13, at eight o'clock. There will be games for all ages. Refreshments will be served.

"The Christian morning service" is the subject of the morning sermon at the Federated church on Sunday. The Sunday school will meet at noon. The topic of the C. E. meeting at six o'clock will be "Confession." At the evening service there will be an illustrated lecture on the Passion Play of Oberammergau. This is the same lec-

ture as was given at recent C. E. social, but as not a great many were present it was thought best to repeat it. The slides were the best yet shown in the new machine. Next week service Thursday evening at 7.30.

Paula Rose company will give a concert of the winter in on Friday evening, February 15. Dyer's celebrated orchestra, of Worcester, assisted by Coyle Bros. cabaret singers, will furnish the music. David H. Walsh will act in the capacity of floor director, with John B. Ryan as assistant. The following concert program will be given: March, New Colonial Hall Selection, High Jinks, Raymond Intervals, Chorus, Armistice, Finale, Cabaret Capers, Allen

James H. Gubride, of Lowell, deputy income tax assessor, was here from two to nine o'clock Wednesday to give information and advice in regard to filing out income tax statements as required under the new law. Many from Ayer and neighboring towns availed themselves of the opportunity of consulting him. The meeting places were in the assessors' and selectmen's rooms, town hall.

Miss Gertrude I. Garrison has been appointed substitute teacher in the Boston schools.

Thursday noon the First New Hampshire regiment attracted attention at the freight yards. They were on their way to their home state where big celebrations were waiting them. The first section arrived at a little after noon and was followed at short intervals by the second section. The regiment will be mobilized at Nashua, Manchester and Concord and will relieve the police in guarding the government property throughout the state. This regiment has seen more service than any other in the New England troops as they have been out seven months. They were stationed at Laredo, Texas. Co. I of this command had a brush with some Mexicans several days ago killing several of them. It was their duty at Zapata, Texas. The troops came home by the way of Memphis, Tenn., Chicago, Buffalo and Rotterdam Junction.

The meeting of the Woman's club on February 14 will be in charge of the education department of the club. There will be a speaker from the State Federation and also an address by F. C. Johnson, superintendent of school. There will also be a report of the State Federation meeting by the delegates. The subject of study in the First Aid class last week was "wounds." The interest grows. The lessons are very practical and the members all enjoy them.

J. W. Murry, our local tailor, leaves this week Saturday for New York city for the spring opening on Tuesday.

The third round of the whist contest between Robert Burns Lodge 1, O. O. F. and Veterans took place February 7. G. A. R. hall. Robert Burns lodge was the winner of the third round. The score: Robert Burns lodge 349, Sons of Veterans 280, Harbinger lodge 152.

A dinner will be served at the Unitarian vestry, February 22, by members of the Ayer Branch Alliance and Unitarian Girls' club.

The four lower grades of the public schools were closed Monday on account of the severe storm.

Frederick J. Young, associate editor of the Nashua Telegraph, and a well-known newspaper man, called at this office on Thursday. Mr. Young came here to meet the editor of the Nashua shire regiment which came through here that day on their return from the Mexican border.

The social dance to be given by the Unitarian Girls' club takes place on Monday evening in the town hall. Music by the band and orchestra. Refreshments by Leonminster.

There is quite an increased interest in the meetings at the Baptist church. A large audience was present on last Sunday to listen to the singing by the enlarged choir and to hear the pastor's sermon on "The lost boy." One lady who was present on Peppercorn street from California. On Sunday morning at 10.45, the pastor's subject will be "Back-sliding." Sunday school at twelve. B. Y. P. U. meeting at six in the evening. Song service at seven by the young people's chorus and audience. B. Y. P. U. social on Tuesday evening. A good time is expected. Weekly prayer meeting on Thursday evening at 7.30.

Other Ayer matter on pages 1 and 2. Unclaimed letters in Ayer postoffice February 2. Mrs. Ludger Frise, Roke Mayne, Frank Niemi, Tom Snamate.

Town Meeting. The annual town meeting was held on Monday. Because of the severe blizzard there was the smallest vote in many years in proportion to the total registration, the number of male ballots cast being 152 out of a total number for the year of 618. In other words 152 failed to vote. One female vote was cast.

In the contest for selectmen between Douglas C. Smith, John D. Carney, Lyman K. Clark and Harry E. Fisher, the three former were re-elected. Charles W. Mason was re-elected assessor for three years over George D. Duggan. In the contest for constables between Albert A. Eblebrown, William E. Fitzgerald, John T. Wallace, Frederick T. Auld and Lyman J. Taylor, the first four were elected. Edward E. Sawyer was re-elected as a member of the board of health, his opponent being Henry L. Brown. Albert B. Downing was chosen by Douglas C. Smith for two years. The majority for no bond was 175, an increase over last year of two votes.

Mullin, commissioner of sinking fund, 3 yrs., Howard M. Beverly, fish commissioner, 3 yrs., Martin H. Kane, field driver, John M. Maloney, pound keeper, John M. Maloney, liquor question, No 289, Yes 143, last year's vote, No 327, Yes 153.

The articles, beginning with article 1, were read and passed in accordance with time-honored custom at 1.30 in the afternoon. Although there were but thirteen articles in the warrant their disposal required over four hours. There was a good attendance in the afternoon session of the town which raged all day. The following action was taken on the articles beginning with article 3:

Under article 3 it was voted to amend the printed town report as follows: By substituting \$1,500.00 for \$3,019.99 appearing on page 65 of the report total amounts for persons having settlements here and living elsewhere in Massachusetts, by substituting \$23.04 for \$13.05 as amount transferred from Ayer and neighboring towns as amount transferred from sidewalk account in the receipts of town incidentals on page 79; by substituting \$7.21 as unexpended balance on page 92 in sidewalk account, by substituting \$23.04 as the unexpended balance for \$13.04; by substituting \$23.04 for \$13.05 as amount transferred to town incidentals account under report of highways on page 96 of the town report of 1916 under the celebration of July 4; for \$23.00, instead of \$13.00 in the second item on the same page; voted that the report on page 113 read "due from E. W. Carley, tax collector, 1916, \$1,933.58, due E. W. Carley, 1916, \$6,391.76. The article was passed as above amended.

Art. 4. Voted to authorize the town treasurer, with the approval of the selectmen, to borrow during the current financial year, in anticipation of the revenue for said year, to be paid therefrom, such sums of money, not to exceed \$30,000, as may be necessary for the current expenses of the town, giving the note or notes of the town therefor, payable within one year, at the rate of 6 per cent.

Art. 5. Voted to authorize the town treasurer, under the direction of the selectmen, at any time between December 15, 1917, and the close of the financial year, to transfer an unexpended balance to any appropriation to any other appropriation.

Under article 6, for relief of soldiers, it was voted to appropriate for state aid all sums received from the commonwealth for reimbursements for state aid and for any appropriation to town treasurer to pay such further sums as may be required. Other appropriations under this article were as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Support of poor-unexpended balance of last year in hands of town treasurer and warden of the town farm, together with reimbursements received by the town, and also all accounts due the town on account of poor department at the close of last year: \$3,000.00. Relief of soldiers and military aid from unappropriated funds in the treasury: 200.00. Carver school branch: 50.00. Schools, refund of tax and school incidentals, rent of Holmes' house and school superintendent: 2,500.00. Medical inspection of schools: 100.00. Sprinkling streets: 1,000.00. Fire department: 2,500.00. Forest fire protection: 150.00. Ayer library: 1,200.00. Street lighting, unexpended balance of last year and town park unexpended balance of last year and hydrant service: 1,500.00. Sinking fund for water department: 500.00. Shade trees: 100.00. Band concerts, unexpended balance of last year and fourth of July celebration: 300.00. Town incidentals, received from town house, district court and reimbursements due the town because of any money paid from town incidentals account during the current year or before: 2,500.00. Total: \$38,350.00.

Art. 7. Voted to appropriate \$75 for payment of premiums on the bonds of town treasurer and collector of taxes.

Art. 8. Voted to raise and appropriate \$50 to be expended under the direction of A. B. in the observance of Memorial day.

Art. 9. Voted that the salaries of the town officers be the same as the past year.

Art. 10. Voted that poll taxes shall be payable on a stipend that all taxes shall become due and payable October 1, 1917, and that interest at the rate of six percent per annum, from October 15, 1917, be charged on taxes not paid at that time and be added to such taxes, and that the tax collector be authorized to collect from not abated during the current financial year.

Art. 11. Voted that the town raise and appropriate the sum of \$100 in addition to the \$500 heretofore voted and to be expended, for the purpose of improving Park street from the present terminus of the sidewalk and southerly to the crossing of Worcester and Nashua divisions of the Boston and Maine railroad, with an addition of other road material and improvements to be approved by the Massachusetts Highway Commission and money to be expended in the discretion of the selectmen.

Art. 12. Voted that the town raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 for the improvement of the district of health, which is authorized by the selectmen.

Section 1. There shall be an advisory committee consisting of three voters of the town appointed by the selectmen, one of whom shall be a town officer elected by ballot or an appointed officer receiving a salary, which committee may consider and make recommendations in connection with the purpose of making reports or recommendations to the town. Section 2. Said advisory committee shall examine and report on the town's accounts calling for expenditure of money and recommend amounts to be appropriated for the expenditures of the town. Section 3. Said committee shall, when practicable, publish their recommendations in at least one newspaper published in the town at least three days before each meeting of the selectmen, and shall report in writing their findings and recommendations at each and every town meeting. Section 4. Upon the approval of this by-law by the attorney-general the selectmen shall appoint said committee as soon as possible, and the committee members shall act as such members until the first meeting of the selectmen after the second annual town meeting thereafter, one member of said commit-

tee, who shall act as such member until the first meeting of the selectmen after the second annual town meeting thereafter. Upon the expiration of the term of office of each member the selectmen shall then appoint a successor who shall be a member of a committee for the term of three years. Upon the occurrence of any other vacancy the selectmen shall appoint a successor, who shall serve during the said unexpired term.

Town Meeting Notes. The weather conditions were the worst since the annual meeting was changed to the month of February. Those, however, who braved the storm to attend the meeting, particularly the afternoon session, were much interested in the disposition of the articles under what is familiarly known as "town business."

The severe storm kept away many whose physical condition made it necessary for them to stay at home. This, with other causes, kept 166 voters from exercising their right to cast their ballots.

It was the first appearance of George L. Wilson as moderator. He performed the duties of the position well. Although the vote cast was a good deal less than that of a year ago, the no-license majority was increased by two votes, the figures last year being Yes 183, No 327, a majority of 144. This year the vote was Yes 143, No 259, a majority of 146.

A number of high school pupils attended the afternoon session to witness the transaction of the business in the disposal of the articles in the warrant, which were up for discussion.

Constable William F. Fitzgerald was in charge of the articles, and the law bearing on the election was properly carried out. Of course, his work was well done.

One voter, evidently impatient in the delay of disposing of the articles, called several times for a vote, saying that he was getting near supper time and that he had a long drive home. He made much of an impression, however, so far as the "speeding up" of the work was concerned.

The town put into effect a new innovation in voting an amendment to the town by-laws which provides for the election of a committee known as an appropriation committee. The main duties of this body are to examine all articles in all warrants calling for expenditure of money and recommend amounts to be appropriated for the expenditure of the town. The article also calls for the publishing of the committee's recommendations and findings at least three days before each and every town meeting. This committee, under the name of appropriations committee, is and has been in existence in Groton for several years. The article was unanimously passed.

The first discussion of the afternoon came on the appropriation for the year. The amount recommended was \$3,300. After a long debate, in which the main feature of the poor department and town farm were thoroughly aired, the amount was reduced to \$2,900.

Several other items in Article 6 received their full measure of attention, especially the appropriations for schools, hydrant service and town park. There was no serious opposition to any of the appropriations.

The fire department's estimate of \$2,100 was raised to \$2,500 on the fact that the fire engines recommended the installation of three fire alarm boxes, which they claim are badly needed. It was voted to put in the boxes to be located one near the town hall, one near the crossing of the New Market Laundry, and the third on Maple street, near Vreughegar.

The appropriation for fuel concerns looked bad for a short time when a motion for \$200 was passed, the amount to be expended under the appropriation was \$2,300.

A vote was passed under the heading for the celebration of July 4, to have the appropriation of \$200 expended by a committee of five, to be appointed by the selectmen.

Chief Beatty was on hand to keep order during the afternoon session. Officers James I. Mills was elected to assist in the work.

The families and of 11 voters passed over the blizzard. The article for the appropriation of \$1,000 for the improvement of the district of health or other purpose was unanimously passed. Eugene S. Barry, the clerk of the board of health, which has the credit of inserting the article in the warrant, explained the article and the benefits to be derived therefrom.

The committee on the improvement of the district of health, which was appointed by the selectmen, reported in writing their findings and recommendations at each and every town meeting.

It was voted to appropriate \$75 for payment of premiums on the bonds of town treasurer and collector of taxes.

Art. 8. Voted to raise and appropriate \$50 to be expended under the direction of A. B. in the observance of Memorial day.

Art. 9. Voted that the salaries of the town officers be the same as the past year.

Art. 10. Voted that poll taxes shall be payable on a stipend that all taxes shall become due and payable October 1, 1917, and that interest at the rate of six percent per annum, from October 15, 1917, be charged on taxes not paid at that time and be added to such taxes, and that the tax collector be authorized to collect from not abated during the current financial year.

Art. 11. Voted that the town raise and appropriate the sum of \$100 in addition to the \$500 heretofore voted and to be expended, for the purpose of improving Park street from the present terminus of the sidewalk and southerly to the crossing of Worcester and Nashua divisions of the Boston and Maine railroad, with an addition of other road material and improvements to be approved by the Massachusetts Highway Commission and money to be expended in the discretion of the selectmen.

who had received word from a supposedly reliable source that the meeting would begin at two o'clock. Persons arriving at that time found they were half an hour late, the meeting having opened at 1.30.

On Tuesday evening, February 13, the Ayer Council, K. of C., and their friends will gather at K. of C. hall to listen to an illustrated talk on "Border life and the national guard" by Major H. T. Butler, M. D., surgeon of the Ninth Massachusetts regiment. Dr. Butler, an eminent physician of Boston, and with much experience in military life, was an inspiring speaker. He will describe the life and experiences of our soldiers on their recent sojourn at the Mexican border and introduce many subjects of special interest to us now because of our foreign relations and his part in the affairs of our national guard.

Other numbers on the evening's program will be contributed by Miss Helen Heffernan, an accomplished child singer of popular songs, and dances, she being ten years old; Joseph Cross, of Boston, Scotch dialect songs; W. J. Ryan, soloist, "New Orleans" and Irish folklore songs. The knights extend an invitation to all of their friends to attend and as there are to be no reservations those who first come will have choice of seats. The lecture will begin promptly at eight o'clock.

Blizzard. A genuine old-fashioned blizzard which raged all day Monday caused much inconvenience although but little damage was done. The snow, driven by a strong wind, made travel very difficult and in some instances impossible by the huge drifts. Steam and electric travel was badly affected.

The large auto tank truck of the Standard Oil Company, on which Frank Cash, the manager of the local branch of the company, and Arthur Fowler, an employee, were riding, was stalled a short distance south of the town.

The locomotive electric line was put out of commission so far as travel was concerned at 1.30 in the afternoon. The next car arrived the following morning. The Lowell and Fitchburg line fared the best so far as making time was concerned.

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DRUG STORE AYER











Saturday, February 10, 1917.

PEPPERELL

News Items. The Pepperell group, Boy Scouts will meet at the lower room at the town house on Wednesday evening, February 14, for regular routine of drilling under the direction of their scoutmaster, Mr. Child.

Carl and Robert Dewar spent the week-end at their winter home in the mountains of Connecticut, where they are under private tutorage.

We note the announcement of the engagement of Miss Margaret Benedict, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Benedict, formerly of this town, to John L. Clough, of West Brookfield, a dry goods dealer of that place.

The Ladies' Aid society will hold their regular meeting at the home of the president, Mrs. Ida Annis, on Wednesday afternoon, February 14. This will be a business, work and social meeting.

Sydney Tower, from Boston, was at his home in town over the week-end. Miss Beth McNair, student at the high school, was detained at home last week by the grippe cold and tonsillitis.

The prize speaking of the students of the high school in connection with the high school yearbook, which was held Saturday evening at Prescott hall, was postponed, as several of the participants were ill.

Douglas Willett, from Lynn, who is taking a short vacation from his studies at the Lynn high school, has been visiting in the home of his uncle, Elnorford Dewar.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Winn and two children of Waltham, were week-end guests at the home of his aunt, Mrs. Margaret Sylvester, and on Sunday visited Mr. Winn's grandmother, Mrs. Ebbey, who celebrated her eighty-ninth birthday the preceding day.

S. M. Nokes finished filling his ice-houses at the pond last week for this summer trade. This week he has been filling some of the individuals about the village, the ice being over fourteen inches now from some parts of the pond.

A snow-shoeing party of Miss Lillian Dunton, her cousin, Douglas Willett, and Miss Hall braved the weather on Saturday afternoon for the sake of a little sport and to make a trip to the postoffice.

Mrs. E. P. McCord and children, who went to Winchboro to join Mr. McCord a few weeks ago, have settled there for the winter and their place on Oak Hill is closed.

Mrs. Hattie Elliott, from Nashua, N. H., came on Thursday of last week to remain over until Monday with her sister, Mrs. L. G. Robbins, recuperating from a hard cold.

An epidemic of chicken-pox is prevalent among the children of the lower grades, and a few of the older pupils have been quite ill with it.

Repairs are under way on the house occupied by W. A. Drummey, recently damaged by fire. C. H. Miller has the woodwork repairs, and C. M. Bolles the painting and glazier repairs.

on Thursday of this week. He was formerly in the employ of F. E. Turner of Twin Valley farm, and more recently has been employed at the Nashua River paper mills.

George Parker, shipping clerk at the Pepperell Card shop, has been taking a short vacation as his wife is not in good health.

Miss Jennie Merrill is at the home on Oak Hill. She recently came from Maine and is now rather ill and in need of recuperation.

Dr. Austin Peters, the veterinary of Harvard, formerly of Boston, was in town on Wednesday to consult with Dr. F. A. Davis, local veterinary, on a case.

Several parties from town planned to attend the Oddfellows' ball at Groton on Thursday evening, some prevented by the weather.

Mrs. John Marshall returned home from Ayer on Wednesday, where she was acting as nurse in the home of Mr. Winslow.

The accident which Mrs. Sarah Patch suffered week before last caused her much pain last week, which she was hardly able to bear in her present frail condition.

A big Cadillac runabout met with disaster on the Nashua road in the town of Monday. Dr. James A. Grotton passed over the road earlier in the day, but on trying to reach home about four o'clock, got stalled in a snow bank just beyond Mr. Bolles' place.

At the service held on Sunday at the South street schoolhouse a sermon from Dean Hodges was read by Mr. Van der Groot School. Three students of the Groton school, who were assisting in the service and the singing especially.

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