

**15% REDUCTION**

## Pre-Inventory SALE

BEGINNING

MONDAY, DECEMBER 27

ENDING

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31

**FOR CASH ONLY**

ON ALL SALES OF \$1.00 AND OVER  
OUR STOCK IS LARGE AND VARIED

INCLUDING

GROCERIES, CANNED GOODS, FLOUR, SOAPS, PAINTS, HARDWARE, FARMING TOOLS, GLOVES, SHIRTS, UNDERWEAR FOR LADIES, MISSES AND GENTS, RUBBER FOOTWEAR OF ALL DESCRIPTION, SHOES, STOCKINGS, PIECE GOODS, NOVELTIES, SLEDS, SKIIS, SNOW SHOES, SKATES, TOYS, BOOKS, KITCHEN WARE, PATENT MEDICINES, SHEEPSKIN COATS, TOILET ARTICLES, AUTO TIRES AND ACCESSORIES. THE ONLY EXCEPTIONS BEING GRAIN AND SUGAR.

A GOOD OPPORTUNITY—MAKE THE MOST OF IT

### Kerley, Reed & Bryant

HARVARD, MASS.

## A. G. Pollard Co.

THE STORE FOR THRIFTY PEOPLE LOWELL, MASS.  
Merrimack, Palmer and Middle Streets

### The Eternal Feminine Demands Pretty Underthings

It's the one thing that combines satisfying daintiness with all year round usefulness

- |                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Envelope Chemise ..... \$1.50<br>Special Christmas styles, made of fine nainsook and figured silk batiste; white or flesh color. Lace, hamburger or ribbon trimmings. In holly boxes. | Corset Covers ..... 79¢<br>Made of fine underwear cotton, with back and front trimming of lace or hamburger.                                                                                                                   |
| Envelope Chemise ..... \$2.00<br>Deep yokes front and back of fine lace and embroidery. Also, flesh color models of fine batiste, with wide satin tops. All boxed.                    | Lingerie Blouses ..... \$2.50<br>All new styles, made from finest French voile. With or without collars, round or square neck. Lace or embroidery, ribbon and pearl buttons are used effectively as trimmings. In holly boxes. |
| Envelope Chemise ..... \$2.50<br>Crepe de chine and satin of good quality. Cut large and well made; lace trimmed. Flesh color only.                                                   | Night Gowns ..... \$1.50<br>In attractive holiday boxes. Pretty gowns, low necks, short sleeves, with hamburger, lace or embroidery trimmings. All sizes.                                                                      |
| Camisoles ..... \$1.00<br>Crepe de chine and satin, trimmed with very fine laces. Flesh color, also brown, green and black.                                                           | Gowns ..... \$2.00<br>Very fine nainsook, made in several different styles. Dainty lace and ribbon, also hamburger yokes. Holly boxes.                                                                                         |
| Camisoles ..... \$1.50<br>White, flesh color, dark brown, blue, black and dresden. All satin, with lace, embroidery or hemstitch trimming. Large and small sizes.                     | Gowns ..... \$2.50<br>Extra fine materials, made in new and dainty styles. Low necks, short sleeves. Generous trimmings of lace, hamburger and satin ribbon. In boxes.                                                         |
| Petticoats ..... \$2.50<br>Extra fine white cambric with good fitting bodies and deep flounces of dainty lace and hamburger. In attractive holiday boxes.                             | White Petticoats ..... \$1.50<br>Made of good wearing cambric, with flounces of pretty hamburger. In boxes.                                                                                                                    |
|                                                                                                                                                                                       | Petticoats ..... \$2.00<br>With wide ruffles, fine lace or hamburger, in a variety of patterns.                                                                                                                                |

READY-TO-WEAR SECTION  
THE GREAT UNDERPRICED BASEMENT

#### LITTLETON

**News Items.**  
Mrs. A. H. Leonard of Boston and Mrs. H. P. Field of Newton Center lunched with the Shepards on Monday last.  
Mrs. Grace Lawrence spends the Christmas holidays with relatives at Beach Bluff and will spend next week with a party of friends at the Adams House, Boston.  
Mr. and Mrs. E. N. Robinson will be surrounded by children and grandchildren, making a party of eighteen Christmas day.  
The F. W. Parkers of Somerville are holiday guests of Mrs. A. W. Knowlton and son.  
Miss Jennie Sawyer spent last week-end with Mrs. Eleanor Hill Tracey in Hartford, Conn.  
Misses Alice Libby of Winthrop and Vera Libby of Arlington are with the home people for Christmas vacation.  
Fred Cook of Bloomfield, N. J., is with the home people through the holiday season.  
Mrs. A. F. Conant, Miss Miriam Conant and Miss Grace Conant attended the Plymouth celebration two days this week and are most enthusiastic over the entire program. They heard Senator Lodge, Gov. Coolidge, the Dean Briggs poem and the announcement of the telephone message from California with peculiar pleasure and satisfaction.  
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Whitcomb are with the H. R. Stewarts in Worcester for the holiday.  
Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Stephens are guests of their daughter and family in Worcester over the holiday.  
Arthur Gardner and family of Nashua and Miss Mary V. Gardner of Boston are holiday guests of Mrs. Harwell Whitcomb.  
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Henry S. Brown and Miss Roberts spent Christmas with the Charles Gordon family in Newton Center.  
The grange Christmas tree and social Wednesday brought out a full house and was the occasion of a very pleasant gathering. A full and very interesting report of the state grange meetings was given by A. E. Shedd.  
The Christmas entertainment given in town hall Thursday forenoon by the grade schools was worthy of the highest praise. The plays by different schools were most cleverly performed and the music, in short every feature was little if any short of perfection. There was a large audience to hear the children and everybody expressed pleasure and wonder at the splendid program. Children and teachers deserve great credit for their part in the success of the entertainment.

#### BOXBOROUGH

**News Items.**  
Mrs. Herbert Livermore has been visiting her daughter in Watertown the past week. During her absence Mrs. Waldo Livermore has kept the domestic wheels running smoothly.  
Ernest Hall of Chelmsford was a Sunday guest of the Barbeau family.  
Margaret Shea's name appears on the program of the marketing of the Middlesex County Bureau of Agriculture held in Boston next week. She is to give her experience as a successful member of four clubs.  
Francis Turner of Waltham, who has spent many summers here, entered Phillips Exeter last fall. His friends were pleased to see his name on the honor list recently published. He received a Phillips scholarship of \$200.  
A social party was held at Library hall last Saturday evening under the direction of Eugene Smith and Mrs. W. H. Furbush. Dancing and cards were enjoyed with refreshments of ice cream and cake.  
Mr. and Mrs. Leon Wetherbee and Mrs. C. T. Wetherbee attended the wedding reception last fall. His friends were pleased to see his name on the honor list recently published. He received a Phillips scholarship of \$200.  
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#### SHIRLEY

**News Items.**  
Notices were posted in the President Suspenders factory Tuesday that the factory would be closed from Christmas until January 2.  
Arthur Chapman is spending Christmas with friends in Ashburnham.  
There will be Christmas trees in the Congregational and Universalist churches Christmas eve.  
The Christmas spirit is pleasingly shown at the Brookside. On entering the reception hall one is greeted by the motto, "Merry Christmas." The living-room and dining-room are artistically trimmed with red and green paper with Christmas wreaths and bells at windows and joinings. The Christmas tree in the living-room will be for all and a concert of Christmas music will precede the distribution of the presents. The customary Christmas dinner will be served, including turkey, pies, pudding, fruit and nuts.  
Mrs. Ione C. Ginn and daughter are in Boston for the holidays.

Ladies' night, held by the American Legion, had a small attendance, owing to the weather and busy season. Those present had a very pleasant time.  
Jeremiah Flynn has been drawn for the grand jury to serve for the year 1921.  
Miss Grace Cleary is spending Christmas in Boston.  
Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Barter of Keene, N. H., are spending Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. Chapman at the Brookside.

#### TOWNSEND

**Harbor.**  
Mr. and Mrs. Harry Knight of Somerville arrived at Mrs. Elizabeth Fletcher's on Tuesday. Mr. Knight returned the following day. Mrs. Knight will remain over the holiday.  
Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Knowlton left this week for Keene, N. H., where they will spend the winter. Mr. and Mrs. Gilman Conant are occupying the Knowlton farm.  
Mrs. Esther Bailey of East Boston is a guest of her sister, Mrs. James Bennett.  
Capt. Edward Draper was a mid-week guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Bagley.  
Mrs. Elizabeth Fletcher is confined to the bed for a few days from an illness brought on from the excitement of the recent fire.

G. A. Proctor returned Thursday from Ithaca, N. Y.

The building, known in this vicinity as the old hotel, was burned last Saturday morning about four o'clock. Mr. Abbott, the station agent, who had rooms in the otherwise uninhabited house, barely escaped. He awoke in a stifling smoke and could hear the roar of the flames outside his door. His only means of exit was through the window, which was on the second floor. He hastened to the mill, where the night watchman blew in an alarm. In a short time the mill hose was playing on the flames and every effort was being made to save the next building, less than six feet away, that contained the postoffice and general store of A. C. Josselyn. Twenty minutes after the sounding of the alarm the hose from the center arrived and was attached to the mill hydrant. Twenty minutes later the fire engine reached the scene of action. Owing to the efficiency of the mill pump, later aided by the engine, the store was damaged from smoke and water only, although the second story and roof of the building was destroyed. The post-office boxes, together with many of the store fixtures and much of the stock in trade, was removed during the earlier stages of the fire. In eight hours after the devastation the postmaster, Mr. Josselyn, had the post-

office fixtures installed in one of the large rooms of his residence and everything in order for business. In addition to the postoffice, several boxes containing goods that were saved, have been set up in the room, so that the apartment has every appearance of as if it is really a store. The building that contained the postoffice and store is owned by Mr. Norris and was insured.  
The old hotel is an ancient landmark of the town and was built at least over a century and a quarter ago. For many years it was used as a hostelry and was one of a chain of taverns along the old stage coach route from Boston to Keene. The fire has revealed a secret cellar, and the big timbers on which the great chimney rests are also brought to light. Some of these timbers are from one to three feet square and the ends as well as the sides are hewed. The old hotel was owned by Charles Laws and was insured. The origin of the fire is unknown.

When bath towels wear thin in the center, cut off the good ends and crochet (with white all-wool) around the edges. These can be boiled and made into nice holders for handling hot dishes.

Hydrogen peroxide applied to a scorching place, and gently rubbed between the fingers will bleach the scorch all out.



MEETING THE NEW

## Price Situation

with a radical reduction in the price of

### MEN'S AND BOYS' CLOTHING

Regardless of former price or of cost to us our entire stock of Suits, Overcoats and Mackinaws are now offered at a

25% DISCOUNT

from our regular low prices as marked on the sales tag. You simply take one-quarter off the price as marked on sales tag. While this move means a loss to us we are willing to take our medicine as the only way to meet the new market conditions.

SUITS 1/4 OFF		OVERCOATS 1/4 OFF	
\$25.00 Suits, now	\$18.75	\$25.00 Overcoats, now	\$18.75
\$34.50 Suits, now	\$25.90	\$35.00 Overcoats, now	\$26.25
\$40.00 Suits, now	\$30.00	\$40.00 Overcoats, now	\$30.00
\$45.00 Suits, now	\$33.80	\$45.00 Overcoats, now	\$33.80
\$55.00 Suits, now	\$41.25	\$50.00 Overcoats, now	\$37.50

TROUSERS AT REDUCED PRICES		MACKINAWS REDUCED	
\$ 4.50 Trousers, now	\$3.47	\$ 9.00 Mackinaws, now	\$ 6.75
\$ 5.50 Trousers, now	\$4.47	\$11.00 Mackinaws, now	\$ 8.25
\$ 7.00 Trousers, now	\$5.50	\$16.00 Mackinaws, now	\$12.00
\$10.00 Trousers, now	\$7.50	\$20.00 Mackinaws, now	\$15.00

### Furnishings at Reduced Prices

UNDERWEAR—Two-Piece		MEN'S DRESS SHIRTS	
\$1.50 Derby-Ribbed, now	\$1.00	Percalés and Madras, Soft or Laundered Cuffs	
\$1.50 Wool and Cotton, now	\$1.19	\$2.50 and \$3.00 values, now	\$1.95
\$1.75 Fleece-Lined, now	\$1.39	\$4.50 and \$5.00 values, now	\$3.50

UNION SUITS		MEN'S WORK SHIRTS	
\$2.50 Derby-Ribbed, now	\$1.95	\$1.50 Khaki	98¢
\$3.00 Derby-Ribbed, now	\$2.25	\$1.50 Blue Chambray	98¢
\$3.50 Wool Union, now	\$3.00	\$1.50 Domet Flannel	98¢
\$5.00 Wool Union, now	\$4.00	All Our Flannel Shirts at Reduced Prices	

DOMET FLANNEL NIGHT-ROBES		HATS		MEN'S NECKWEAR	
\$2.50 values for	\$1.95	Lamson & Hubbard Fall and Winter Hats		Silk Four-in-Hands	
\$3.00 values for	\$2.50	\$6.00 and \$7.00 Hats, now	\$5.00	\$1.00 values for	59¢
PAJAMAS				\$1.50 values for	\$1.00
\$3.00 values for	\$2.35	\$10.00 Hats, now	\$7.00	\$1.75 values for	\$1.25
\$3.50 values for	\$2.75				

PRICES ARE NOW REDUCED ON

### MEN'S BOYS' AND WOMEN'S SHOES

CALENDARS FOR 1921  
A beautiful art calendar for 1921 FREE to every customer calling at our store during the coming week.

**Geo. H. Brown**  
Reliable Clothier Ayer, Mass.



TWO DOLLARS A YEAR IN ADVANCE

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

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

Saturday, December 25, 1920

WESTFORD

Conter.
A merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to the readers of this column.

The Herbert V. Hildreth, George F. Whites and Oscar R. Spaldings are among the families entertaining a family party for the holiday dinner and a Christmas tree.

The selectmen of Westford and Chelmsford have offered a reward of \$500 for the apprehension and conviction of any one having to do with the recent and frequent fires, which have destroyed so much property.

Two new magazines have been added to the reading table at the J. V. Fletcher library for the next year. "Current history" and "Asia." The library will be closed this week Saturday on account of the holiday.

Miss Marjorie M. Seavey has the sympathy of her many friends on account of the manner in which she is obliged to spend her Christmas vacation, she being quarantined with her father, Morton and Gordon Seavey are boarding at Mrs. George A. Walker's while their home is in quarantine with scarlet fever.

All bills due the town should be in the hands of the selectmen on or before December 27.

The Ladies' Missionary society held its monthly meeting Friday afternoon of last week with Mrs. E. Downey at the parsonage. Miss May E. Day had charge of the program, entitled "Every man in his own tongue."

Firemen were called to Edgar A. Mann's Tuesday. Mr. Mann was burning brush, which got beyond his control. With outside help it was soon under control.

Mrs. J. Willard Fletcher's many friends are glad to know that she is making a good recovery from a serious operation at the Lowell General hospital.

Warren E. Carlin is among the sick ones, being confined to his home for the last few weeks.

Emory J. Whitney writes pleasantly from the land of orange groves, sunshine and balmy weather where he is spending the winter at Kissimmee, Fla.

E. Clyde Prescott, master of Westford Grange, is seriously ill at the Lowell General hospital, when an operation was performed Wednesday of this week. He recently attended the State Grange sessions at Pittsfield with master elect, Clifford Johnson, and was not well either there or since coming home, and his sickness culminated in being removed to the hospital earlier in the week.

Next Tuesday afternoon at the Unitarian church comes the organ recital of the Tadmuck club. This is given by Miss Mary MacMartin and the meeting is an open one and everybody is cordially invited. Miss MacMartin's program is carefully arranged as follows: "Adeste Fideles, organ arrangement; three old carols, 'My heart ever faithful,' Bach, 'Noel,' Adam, 'Oh, come and adore,' Gounod; 'Sanctus' from St. Cecilia, Gounod; 'Madrigal,' Simonette; 'Benedictus,' Jocelyn; 'Godard; Adagio from symphony 6, 'Adoration,' Borowski; 'Land of glory,' Elgar.

Myron C. Taylor, herdsman for George F. White, is enjoying a week's vacation, including Christmas at his home in Hancock, Vt.

New telephones recently added are Harry B. Prescott, 51-5 and Norman Phillips, 77-5. Through a mistake Dr. Coburn's and Packard's telephone numbers were reversed in the last list. Dr. Coburn's call is 60 and Dr. Packard's 70.

At the Congregational church last Sunday morning the Christmas theme was beautifully emphasized in music, prayer, scripture and sermon. Evening services were omitted and a large number from this church attended the union Christmas service at the Unitarian church at four o'clock with its fine musical program and good sermon. Next Sunday morning the pastor's subject will be "Lessons from forefathers' day," and in the evening at seven o'clock the topic will be "Worth while purposes for the New Year." This will be the single service of the evening.

About Town.

First Parish church, (Unitarian) Sunday service at four p. m. Preacher, Rev. Frank B. Crandall. Subject, "The dawning of a new year."

The following items were too late for last week's issue:

Mrs. Herbert E. Fletcher of Oak Hill had charge of a successful entertainment at Historic hall, West Chelmsford, Wednesday in behalf of the Sunday school, of which she is superintendent. It was one of the best entertainments given in the village for a long time and how could it be otherwise with the following in the musical program: Miss Nettie Roberts and Miss Elta Thompson of the choir of the First Unitarianist church of Lowell and Albert Burne of West Chelmsford, with Lillian Dodge Haskell of Lowell as her best accompanist. Mrs. Lillian Dodge Haskell of Lowell was at her best as reader. It was an appreciative audience that greeted this talent. The proceeds were for paying for the new choir in Historic hall.

Mrs. Mabel Spaulding, who died suddenly in Westford last week, was the daughter of Frank W. and Emma (Longley) Spaulding, and was born in West Chelmsford. Her life was ideal in every duty of life and as wife and mother. She leaves besides her husband, Rev. Charles E. Spaulding, district superintendent of the Worcester district, one son, Paul Spaulding, one daughter, Mrs. Lulu Johnson of Lowell, and a brother, Karl of New York. The funeral was from Historic hall and the following clergymen: Revs. Hutchinson, Cairn, Beach and Meister of Lowell and Rev. William Anderson of Westford. Burial was in the family lot in West Chelmsford.

Christmas Service.

A large attendance marked the union Christmas service at the First Parish church Sunday. The special music by the choir of Grace church of Lowell was beautifully rendered. Soloists and quartet numbers were rendered. The hymns were chosen from the Christian church. Rev. A. L. Brownsey offered prayer and Rev. Frank B. Crandall preached the sermon. Mr. and Mrs. Burns, who have been singing at the church since last September, concluded their services for the present on Sunday. As the choir at Grace church, of which they are members, is to sing at vesper services, beginning at that church next Sunday, they will be unable to serve in Westford. Their work has been greatly appreciated.

Graniteville.

Mrs. Hannah Smith of Fitchburg was a recent visitor here, coming to attend the funeral of Mr. White.

The Christmas tree exercises for the Sunday school children of St. Catherine's church were held in the church on Wednesday evening at seven o'clock.

The usual Christmas tree exercises were also held in the M. E. church here on Friday evening at seven o'clock.

The teachers of the Sargent school, on behalf of the children, wish to express to the Abbot Worsted Co. their sincere thanks and appreciation for the many pretty gifts they received at the Christmas exercises on Thursday, the last day of school, before the Christmas vacation of two weeks.

The members of Court Westford, M. C. O. F., held their regular meeting on Thursday night.

William L. Wall is now enjoying himself with his new sedan automobile.

The mill pond here is now entirely frozen over, but the ice is not safe for skating yet. The small boys are now enjoying the fun of skating on some of the smaller ponds here.

Many weddings are scheduled to take place here during the holiday season.

Abbot Worsted soccer eleven qualified for the semi-final of the State cup competition at Sullivan square, when it trimmed the Gray and Davis team, 4 goals to 1. A big crowd witnessed the game and the result was a big disappointment to the Cambridge team's supporters. The winning team will journey to Holyoke next Saturday, where they will meet the Hendeo Indians of Springfield in the semi-final for the state cup.

Lovers of good music are invited to be present at an open meeting of the Westford Tadmuck club, to be held on Tuesday, December 28, in the Unitarian church at 2:30 o'clock, when Miss Mary MacMartin will give an organ recital. The numbers chosen for the afternoon's program comprise selections from Bach, Adam, Gounod, Simonette, Godard, Tschakowsky, Borowski and Elgar, and the hour of music promises to be one of rare enjoyment.

Obituary.

William White, an old and highly respected resident of this village, died at his home here on Friday, December 1, after a brief illness, aged 84 years. Besides his wife, Janet, he leaves three daughters, Mrs. Janet Wright of Westford, Mrs. Annie Edwards of Chelmsford, Mrs. Belle Bennett of San Francisco, Cal., also two sons, William of Boston, and Henry White of Taunton.

The funeral took place from his home here on last Sunday afternoon. The services were held in the Methodist Episcopal church and were largely attended, many being present from out of town. The pastor, Rev. William E. Anderson, conducted the service and paid a fine tribute to the life of the deceased. The singing was by Mrs. Nettie Roberts of Lowell, who sang with deep expression, "Some day we'll understand" and "My heavenly home." George D. Wilson presided at the organ. There were many beautiful floral tributes that testified in a marked degree to the high esteem in which Mr. White was held. The bearers were James Carmichael, John Carmichael, Otis White and William E. Wright, nephews and grandsons respectively of deceased. Burial took

place in Fairview cemetery, Westford, where the committal service was read by Rev. W. E. Anderson.

BROOKLINE, N. H.

News Items.
The public library will be closed on December 25.

Mrs. Gertrude Powers has been a recent visitor in Lowell and Pepperell. Mrs. Clara Russell has returned from her visit to the State Grange at Claremont.

Reuben Key and family have moved into the Elmwood.

Charles Shattuck and Mr. Chase from Maynard, Mass., have been recent guests of Mrs. M. A. Gilson.

John Nye from New York and Mrs. Ernest Nye from Sandown have been recent guests of Mr. and Mrs. George Nye.

Miss Hastings has returned to North Conway, Miss Parsons to Gloucester, Mass., and Miss Corliss to Mt. Vernon for the Christmas vacation.

Miss Velma Taylor and Miss Frances Farnsworth attended the firemen's ball at Pepperell.

John Nye, who has been visiting a few weeks in town, returned Saturday to his home in Willimington, N. Y.

Mrs. William Richards spent the week-end with friends in Quincy, Mass.

Miss Frances Farnsworth is spending a few days with her sister, Mrs. Mabel Hammond, at Groton.

The children had a very fine Christmas tree with exercises at the Daniels Academy hall on Friday afternoon of last week. There was speaking, singing and a drill. The tree was loaded with presents and Santa Claus was present to help deliver them.

Miss Marguerite Chandler and Lawrence Corey are at home for two weeks from their school at Nashua.

Charles Dunbar has been spending a week at Boston.

Mrs. Carrie Whitecomb has been quite ill at her home. Her daughter, Mrs. Taylor, from Fitchburg, has been caring for her.

Warren Shattuck was taken to the County Home at Grafton on Monday. He has become very feeble and is unable to care for himself.

Chester Elliott is at home for the holiday vacation from his school in Pittsfield, Mass.

Brookline Grange won two prizes at the State Grange this year, one for their literary work the past year and one for the ritual work.

William Bailey has been spending a few days in Worcester.

Mrs. Estella Hughes has had a telephone installed in her home, the number being 49-12.

Miss Marguerite Wilkins has come to the home of her father, Charles Wilkins, to spend the winter, from the hospital at Nashua, where she has been for several weeks.

SOUTH BROOKLINE, N. H.

News Items.

The Social club met at the home of Mrs. Elsie Shattuck Thursday afternoon, December 16. Mrs. Hazel Storer Pace was the hostess. There were fourteen members present and one guest. During the business period several suggestions were made and adopted for the good of the club. The members presented Mrs. Pace a wedding gift of a pair of beautiful blankets, also, silver fruit knives from Mrs. E. C. Fessenden and an olive fork from Mrs. O. D. Fessenden. During the social hour there were vocal selections by Mrs. Ferguson and Mrs. Pace. The hostess served a lunch of sandwiches, ice cream and cake. The next meeting will be with Mrs. Belle Fessenden, December 20.

Mrs. John Gilmore passed the week-end in Lowell, the guest of Miss Loreta Gardner.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Fessenden were in Boston Thursday last week for a combined business and pleasure trip.

Mrs. Perley Pierce was a visitor in Milford Friday of last week.

O. D. Fessenden made a business trip to Boston on Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Pace will spend the Christmas holiday in Shirley with Mr. and Mrs. Lester Holden.

The Christmas exercises will be held in the Congregational church Sunday, December 26. The musical program will be as follows: Voluntary, "Nazareth," Heysler, choir; offertory solo, "The angel's song," Edwards, Harland Whitecomb; "Hark! what means those holy voices," Thomas, choir; other solos will be sung by Mr. Lahe, Mrs. Olive Ferguson, Delbert Porter; recitations by the children, assisted by the choir, with selections from "Angel voices," hymn: "Silent night," Gruber, Sunday school; remarks, Rev. Mr. Abbott; hymn: "It came upon the midnight clear," Willis, Sunday school; Christmas recessional, Maxwell, Mrs. Hazel Storer Pace, organist.

PEPPERELL

News Items.

William Blood and a college classmate arrived from Dartmouth the latter part of last week for the holidays. Miss Katherine also is spending her two weeks' vacation from Simmons college at the homestead with her family.

On Thursday of last week Mrs. M. M. Richards was called to Milford, N. H., to attend the funeral services for Mrs. Sarah Burns, an aunt of her late husband, A. S. Richards.

Action of the county commissioners on the change of grade and location of Canal street, held at Lowell on Monday, December 20, was postponed for two weeks.

Dancing in Ayer town hall Christmas afternoon from 3 to 7 and at Hardy's hall, Ayer, from 8 to 11.45. Management of "Gig" Miner.

erty of Dr. Walton. The other hostesses, and the members generally, were seated in old-time dress, lending a peculiar charm to the event. Many of the articles of dress were of singular beauty, surpassing any of the newer styles of this day, the handsome hand-embroidered collars being noticeable.

Perhaps the most noteworthy guest of the afternoon was Mrs. Lucy A. Boynton, a charter member of the chapter, and also its oldest, as she passed her 89th birthday December 12. She was attired in plain dress with full skirt, covered by a silk apron, lace trimmed. She also wore an old-fashioned kerchief, lace mitts of the style of a century ago, a cap, which was probably 75 years old, having been the property of Mrs. Eli Boynton, her husband's mother, who attained the age of 101 years. The glasses worn by Mrs. Boynton were once worn by her grandmother, Mrs. Kezia Colburn, of Hollis, N. H. They were peculiar as to the bows and the lenses were an oblong octagon in shape. Although Mrs. Boynton might miss the pleasure of seeing her, from her loss of eyesight, it must have been a source of gratification to receive the universal praise her costume produced.

Very striking old-time costumes were also worn by the regent, Mrs. Elizabeth Boynton, and sister, Miss Shattuck, the latter wearing an English linen, in blue and white, the chapter colors.

During the afternoon Mr. Blake delighted the company by several selections from his fine Edison phonograph, including national hymns and selections classical as well as savoring of "Ye olden time."

A pleasantly informal reception was tendered by Mrs. E. C. Chapman, the bride-member of the chapter, and was presided by Mrs. Appleton with a handsome bird's-nest fern in a charming basket, from her friends in the chapter.

The chapter was glad to have with them one of their absent members, Mrs. H. E. Perry, who now resides in Lawrence, Mass., in the presence of a guest, William Appleton, of Boston, who appreciated his patriotism and that of his wife, the late Mrs. Appleton, who was one of the ardent war workers in France during the three years of the conflict, and returned here only to die, was thoroughly tested. There were also several guests about town.

The hostess, Mrs. Perry, was assisted in serving five o'clock tea by Mrs. Weston and Miss Sartelle and Mrs. Harriet A. S. Phelps, who poured. Conspicuous among the refreshments were old-time pound cake, seed cookies, home-made "bride cake." There were also the home-made old-fashioned peppermint creams and other confectionery.

The rooms were charmingly decked with potted plants, including cyclamens and ferns, and a fine Christmas cactus in full bloom attracted much attention. All expressed much pleasure in the successful commemoration of so important an event.

Woman's Club.

A truly merry Yule-tide spirit permeated the meeting of the Woman's club on Tuesday at the Christmas party. The pleasant little hall in Saunders block was very well filled with about sixty members and guests. The Christmas atmosphere was strongly in evidence, from the trimming of the room with Christmas greenery and the very pretty Christmas tree, to the attitude of those entertaining and entertained.

After a short meeting of the executive board the meeting was opened by a short but excellent program of music and readings. Mrs. J. O. Bennett recited a plan, solo and responded to an encore. Miss Flynn sang three readings and a vocal solo with encore were given by Mrs. Alice Bartlett.

A specially arranged play followed. The scenes were laid in a country school of fifty years ago and the "children" were in suitable attire. Mr. Addison Woodward, in proper garb and austere demeanor, acted as the teacher. The pupils' appearance was sufficient to win their repeated applause. The girls were dressed in the full skirts and pantalettes of those times with corkscrew curls in abundance, and the boys were little farmer lads, in overalls and jumpers. All were vigorously showing gum and many brought their dinner pails along. As they spoke their lines, the frequent interruptions were prompted by laughter and applause. The little bashful girl who slipped and the even younger one who recited "Twinkle, twinkle, little star," won the audience, and the "boy" who was such an extra good "big" dancer, to music furnished by youth organs, was called "too cute" by the pupils. Mrs. Maude Parker, Mrs. Anna Wright, Mrs. Irene Attridge, Mrs. Alice Hayes, Mrs. Mabel Parker, Mrs. Minnie Qua, Mrs. Charlotte Drawbridge, Mrs. Elsie Copp and Mrs. Frances Howe.

At the close of the country school session, the contents of the tree were distributed by the same little children and they first presented their teachers with a huge well stuffed stocking, fashioned of mosquito netting. Other appropriate gifts with a basket of lollipops were also passed to each member, and to the guests, Mrs. Helen Burns, Miss Bertha Pierce and Miss Mabel Spooner.

All entered heartily into the gaiety of the meeting and as must have occurred here feeling the better for the good, hearty laugh they had enjoyed.

New Advertisements

FOR SALE - One beam one-horse sled for \$25, also, about 1200 lbs. of hay. MILTON WHEELER, River Road, East Pepperell, Mass. 1117

LOST - A pin with a large opal, surrounded by a row of diamonds. Finder please bring with, or notify Mrs. G. S. WELLS, Shirley, Mass. 1117

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex, ss. Probate Court. In the division under the will and all other persons interested in the estate of MARY W. LAWTON, late of Groton, in said County, deceased.

Whereas, ETTA A. ARMSTRONG, executrix of said estate, has demanded and presented to said Court her petition for license to sell at public auction the real and personal estate of said deceased for the payment of debts, and charges of administration, and for other purposes therein stated, and you are hereby cited to appear at said Probate Court, to be held at Cambridge in said County, on the eleventh day of January A. D. 1921, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, to show cause, if any you have, why the same should not be granted.

And said petitioner is ordered to serve this citation by delivering a copy thereof to all persons interested in the estate of said deceased, at least before said Probate Court, on the tenth day of January in each week, for three successive weeks, in the Groton Landmark, a newspaper published in said County, and to publish the same once in each week, for three successive weeks, in the Groton Landmark, a newspaper published in said County, and to mail a copy of this citation to all known persons interested in the estate of said deceased, at least before said Probate Court, on the tenth day of January in each week, for three successive weeks, in the Groton Landmark, a newspaper published in said County, and to mail a copy of this citation to all known persons interested in the estate of said deceased, at least before said Probate Court, on the tenth day of January in each week, for three successive weeks, in the Groton Landmark, a newspaper published in said County, and to mail a copy of 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Best Christmas for a Boy

By DOUGLAS MALLOCH

ONE boy to another—I have never gotten over being one, although I am getting as gray as a billy-goat around the cars—I want to give it as my opinion that a Christmas anywhere but in the country is no Christmas at all!

A city Christmas is a make-believe, a hollow mockery, a false alarm, an imitation. I have tried both kinds, and so I know. A city Christmas has all the trim and tinsel, and that is all. By the time you get as old and feel as young as I am, you find most of the plate worn off.

Honestly, boys (and girls), I don't think Santa Claus himself ever feels very much at home except on a rural route! He has a mighty poor job in a big town, with flies instead of chimneys, and everything. And it is hard to see where he gets room to turn a sleigh and eight reindeer around, tiny reindeer though they may be. He'll be pretty certain to bump into a hydrant or tip over on a curb.

And with twenty families all using one flue (and, what is worse, a soft coal flue at that) how in the world is the most experienced Santa going to find which is Brown's and which is Smith's, and where the Greens live? Even if he dared rip and ask (which no Santa Claus is ever supposed to do) nobody could tell him. For perhaps the Browns and the Smiths have never "met," and the Greens might live across the hall for a month before anybody thought to inquire their name.

For that is one thing you don't get much of in the city—neighbors. Sometimes when the woman across the road keeps running in just when your mother is canning, or baking, or treating a shirt-bosom kindly but firmly with a flat-iron, your mother may almost wish that they weren't quite so neighborly in the country—but she wouldn't. She would miss having the same as you would miss having the same boys to play with year after year.

For in the city you are always getting a fresh lot of playmates and sometimes they are a mighty fresh lot, too. Of course there are some good kids, also; but it always seems that just when you get to liking some fellow up the street or across the alley, the landlord boosts the rent and his folks have to move, and you never see him again. He may move only from one side of the city to the other, but it might as well be to another state. It is live or ten or twenty miles—miles of houses, no miles of flats, and streetcar tracks, and railroads, and factories—and you never see him again or any of his folks.

The boys you know this Christmas probably won't be around at all next Christmas, if you live in the city. That is a funny thing about city folks; they are always going somewhere and never getting anywhere. Why, even if the landlord didn't raise the rent, October 1 or May 1 or whenever the lease expires, they might move anyway! People who live in flats instead of homes are always looking for something better and getting something worse. They have the most wonderful collection of rent receipts, but not a foot of ground, not a roof or rafter, they can call their own.

Now, I don't know what you think, but I think that every family ought to have a house of its own, a house it lives in year after year. That is, of course, unless the father has some sort of job that makes it necessary for him to move to some other town every other year or so. But it is a great thing to live in a home, not just a house, and that is about the best place, and the only place, to have a Christmas, a real, sure-enough, honest-to-goodness Christmas.

Most of you boys who live on the farm and in the small town have that kind of home, and I wonder if you know how lucky you are? Wouldn't you hate to wake up Christmas morning and look at the ceiling and realize that someone else owned it, and then get up and go out in the front yard and realize that someone else owned that, too—why, you'd get so after awhile that, everything you saw, you would wonder who owned it!

I tell you, boys, it's a great satisfaction to have a back yard and to know it's yours, and that you can invite people into it, or invite people to stay out of it, just as you please. Why, that is what brought the Pilgrim Fathers to America—they wanted a spot they could call their own. I don't say that it was exactly a back yard they wanted, but what they wanted was some place they could play ball and no landlord of a king could come along and tell them to stop because they might break some of the royal windows. You know old King George did come along and try to make them stop—and you know what happened to the royal windows. Zant!

And then there is this matter of snow. You know some people don't think it is much of a Christmas without snow. Now, I know quite a lot about snow because I've been acquainted with a lot of it. I have tramped through it up in the Hudson Bay country, and I've wallowed around in it in the summertime on top of the Rocky mountains. And I want to tell

you that there is a great difference in snow—that is, there is a great difference between country snow and city snow.

We may not have snow this Christmas, but we'll just suppose we do. Isn't a good, old lively snowstorm great? Perhaps it is one of these lazy snowstorms with the big, white flakes just floating down like feathers and slowly turning the roads and roofs to white, like a coat of good white paint. Maybe there will be enough of it to make good coasting on the hills and good sleighing on the roads.

And, by the way, do you know there are boys in the big cities who have never seen a sleigh? Because a sleigh is getting to be a scarce article in the cities. You see, as soon as a little snow comes the street-cleaning department gets busy and sweeps it up, before it gets a chance to melt into slush.

In the country the winter wheat needs it, and the ground takes care of it. But in the city it just means slop and slush. So they sweep it up and carry it as soon as they can.

But they let you keep your snow in the country. When a warm wind comes along it will pack down and you can have your snow-men, and your snow forts, and your snowball battles. (Only please don't use your artillery on older folks, or girls, or me.)

Or perhaps this snowstorm is one of the blizzard kind, with the wind zipping around the house and piling



Snowballs Through Royal Windows.

the snow up in the corners—why that kind of snow doesn't seem to come down at all, but just goes slanting by until it runs up against something it can't pass.

I remember being on a night train one time; and when we woke up in the morning, and the train was running over the smooth prairies, a little girl from a big city in western Pennsylvania (I won't tell you what city it is, but maybe you can guess) exclaimed as she looked out of the window: "Look, Mamma! The snow out here is white!"

I don't need to say much about the Christmas dinner. But if you have your Christmas dinner in the country, the turkey perhaps is one your folks raised, or that was raised in the neighborhood—anyhow, it is pretty likely to be a native, and not a resident of a cold storage plant somewhere. Or maybe you'll have a goose or a brace of chickens. Anyway, you'll know their pedigree, and that they're fresh and good.

And it will be the same way all down the line—vegetables, and pies, and everything. And cooked—cooked to a turn—just long enough—just short enough—just right.

And you will more than likely have one thing that they won't have at the Christmas dinner in the city, because you know the cost of living just now is mighty high, in town especially, for both rich and poor. So you will have one thing that the city boy probably will not have—Enough!

So I could go on and show you a dozen other ways in which a Christmas in the country puts it all over a Christmas in the city, but I am going to mention just one thing more: the Christmas tree.

Of course they have Christmas trees in the city. In New York trainloads of them come down every season from the Adirondacks, and in Chicago boatloads come from Michigan's upper peninsula. You can buy them for fifty cents, or a dollar, and they make very good Christmas trees indeed.

I don't know what you think about this either—but I have always thought that things I did myself and for myself were just twice the fun of things I bought myself or hired myself. And I think that especially about a Christmas tree. If you are lucky enough to be able to go out and pick your own tree, and chop it down, and bring it in—well, that's what I call a real Christmas tree!

Because that is really and truly your Christmas tree. You selected it with your own eye and chopped it down with your own axe and brought it home with your own muscle. The Christmas tree—that is your job:

Bringing in the Tree.  
Father gets the turkey,  
Mother makes the pie—  
Each one has a Christmas job  
I do, and so have I.  
Sister strings the popcorn  
To decorate—but, gee!  
I have got the biggest job—  
Bringing in the tree!

Turkey is important,  
Pie and such are great,  
Popcorn strings you have to have  
When you decorate—  
But I guess a Christmas  
Christmas wouldn't be  
If you didn't have a boy  
Bringing in the tree!

Notice it, Reader?  
"Judging from the advertising pages of the magazines," remarked the Observer of Events and Things, "It would seem to me that there is a new kind of corset constructed every minute."—Yonkers Statesman.

The Sensitive Sex.  
When a homely woman is told that she looks like some other homely woman and the other woman hears about it, they are both mad.—Acheson Globe.

SHIRLEY

News Items.

Mrs. Ida Warren of Boston spent the week-end at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank C. Brockelman.

Russell Miner is expected home from Clinton hospital for Christmas.

Charles Miner is spending Christmas with his sister, Mrs. Jennings, in Providence, R. I.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry E. Farnsworth and daughter Mildred spent several days in Boston this week.

Henry Matthews was a guest over Sunday at the home of his sister, Mrs. Clayton Wells.

Miss Agnes Holden left Thursday to spend Christmas at the home of her niece, Mrs. Leroy E. Peabody at White-neyville, Conn. Mr. Peabody is an instructor at Yale university.

Leslie C. Wells of Cleveland, O., arrived Friday at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George S. Wells, to spend Christmas.

Mrs. Percy Gale and two children are at the home of her mother, Mrs. Charles Tewksbury. Mr. Gale will join them for Christmas.

Miss Evelyn Wells of Boston is spending the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence D. Wells, at the Industrial school for boys.

Mrs. Frank C. Brockelman has been sick the past week with an attack of acute indigestion.

The Ladies' circle will meet Wednesday afternoon, December 23, at the home of Mrs. Charles Tewksbury.

Comrade Jubb is spending a few days at the farm of Arthur Cummings, helping with some extra work.

Old Shirley chapter, D. A. R., will meet with Mrs. Charles Tewksbury Tuesday evening, December 23.

The C. B. E. club met Monday evening with Miss Gertrude Provost. A Christmas tree was the attraction of the evening, as each girl remembered every other with a toy or joke. It made a very happy time. A regular lunch was served by the hostess.

The Altruistic club will meet Thursday afternoon, December 30, at the municipal building. It will be a New Year's meeting and tea will be served.

The Samson Cordage works posted notices Tuesday morning announcing the mills would be closed from Christmas until January 3. When the mill opens it will be with a reduction of about 2 1/2 percent in the wages and full time.

Mrs. Lovey Sprague Holden of West-minster and New York city and well known in Shirley, has been visiting her sisters in Randolph. Her sister, Miss Theo Sprague, will return with her to New York for the holiday season.

Mrs. Holden has recently visited her old school friend, Mrs. Susan Clark Brown, of Manchester, N. H., wife of the governor-elect.

Center

Edwin Bridgman of Amherst college is at the home of his parents, Rev. and Mrs. Howard A. Bridgman, for the Christmas vacation.

Those who are attending Pittsburg high school will have a vacation next week, the school closing on Thursday of this week for the freshmen and on Friday of this week for the other classes.

The party, who is moving with his family into the Thompson house at the North, is a brother of Mrs. Grace Brown, who makes her home with Mr. and Mrs. Harold Blenkhorn at the North. The new family come here from New Brunswick.

Miss Mildred Evans of Arlington comes home this week for a week's vacation from teaching school in Arlington.

Arthur Carlson, who injured his foot recently, is now able to be out again.

Miss Evelyn Snow, who attends the House of Pines school, is at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Snow, for the Christmas vacation.

Carl Boutlier, who recently underwent an operation for appendicitis at the Groton hospital, is doing well, and expects to return to the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Boutlier, this week.

Miss Mae Bradford of Wheaton college is spending the Christmas vacation at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Bradford.

Twenty-seven new guide boards have been put in place about town this week, mainly in the vicinity of the Center and North. The boards are large and well made, and are the work of Harry N. Brown of Ayer. With these new boards in position, the various cross-roads and corners about town are well provided for.

Everett Farnsworth is spending Christmas in Leominster at the home of his mother.

Miss Clara Sackett of Boston is a Christmas guest at the home of Frank J. Lawton.

On Monday evening about twenty-five neighbors and friends serenaded Mr. and Mrs. Edith Farnsworth, who have recently returned from a wedding trip. After they had announced their presence by means of horns, tin-pans, etc., they were invited into the Farnsworth home, where a pleasant evening was spent. Games were played, and refreshments of cake, coffee, doughnuts, apples, candy and cigars were served.

Shirley center was in darkness for a short time Wednesday evening on account of an accident to the electric light system elsewhere in town.

The meeting of Shirley Grange on Tuesday evening was given up entirely to a Christmas entertainment, the meeting being open to the families of Grange members. There was a Christmas tree and the hall was appropriately decorated for the occasion. The following program was given: Song, "Star Spangled Banner" by all; recitation, "Almeida Freeman" by four girls; vocal solo, Sylvia Richardson; reading, Edna Buxton; song, Marion Richardson; recitation, Donald Freeman; reading, Margaret Dodge; song by six girls; song, "Hurrah for old New England," by all. George F. Buxton, master of the Grange, who has been attending the Massachusetts State Grange session at Pittsfield, gave a short talk on daylight-saving. Presents were distributed to the children, and each child received an orange, apple and candy. A social hour with dancing followed.

The work of preparing a new school-room in the town hall is under way, and although this room will not open next week, it will be opened in the very near future.

Miss Vera Bradford of Everett is at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Bradford, for the Christmas vacation.

Mr. and Mrs. George F. Buxton and Mrs. Ella Blenkhorn returned home last week after spending several days in Pittsfield at the sessions of the State Grange.

The first in the series of military whist parties to be given by Shirley Grange was held in the town hall last Friday evening, with a good number present, there being about twelve tables of players. The prizes for the high score of the evening were won by Arthur R. Holden, Percy G. Farnsworth, Mrs. Gertrude Farnsworth and Robert H. J. Holden. The low score was made by Richard Holden, Miss Ethylis C. Farrar, Miss Mary Hearn and Robert Farrar. At the close of the whist dancing was enjoyed with music by a local orchestra of four pieces. Cocoa and cake were served. The Camp Fire girls had a table of fancy articles on sale throughout the evening.

The Center primary and grammar schools are closed this week for the Christmas vacation, and will reopen on Monday, December 27.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Evans, who were married recently, returned last week from their wedding trip, and are living at the home of Mr. Evans' parents on Hazen road.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward A. Farnsworth, who were married the 11th, have returned from their wedding trip, and are living at their home at North Shirley.

It is understood that a family is soon to move into the house at the North, formerly owned by the late Edward R. Thompson, their household goods being already on the way here.

Christmas Exercises.

The Center primary and grammar schools, under the direction of Miss Carrie G. Bradford and Miss Lucy G. Larkin, held joint Christmas exercises on last week Friday afternoon at the Center school. A number of the parents and friends were present. There were the usual Christmas tree and decorations, and the following program was given by the children: Christmas carol, by the school; welcome, Robert Hatch; song, "The Christmas tree," grammar school; "Her letter," Elizabeth Comstock; "How we spent Christmas," Dorothy Carson; greeting, Violet Pomeroy, Eva Hoose, Loretta Fournier; exercise, "The Christmas month"; A Christmas quiz, James Carson; songs, "Twinkle, Twinkle, Twinkle" and "Santa's Reindeer," grades 3 and 4; "The Christmas Dings," Dave Wiggins; "Edna Buxton's song," "Wishes Thru the Olive Trees," grammar school; "Gifts for the king," grades 3 and 4; "Clap your hands for Santa," Violet Pomeroy, Robert Hatch, Eva Hoose, James Carson, Loretta Fournier; "Hark, the herald angels sing," by the school.

Littleton

News Items.

Mr. Dunbar will preach in the Baptist church again Sunday. He received a call from this church, but at time of writing no reply has been reported.

A novel and much appreciated feature of the Baptist Sunday school is the special singing of each Sunday.

The Christmas tree and entertainment at the Baptist church furnished a happy occasion for the children and young people of the society.

At the Congregational church Sunday morning the pastor's theme will be "The year and the king."

Sunday evening Roger Conant will lead the Christian Endeavor meeting. Subject, "The story of Joseph and Benjamin."

At 7:30 a Christmas cantata will be given under direction of the choir. The title is "The story of Bethlehem." Everybody is welcome. An offering will be taken at this time for the relief of the famine in China.

The Sunday school last week made a donation to the famine stricken people of China.

The attendance at church last Sunday was 122 and at Sunday school, 93.

A watch night service at the Congregational church is being planned. Further particulars will be announced from the pulpit Sunday.

Rev. Mr. Cleland plans to call on all his parishioners during the holiday week.

Ernest Childs and Mrs. Edith Schopper were married at the Congregational parsonage by Rev. Gail Cleland Monday evening, December 20. They were attended by Mr. Child's brother and his wife as best man and matron of honor.

Misses Fannie and Gertrude Sanderson at holiday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Blanchard of West Acton.

On Monday, December 27, there will be a reunion of the Sanderson family at the old homestead, Littleton depot.

The Merry Go Round club will sing Christmas carols Friday evening, weather permitting.

The Merry Go Round club will hold a dance in the town hall Saturday evening, January 1. Music will be furnished by the Municipal Singing orchestra of Waltham.

Miss Evelyn Kimball is at home from Springfield, Vt. for the vacation. Miss Katherine Kimball of Brockton is with the home people for the week-end. Allan and Gordon from Boston are spending his week of vacation at his home.

Miss Hattie Shaffer came home last Saturday for the holiday season.

A family reunion will be held at C. L. Smith's Saturday.

On Thursday, December 16, Miss Gertrude F. Sanderson of the state federation art department, lectured before the Southern Woman's club on "Venice and her treasures," illustrating with her own sketches and foreign photographs and interspersed with Venetian music furnished by the club.

A recent communication from Rev. Oliver J. Fairfield of Long Beach, Cal., pictures conditions and surroundings very pleasantly. The climate is delightful, sweet peas blossom in the garden and the church work of which Mr. Fairfield has charge is progressing well. Miss Priscilla Fairfield is at home for the holidays and Miss Junifera from the University of Southern California joins the home people over each week-end. Mrs. Chambers and Mr. Doming are pleasantly located in an apartment within easy reach of the Fairfield family and enjoy the attractions of Liberty park, the pleasant walks, etc. With affectionate interest Mr. Fairfield speaks of Littleton and his people, and closes his charming letter with a kind remembrance and good wishes and holiday greetings from the family to all inquiring friends here.

Carl G. Hord, Jr., in chopping wood last Monday, had the misfortune to cut his finger.

At the movies Tuesday, December 28, in the town hall at 7:45 p. m., the leading feature will be Charles Ray in "Alarm Clock Andy." There will be the usual Pathe News, etc.

College night in the Alliance calendar will be observed in the Unitarian vestry Friday evening, December 31. Note the change in date. A college orchestra, singing of college songs, speeches, and a general, informal good time is promised. All who were present last year will surely want to repeat the fun. The invitation is extended any institution beyond the high school. Come with your college yell, your stories, and your good old college spirit, and make this the jolliest social function of the season.

The E. A. Flagg spent last week-end with friends in Providence.

Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Burt and daughter from New York are with Mrs. Burt's people for the Christmas vacation.

The King's Daughters will hold an all-day meeting with Mrs. Fred Hosmer, January 4, 1921. Box lunch and an abundance of sewing. A large attendance is desired.

Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Turner of Milford, N. H., are holiday guests of the H. F. Proctors.

Mr. and Mrs. Gardner W. Prouty entertain all their children and grandchildren Christmas day.

Miss Nina Fletcher, violinist, and her sister, Mrs. Mary Fletcher Gilbert, contralto, are to give a concert at the Unitarian vestry in Ayer Tuesday evening, January 11, under the auspices of the Ayer Branch Alliance.

Unitarian Notes.

The annual Christmas party for the members of the church school was held Friday afternoon and proved as usual a happy time for all. Santa Claus was there in all his glory and ice cream and cake put on the finishing touch to a merry Christmas.

The annual holiday dance under the auspices of the Back-Log club will be held this Saturday evening in the town hall. This party is always largely attended and one is sure to meet here his out-of-town friends.

Tomorrow will be observed as Christmas Sunday with special sermon and a fine musical program.

Sunday, January 2, will be New Year's Sunday. The devotional service, the musical program, and the sermon, will be appropriate to the day and the Lord's supper will be celebrated. Let every one in the parish attend this service and start the new year right.

The annual parish meeting will be held Monday evening, December 27. The various officers, committees, allied societies, and the minister, will make their annual reports, and officers for the year 1921 will be elected. All members are invited to attend this annual business meeting.

The annual every-member canvass of the parish was made last Sunday afternoon by sixteen canvassers. Although this canvass came soon after the Unitarian campaign, in which the Littleton church went in for the top, every canvasser received a cordial welcome wherever he called.

Roy C. Wilbur and son Howard, Edwin H. Priest and son Warren, John Hardy and Chester Newcomb were the delegates from the Littleton chapter to the Unitarian Laymen's League meeting in Unity House, Boston, last Sunday evening. It was a meeting for fathers and sons only. They report splendid addresses on football, baseball, yachting and rowing by such well-known sportsmen as Robert T. Fisher, Kenneth L. Nash, Charles Francis Adams and Leverett Saltonstall. Rev. Falfrey Perkins of West-Mass gave a stirring address on "The game of life." There was splendid singing by the Laymen's League chorus and instrumental music by a quintet of members of the Boston Symphony orchestra. Over one thousand men and boys attended the meeting.

The largest attendance at the morning service last month was 162. There ought to be that many and more every Sunday. Attendance upon the Sunday morning worship is not the whole of religion, but an important part.

A special collection will be taken Sunday to help save three and a half million starving children of eastern and central Europe.

Clipping.

From Long Beach, California, press of December 10 we are happy to quote the following article which our readers will find of vital interest:

Mr. and Mrs. James White, 231 Cherry avenue, celebrated the fifty-first anniversary of their marriage yesterday in an unusual way by inviting the Women's Alliance of the Unitarian church to hold its December meeting at their home. As this was also one of the first social gatherings to be held in their beautiful new home, their friends gathered in great numbers to celebrate the happy event with them and to give the new home a proper social house-warming.

An excellent program had been prepared and was much enjoyed. Mrs. Emma K. Lemley of Littleton, Mass., was the speaker for the afternoon and gave a fresh and delightful travel talk full of humorous and touching personal incidents of a trip from the Golden Gate to Beijing. She dwelt especially upon the customs and costumes of the orient, and narrated many unusual experiences in Japan, China, Ceylon and India, as well as in the Holy Land.

For the bride and groom of fifty-one years ago Rev. O. J. Fairfield in a felicitous speech replete with wisdom and loving counsel, tendered the congratulations and well-wishes of the friends present and closed by reciting Burns' poem "John Anderson, my John," with the stanza that has since been added to complete the sentiment, and Mrs. M. E. Garwood sang in a charming manner the appropriate and touching old song, "Darby and Joan." In an accompaniment by Mrs. A. J. Bowman.

The house had been tastefully decorated with flowers; and dainty refreshments were served by the hostess assisted by young women of the Alliance. Notable among the guests were Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Lacey, who have just arrived in Long Beach for a vacation from a long and profitable missionary work in China.

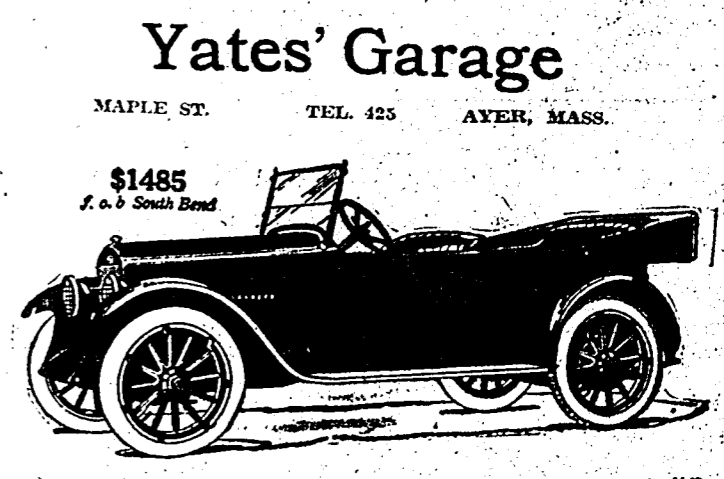
Watch the Straws.

It is an old saw that declares that straws show which way the wind blows.

Just at present a pleasing, and interesting aggregation of straws indicate

Studebaker LIGHT-SIX We are ready to demonstrate and make deliveries of this NEW LIGHT-SIX

The new Studebaker Light-Six meets the long existing demand for a comfortable, durable and economical light-weight, six-cylinder car. The public has always wanted such a car—the New Light-Six satisfies this desire. Although this new six-cylinder car weighs but 2400 pounds, it is so perfectly balanced that its roadability is remarkable—there is no side sway or creeping—it drives straight as an arrow. You must ride in it and drive it to appreciate just how it sets new standards of power, flexibility, comfort, ease of handling, smoothness of operation and freedom from vibration. The motor of the New Light-Six is an exclusive Studebaker design—conceived by Studebaker engineers and built complete in Studebaker factories. No other light six-cylinder motor yet produced is as free from vibration or as flexible and powerful. You can have the advantage of this motor's wonderful gasoline economy and the satisfaction of its smoothness of operation only by owning a Studebaker Light-Six. Let us give you a demonstration of the New Light-Six—or better, still drive it yourself.



Yates' Garage MAPLE ST. TEL. 425 AYER, MASS. \$1485 5 c. & 5 South Bend It Is Not Enough to have the bowels move. It is more important to persuade liver, kidneys, skin, and bowels to act in harmony and against self-poisoning. BEECHAM'S PILLS act favorably upon all organs concerned in food-digestion and waste-elimination; they remove causes as well as relieve symptoms.

BEECHAM'S PILLS Largest Sale of any Medicine in the World. Sold by druggists throughout the world. In boxes, 10c., 25c.

New Advertisements SUITS RANGING FROM \$12.00 TO \$20.00 Also HAND BAGS and SUIT CASES at Reasonable Prices.

AYER NOVELTY STORE 1 West Main St.

SERVICE AUTOMOBILE PAINTING Cars made to look like new

Also, Carriage and Sign Painting

49 Years' Experience All Work Guaranteed

F. J. PERRY Central Ave. Ayer 1117

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS. Middlesex as Probate Court. To the heirs-at-law, next of kin, creditors and all other persons interested in the estate of MARGARET PELLETTIER, late of Ayer, in said County of Middlesex, deceased, intestate. Whereas a petition has been presented to said Court to grant a letter of administration on the estate of said deceased to AUGUSTUS PELLETTIER of Ayer in the County of Middlesex, and you are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court to be held at Cambridge in said County of Middlesex, on the third day of January A.D. 1921, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, to show, if any you have, why the same should not be granted. And the petitioner is hereby directed to give public notice thereof, by publishing this citation once in each week for three consecutive weeks in the Public Spirit, a newspaper published in said County of Middlesex, on the third day of January A.D. 1921, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, to show, if any you have, why the same should not be granted. Witness my hand and seal of said Court, this 25th day of December, 1920. F. M. ESTY, Jr.



TWO DOLLARS A YEAR IN ADVANCE

All Advertisements Appear in All the Ten Papers We Publish

Change of Address: Subscribers wishing the postoffice address of the paper changed, must send us both the old and new address and also the name of the paper they receive.

Items of local interest are solicited and published always, but as a guarantee of good faith, no advertising will be considered strictly confidential. Material should reach us before the day of occurrence and do not wait unnecessarily.

Saturday, December 25, 1920

GROTON

News Items: Rev. Mr. Page of Colby college, formerly of the Dudley Street Baptist church, will preach at the Baptist church next Sunday. The Unitarian Sunday school has its Christmas entertainment on Friday evening, December 24, with a supper at six p. m., followed by an entertainment by the children...

On Sunday there will be services in commemoration of the Christmas season at the Unitarian church. Miss Helen Dodge was operated upon for appendicitis on Monday at St. Joseph's hospital in Nashua. Dr. Smith performed the operation, and at last accounts the patient was doing well.

Miss Lillian W. Kane is in town during her Christmas vacation. Miss Genevieve H. Harrington, who is at home for the Christmas season, is assisting in the postoffice this week. Arthur Tuttle, his son Clarence, and his grandson, Kendall, left town Wednesday of last week for the south. Word was received from them from Jacksonville saying that they reached there on Friday and expected to be in San Mateo at noon.

An urgent appeal is made for money for the one and one-half million children in eastern and central Europe, who will starve unless help is sent them. Please send money for this charity to Rev. C. B. Ames, Groton, before January 2.

Mrs. James Fitzpatrick and Miss Belle Lancy took an auto ride Monday to Brookline, visiting friends and relatives, calling on Mrs. George H. Johnson and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Williams and little Pauline. After feasting on Mrs. Williams' good 'eats' and hot drinks they returned home feeling well pleased with their day's journey. Miss Lancy stood the trip remarkably well in her fall condition.

A communication has been received from the purchasing committee of the Middlesex County Farm bureau stating that the committee feels it advisable to confine its activities during the present season to the purchase of lime, acid phosphate and seed potatoes. It advises the bureau members not to hurry in placing orders for spring requirements, but suggests that they figure out their probable needs, and hand this information to their local directors in advance of the date of the annual meeting of the bureau, which is to be held on December 29.

The Groton school boys left town on Friday of last week for the Christmas recess. On Sunday morning the pastor of the Congregational church preached on "The eternal Christmas." The musical selections for the day were all in keeping with the Christmas season. The church was most attractive in its decorations of evergreen wreaths and trees with red berries in contrast against the green background.

The topic for the men's class next Sunday will be "New Year's resolutions." It was announced that there would be a class of fifteen persons to join the church next Sunday, some by word and some by letter. The subject of the men's meeting was Genesis 12:28. At the evening service on Sunday the topic was "The message of the man of Christmas yesterday to the men of today." There were cornet solos by J. Marcelais and special music by a male quartet.

On Tuesday evening the Middlesex Rebekeh lodge elected officers for next year as follows: Edie V. Harrington, n.g.; Mrs. Mary Riddin, v.g.; Blanche M. Brown, n.s.; Eddie M. Durant, n.s.; Miss Mabel Souther, treas.; James B. Harrington, trustee for three years. All past noble grands are eligible as representatives to the Rebekeh assembly.

E. S. Clark post, G. A. R., and W. R. C. will hold a joint installation on Tuesday afternoon at two o'clock on January 4 in Oddfellows' hall.

Clayton Sheedy returned last week from Lehigh university for the Christmas recess. Mrs. Annie Gage is spending Christmas in Bolton.

The Boynton cottage at Baddcock is having electric lights installed. Edward A. Roache completed the work of redecorating and renovating Fitzgerald's barber shop in Ayer last week.

W. H. Molson of Lawrence has presented the Laurence W. Gay post, A. L., with two new tables. Ernest Moyle, Mason Shattuck, Cedric Hodgman and Cedric Moison went in an auto truck and got them and they were installed in the clubhouse the first of this week. On the first Wednesday in January the club is to have a grand opening night and an election of officers. Part of the furniture for the clubhouse has been secured, but there is still need of more.

Every one is asked to come and join in the carols at the community tree on Christmas eve at 8.30 o'clock. Miss Ouida Vanderwork of Dallas, Tex., is spending the Christmas holidays at the home of Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Blood. Miss Vanderwork and Miss Blood became well acquainted while the latter was traveling in the south last summer.

Music at the Unitarian church Sunday morning services. Mr. Robinson will play: Service prelude, "Andante, op. 14, No. 2," Beethoven; response, "Adagio, op. 24, No. 5," Farnagalli; offertory, "Venetian Gondelled," Mendelssohn; postlude, "March of the peers," Sullivan.

For the week beginning December 27, the features in the town hall will be: Tuesday night, December 28, Tom Mix in "Desert Love," Friday night, December 31, James Corbett in "Prince of Avenue A."

Special new year services will be conducted at the Union Congregational church next Sunday, both morning and evening, with timely sermons by Rev. Arthur V. Dimock.

There will be a Children's night entertainment at the Grange on Tuesday evening, December 28, at 7.30 p. m. Every member is asked to bring a present, costing not over ten cents, for the Christmas tree, which will be part of the entertainment. A business meeting will be held at the close of the exercises.

Miss C. A. Ferguson of Thorndike, Me., who is spending the winter with her cousins, the Misses Vickery, will be out of town for the Christmas holidays.

Miss Dorothy Kimball is visiting the family of her brother, Harold Kimball, on Pleasant street over Christmas.

Ray and Claude Farwell are at home for the Christmas holidays. Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Farwell and family are to spend Christmas in Winchester with Charles Chapman, Mrs. Farwell's brother.

School Notes: On Tuesday of last week Miss Woods presented the cause of the Literary Digest Child Feeding fund to the children and teachers of the various schools in town, and a collection for this cause was taken on Friday. On the following Monday Miss Woods was able to send \$106.37 to the fund. It was collected as follows: Tarbell school, \$2.19; Boutwell school, \$23.55; the different rooms contributing as follows: Misses Roche and Burkinshaw's room, \$5.58; Miss Keyes' room, \$2.55; Miss Clapp's room, \$7.41; Miss DeLanzou's room, \$14; Butler high school, \$56.75.

Miss Elizabeth Marsh, now teaching in the Saugus high school, was the guest of Miss Catherine Crosbie for the senior class dance and over Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. John Hall left town Monday to spend the holidays with Mr. Hall's brother in Quincy.

The public schools closed on Friday, December 17, for the Christmas vacation.

The Tarbell school had a Christmas tree on Thursday, December 18, and carried out their program of songs and recitations. The tree was placed in the girls' basement room and Mr. Harrington acted the part of Santa Claus. After the presents were distributed, the program was continued to the upper room, where a catered lunch was served.

On Friday, December 17, at 10.30 a. m., the Butler high school and the seventh and eighth grades held their Christmas exercises with a tree in the town hall. Through the thoughtfulness of Mr. Griswold, the Groton school Christmas tree with its ornaments and electrical lighting apparatus of colored lights was used for the school's Christmas tree at the Groton school in recognition of this gift, which were heartily given. The hall was prettily decorated with evergreen and laurel wreaths and festoons, and little Christmas trees. The windows were draped with white curtains bordered with red and ornamented with hollyhock. All the parts of the program were well taken and special merit was shown by the boys' special club in the singing of the boys' reflecting much credit on Mrs. Hall for her training. Her playing for the singing during the exercises was also much appreciated. The gifts on the tree were largely of a humorous kind, as each person had drawn the name of the one to whom he was to give a present. Mr. Griswold made an excellent Santa Claus in an up-to-date costume. After the Christmas tree a carol service was given by Miss Kilbourn and her cooking school pupils, who had previously prepared it. All partook of the sandwiches, cake and coffee served with much appreciation.

The Boutwell school Christmas program was carried out on Friday afternoon at 6 p. m. The little ones were very pleasing, doing their parts well, and all the grades presented a fine program. Mr. Hall, who acted as Santa Claus, entertained the children with an account of the way Santa had received his invitation to be present. After the tree and distribution of gifts the children received a treat of oranges, ice cream cones and candy. This was the first time in the history of the schools that the Christmas entertainment was

given in the town hall and both those taking part and those looking on seemed to enjoy it with the true Christmas spirit.

The Trowbridge school celebrated Christmas on Friday. With his usual kindness W. P. Harton presented the school with the Christmas tree and its decorations, which Mrs. Ellnor Ebert and Miss Gertrude Gerlach had arranged before the opening exercises. The Christmas greeting was given by Leon Moulton, George Gregoire and Samuel Gregoire, after which the following program was given: "Birth of a King," Roland Miller; "A Christmas puzzle," Annie Carlin; "Joyous Christmas," Wallace Carlin; "A Christmas eve thought," Germaine Langley; "Just a little stocking," Ruth Carlin; "The shepherd's song," Howard Langley; "A real Christmas," Augustus Moulton; "Christmas has come," Clara Carlin; "Christmas," Charles Carlin; "The King," "Good King Wenceslaus," "Jolly old St. Nicholas," school. Afterwards the presents were distributed and refreshments of cake, ice cream and oranges were enjoyed. Including the school, there were twenty-seven persons present.

On Friday evening, December 17, the senior class of the high school gave a very enjoyable dance. Clavin's orchestra of Fitchburg furnished the music, which was very satisfactory. It may be of interest to note that Mr. Peters, our manual training school teacher last year, was a member of this orchestra. The matrons of the dance were Mrs. Nesbit Woods, Mrs. F. B. Branigan, Mrs. John Hall and Miss Woods.

Fred Taylor of the Boutwell school has his tonsils removed last Saturday.

Miss Stella Sargent, who was operated upon last Sunday at 4.30 for appendicitis at Dr. Kilbourn's hospital, is getting along nicely.

To the Editor: Many people in Groton are wondering where the appropriation for repairs of roads and bridges (about \$15,000) has been spent this year, or if most of it is in the treasury. We think you know where it has not been spent, which is in repairing our roads. The road bed through our beautiful Main street has been criminally neglected. If this liberal appropriation has been spent where has it gone? Has it been used to finish the unfinished Farmers' row road for which \$25,000 was appropriated, or has it gone in to the Cutler hill cut? If for either of these purposes, by whose authority? This money apparently was raised for a specific purpose, and not for new construction.

When petty town officials learn they are only servants of the voters who elect them, and not dictators, it will be better for them. Probably the writer is impatient, and must wait until the annual meeting for an answer to the above questions, and if this is the case it is to be hoped a comprehensive explanation of these perplexing matters will be given in the annual report. N. Y. Z.

West Groton: Mr. and Mrs. Ellie Coolidge, Mrs. Fred Baker and Pearl Deane, Orange and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Parker and son Walter of Northfield were Sunday guests at A. W. Deane's.

At Squannacook hall this Saturday evening, "Hearts of Men," George Beban, next Wednesday evening "Girl in the Rain," Anne Cornwall.

The next number of the Blood-Bigelow free public lecture course will be held in town hall, West Groton, Monday evening, December 27. The Digest Child Feeding fund to the children and teachers of the various schools in town, and a collection for this cause was taken on Friday. On the following Monday Miss Woods was able to send \$106.37 to the fund. It was collected as follows: Tarbell school, \$2.19; Boutwell school, \$23.55; the different rooms contributing as follows: Misses Roche and Burkinshaw's room, \$5.58; Miss Keyes' room, \$2.55; Miss Clapp's room, \$7.41; Miss DeLanzou's room, \$14; Butler high school, \$56.75.

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The public schools closed on Friday, December 17, for the Christmas vacation.

The Tarbell school had a Christmas tree on Thursday, December 18, and carried out their program of songs and recitations. The tree was placed in the girls' basement room and Mr. Harrington acted the part of Santa Claus. After the presents were distributed, the program was continued to the upper room, where a catered lunch was served.

On Friday, December 17, at 10.30 a. m., the Butler high school and the seventh and eighth grades held their Christmas exercises with a tree in the town hall. Through the thoughtfulness of Mr. Griswold, the Groton school Christmas tree with its ornaments and electrical lighting apparatus of colored lights was used for the school's Christmas tree at the Groton school in recognition of this gift, which were heartily given. The hall was prettily decorated with evergreen and laurel wreaths and festoons, and little Christmas trees. The windows were draped with white curtains bordered with red and ornamented with hollyhock. All the parts of the program were well taken and special merit was shown by the boys' special club in the singing of the boys' reflecting much credit on Mrs. Hall for her training. Her playing for the singing during the exercises was also much appreciated. The gifts on the tree were largely of a humorous kind, as each person had drawn the name of the one to whom he was to give a present. Mr. Griswold made an excellent Santa Claus in an up-to-date costume. After the Christmas tree a carol service was given by Miss Kilbourn and her cooking school pupils, who had previously prepared it. All partook of the sandwiches, cake and coffee served with much appreciation.

The Boutwell school Christmas program was carried out on Friday afternoon at 6 p. m. The little ones were very pleasing, doing their parts well, and all the grades presented a fine program. Mr. Hall, who acted as Santa Claus, entertained the children with an account of the way Santa had received his invitation to be present. After the tree and distribution of gifts the children received a treat of oranges, ice cream cones and candy. This was the first time in the history of the schools that the Christmas entertainment was

present in the work on the grounds of Arthur Homer.

The public schools close Friday morning with a Christmas tree and exercises in Seminary hall, and the teachers return to their respective homes for a week's vacation.

Mrs. Carrie Kaddy of West Groton was in town Wednesday, calling upon her friends here.

Rev. and Mrs. Joseph McKean have returned from a week's vacation, spent with relatives in Springfield and vicinity.

Mrs. Mary Tucker and daughters, Stella and Faith, are spending the holidays at their home on Bridge street.

Joseph Gowan is suffering from a sprained ankle, caused by twisting his foot while hurrying on the frozen ground.

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Wilson, who have been guests of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hamilton, have returned to their home in West Groton. Mr. Wilson was suddenly taken ill with acute indigestion at the railroad station, and after being taken to the doctor for treatment, they returned to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton, where they remained several days before Mr. Wilson had fully recovered.

The Homer tree for the children of the public schools will be held at the reading-room on Saturday afternoon, from two till four o'clock. The children will receive their annual gifts and treat of ice cream and cake.

Alden Sherwin has been on the sick list with a very severe cold at his home on lower Main street a few days this week.

Mrs. Sawyer of Elm street and her daughter, Miss Ivora Sawyer, left Wednesday evening for Boston, where they will spend the holidays with her daughter, Mrs. Eber Westover.

Miss Lucie Reynolds of lower Main street has joined the recently organized high school orchestra, playing the second violin.

Mr. and Mrs. Austin, who have been for a number of weeks in Mason, N. H., where Mrs. Austin has been employed at a portable sawmill, have returned to their home in Joslynvile.

HARVARD

A very welcome bit of news from our town is the fact that Lewis R. Ripley is to take charge of the Hildreth Brothers' machine shop, where he will install some modern steel and iron working machinery. He will continue to make the splitters and saw tables for Hildreth Brothers and will also be ready to handle any kind of work in the steel and iron line. Mr. Ripley is thoroughly competent to do this work.

Kerley, Reed & Bryant have a bit of art in their new 1921 system calendar. It is a photo by Bemis of our three surviving G. A. R. veterans, John Cleaves, John Preston and Charles C. Pease, as they were caught by the camera as they sat on the common in characteristic poses as they listened to one of Capt. Perry's war stories while the captain rolled his fine cut for a good smoke. The idea was excellent and the photo just as good.

Last Saturday, Lawrence Bigelow was taken suddenly ill and on advice of Dr. Royal he was taken to the Clinton hospital, where he was at once operated upon for appendicitis by Dr. Goodwin. It was a very bad case and a few hours more of delay would have been fatal, but he is getting along nicely, but the boy is very homesick and if his schoolmates would remember him with postals or letters it would do much to give him happiness.

Sunday Fred Bateman was taken with severe pains and it was decided that he be taken to the Clinton hospital and William B. Haskell took him in auto and he is still there. It has not been decided at this time what the trouble is, whether an operation will be necessary or not.

Early Monday morning Mr. Viles in going to the bathroom in some way fell down the stairway, struck his head against the banister, knocking him unconscious for a time, cutting his head and also in some way cutting his leg. His wife found him and got help and the doctor says he is now much better, so that he was down stairs Thursday, but he will have to keep quiet for some time.

The above would seem to be bad news enough for one week, but on Wednesday Rev. William Gussman, pastor of the Baptist church, was stricken with a sudden attack of acute indigestion and for awhile was unable to move. He responded to treatment and is now on the mend, but it has been decided to have no services at the church on December 26, so that he can have a better chance to recover his strength.

Christmas exercises at the Baptist church last Sunday. In the morning the pastor preached a sermon especially applicable to the day and in the evening the Sunday school gave a Christmas concert, using the exercise, "The song of the shepherds," which was rendered. At the close an offering for the starving children of the Near East was taken that amounted to \$23.

Mrs. Grace Gallup and two children of Waterford, Conn., came Wednesday to visit her parents, Rev. and Mrs. Gussman.

Merrill Spague of Amherst Agricultural college is at home for the holidays.

John Clark of Lancaster is spending the week with his aunt, Miss Katherine Clark, and with the family, to add to the Christmas mentioned in the beginning of this article, a new year's Eve ball on Wednesday and cracked one of her ribs.

Silas Parmenter of the new grocery firm here moved his family from Hudson into the house formerly the Red Maple Inn, Wednesday. They have twin girls nine years of age to add to our young people.

WESTFORD

As a result of establishing the new postoffice, Nabassett, at Brookside, the free rural delivery of mail or P.O. boxes on the Stony Brook road, has ceased. The families affected are James H. O'Brien, Oliver Desjardens, Daniel H. Sheehan and Bernard of Flynn. Their mail has been delivered through the Tynsbury postoffice, seven miles distant. They can now have a choice of several postoffices at Westford corner, with free delivery at Tynsbury corner on the Lowell road, which is the nearest, or Cold Spring at West-

WEST ACTON

Mrs. Moulton of Rutland, Vt., has been spending a week with her daughter, Mrs. H. I. Judkins.

Acton schools all closed last Friday for the Christmas vacation. Concord schools close this Friday.

Miss Sarah Croston, who has been spending several weeks with her sister, Mrs. Mary Stone, has returned to her home in Haverhill.

The Civic Federation held their regular monthly meeting Tuesday evening.

Mrs. Angie White is spending the holidays with her daughter in Fitchburg.

Mrs. Myron Chaffin has gone to Walpole, N. H., on business connected with the death of her brother who was killed by an automobile this fall.

The Misses Jessie, Helen and Evelyn Knowlton are to occupy H. A. Gould's house this winter, while a caretaker has charge of their home.

A Christmas tree with the usual exercises for the children of the Baptist Sunday school at the vestry this Friday evening.

W. J. Costello's family will spend Christmas with Mrs. Costello's parents in Everett.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Alesop spent the holiday at the home of the latter's aunt, Mrs. John Collins, Brookline.

Last Sunday a canvass of church members and others in regular attendance at the Baptist church was made for 1921.

The teachers of the public schools entertained their pupils Friday afternoon in a very pleasant way. Games, cake and ice cream were enjoyed.

Once more the glowing anthracite shining from the stoves of George Reed's customers, having received a carload of nut coal.

The Boston Store GEO. B. TURNER & SON AYER, MASS.

THE GREATEST LABOR-SAVING AND TIME-SAVING APPLIANCE EVER PRODUCED FOR THE HOME

EDEN WASHING MACHINE

WE ARE AGENTS FOR THIS SUPERIOR MACHINE SEND FOR DESCRIPTIVE CIRCULAR

Geo. B. Turner & Son

The members of Winona Rebekeh lodge enjoyed a Christmas tree at their last meeting and the following officers were elected: Mrs. Caro Taylor, n.g.; Mrs. Mae Sanborn, v.g.; Evangeline Hall, rec. sec.; Nancy Chaffin, fin. sec.; Mrs. Minnie Deconter, treas.; B. E. Hall, trustee, 3 years.

Meeting of the Appropriation Committee will be held on the following evenings in the Lower Town Hall at 8 o'clock: Thursday, December 30, 1920; Thursday, January 6, 1921; Tuesday, January 11, 1921.

News Items: The last meeting of the Grange for 1920 was held Tuesday evening. There was a short program: reading, Mrs. Lillian Emerson; piano duet, Mrs. Ladd and Mrs. Verder; piccolo solo, Forace Lund, with a piano accompaniment by Mrs. Ladd. It was voted to give \$5 to the T. B. drive. The Christmas tree was then unloaded by Mr. Erskin, who acted as Santa Claus, each one present receiving a gift. A social hour followed.

Miss Maud Hale, who has been restricted to the house for two weeks with bronchitis, is improving.

Fred Connors of Henniker, a student at the New Hampshire State college, is a guest at William B. Simons'.

William Hardy and family of Arlington were week-end guests at Ralph Tenney's.

Mrs. Nellie Lougee is at home for the holidays.

Miss Marion Bowman was a week-end guest at Charles P. Brown's.

Miss Hazel Lougee is home from Plymouth Normal school for the holidays.

The Misses Ruth and Frances Goodwin will spend their holiday vacation with their brother, Otis Goodwin, and family.

Ralph Muzzey is home from Dartmouth for the Christmas vacation.

The friends of Rev. Mr. Crathern have received another cablegram saying his illness was caused by a shock of paralysis. No further details were given.

Mrs. Daniel Goodwin, who was operated on for appendicitis two weeks ago, is making a good recovery and expects to be at home for Christmas with her family.

Carrie Brown is home for the holiday vacation from the Sargent Physical Culture school, Cambridge, Mass.

The annual church meeting will be held in Grange hall all day Thursday, December 30. Dinner will be served in the vestry as usual. A generous donation of good things to eat is solicited.

John Sawyer of Arlington, Mass., died at the Sims hospital, Arlington, Tuesday evening from peritonitis following an operation for appendicitis last week Thursday. Mr. Sawyer was taken ill Tuesday night, but his physician could not determine the nature of his illness until Thursday night when he was operated upon. Mr. Sawyer was the son of the late Jabez A. and Caroline S. (Worcester) Sawyer, and grandson of the late John Newton Worcester. He is survived by his widow, Theresa Hardy Sawyer, and one son, John Sawyer, Jr., also one brother, George Sawyer, and two sisters, Caroline and Lillian Sawyer, of Cambridge, Mass. Mr. and Mrs. Sawyer, with their son, and Mrs. Willington Hardy, of Arlington, with whom they have made their home, have spent their summers in Hollis for a good many years, and for two years have been at their bungalow on the depot road. Mr. Sawyer was a quiet, retiring disposition, but one who made many friends, who will miss him.

If cabbage is cooked in an open vessel no odor will arise, as that is formed by the generating gas when vessel is closely covered.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS NOTICE All persons having accounts due from the town are requested to present their bills before December 30, as on that date the books will be closed.

Frank A. Torrey, George T. Stevens, Amos L. Ames, Selectmen of Groton. Groton, Mass., Dec. 22, 1920. 1117

NOTICE

Meeting of the Appropriation Committee will be held on the following evenings in the Lower Town Hall at 8 o'clock: Thursday, December 30, 1920; Thursday, January 6, 1921; Tuesday, January 11, 1921.

Frank L. Blood, George S. Knapp, Asa H. Thompson, Harry P. Tainter, William H. Whitehill, Appropriation Committee. Groton, Mass., Dec. 22, 1920. 1117

Visiting Cards ENGRAVED FROM PLATES ENGRAVED WEDDING INVITATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS. Send for STYLE CARD and PRICE LIST.

Plate and 50 Cards \$2.00 Plate and 100 Cards \$2.50 Call at TURNER'S PUBLIC SPIRIT OFFICE And see our line of samples

Union Cash Market Ayer, Mass.

- GRAPE FRUIT \$1.00 box ORANGES, All sizes \$1.00 box LEG AND LOIN YEARLING LAMB 20c lb. SMOKED SHOULDERS 23c lb. GOOD PORK ROAST 25c lb. FRESH SHOULDERS 18c lb. HAMS 23c lb. TOMATOES, large can 15c FRESH MADE BUTTER 58c lb. BOTTOM OF ROUND 25c lb. PORES OF YEARLING LAMB 15c lb. BEST CREAM CHEESE 35c lb. CORNED BEEF, all solid meat, 20c lb. GOOD ROAST BEEF 20c lb. SIRLOIN ROAST 30c lb. PURE LARD 5 lbs. \$1.00 SNYDER'S LARGE TOMATO SOUP 15c can EXTRA GOOD COFFEE 25c lb. Ground to order

For Colds And Headaches

Few ailments are more annoying and distressing to you than colds and headaches. They destroy your capacity for work or pleasure and they run down the health, the temper and the pocketbook. Drop in here for a few moments and we will provide you with a cure. Do not let your mind become distracted by a slight ailment when a very small sum of money will overcome it. As for neuralgia, our medicine relieves this affliction. DELAY IS UTTER FOOLISHNESS

Wm. Brown DRUGGIST Main Street AYER



MERRY CHRISTMAS 1920 HEALTHY NEW YEAR



Proctor's Strand, Ayer

PROCTOR & DONAHUE, Lessees
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25
XMAS SPECIAL



Mary Miles Minter Reelart Pictures

Mary Miles Minter in "SWEET LAVENDER," Comedy, Harold Lloyd in "Bumping into Broadway."

No Advance in Price. Christmas Matinee at 3 o'clock
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26
Alice Brady in "A DARK LANTERN."

MONDAY, DECEMBER 27
Harry Morey in "THE GAUNTLET," Rainbow Comedy.

TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28 and 29
"SOUL OF YOUTH" with Lewis Sargent, the hero of "Huckleberry Finn" and directed by the same director, William D. Taylor.

The story of a boy. Judge Lindsey and his wife of Denver, Colorado, consented to appear in several scenes of this distinctly "boy" picture solely because of his intense interest in boys, especially boys of the street, who have never had a square deal, nor a chance to develop happily and normally into good men.

Young Sargent was asked which type of boy he liked to portray—the boy of today or the boy of yesterday and the difference between them.

The freckled-faced youngster pondered for a moment and then smiled that famous smile of his. "Difference?" he inquired. "There isn't any difference." Times have changed. Boys themselves haven't changed.

Special Prices—Matinee, Adults 25¢ Children 10¢
Evenings, Adults 35¢ Children 15¢

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30
Pearl White in "THE TIGER'S CUB."

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31
"CRIMSON SHOALS," starring Francis Ford in an amazing triple characterization.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1
Olive Thomas in "THE FLAPPER."

Matinee, 2 o'clock Evenings at 6.15 and 8.15

FOR SALE—One good Work Horse, single or double, 9 years old, weight 1450 lbs. F. S. PIERCE, Ayer, 1117

P. Donlon & Co. FANCY NORTHER TURKEYS, GEISE, DUCKS and NATIVE CHICKENS

CHOICE WESTERN BEEF, NATIVE PORK AND LAMB

CHRISTMAS TREES, WREATHS, TINSSEL AND FANCY ORNAMENTS FOR DECORATIONS

SKIS, SLEDS, SKATES, HOCKEY STICKS AND TOYS

FRUITS, CANDIES AND CIGARS

A New Line of CUPS AND SAUCERS, PITCHERS, MIXING BOWLS, BAKING PANS, TEA POTS, TEA KETTLES AND HOUSEHOLD SUPPLIES

P. Donlon & Co. DRUG STORE

TWO DOLLARS A YEAR IN ADVANCE
GEORGE H. B. TURNER, Publisher

Watch the Date on Your Paper
The date with your name is stamped on the margin and shows to what time your subscription is paid and also serves as a continuous receipt.

"The daily laborer of the Bee, Awakes my soul to industry, Who can observe the careful ant, And not provide for future want?"

"Tis to the Pen and Press we mortals owe, All we believe and almost all we know."
Saturday, December 25, 1920

AYER
News Items.
Past Commander John S. Preston of Harvard will install the officers of Post 48, G. A. R., Thursday afternoon, January 6, at three o'clock. Installation supper at 6.30 o'clock.

The Ayer schools reopen on Monday in all departments.
The Sunday Post and the Sunday Herald pictorial section contained excellent pictures of Norman Bears' model of a Boston and Maine locomotive to be exhibited in Ayer, Tuesday, January 4, at the Unitarian vestry, following a cafeteria supper, to be served by the men's club of the church.

Invitations have been issued by the class of 1920, Ayer High school, for an alumni dance to be held in town hall Wednesday evening.
Miss Hortense Sawyer of Wrentham is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward E. Sawyer.

Victor LeF. Fillebrown of Cambridge is visiting his mother, Mrs. Annie E. Fillebrown.
The auditing committee of the W. R. C. will meet at the home of the treasurer, Mrs. Nina B. Lovejoy, at 7.30 o'clock Wednesday evening. This is the final audit of the year. All having bills due will please take notice.

The Mohawk Camp Fire Girls contributed ten dollars to the Post Santa Claus fund.
There will be service of Holy Communion and sermon in St. Andrew's church at ten a. m. on Christmas day. On Sunday the usual services will be held; morning prayer and sermon at 10.45 a. m., Sunday school at twelve.

Norman D. Fletcher arrived home Tuesday from St. Lawrence University, Canton, N. Y., to spend the Christmas vacation.
The next regular board meeting of the Woman's club will be held at the home of the president, Mrs. Mary A. Lawrence, Friday, December 31, 7.30 p. m. The art class met at the home of the chairman, Miss Esther A. Stone, Monday evening, December 20. The literature class met at the home of the chairman, Miss Mary B. Johnson, Wednesday afternoon, December 22.

Yates' Garage has received a shipment of two new Studebaker cars from the factory.
Miss Nina Fletcher, the well-known violinist, and Mrs. Mary Fletcher, Gilbert, contralto and reader, are to give a recital-concert at the Unitarian vestry Tuesday evening, January 11, under the auspices of the Ayer Branch Alliance. They were to have given their concert here last spring, but were prevented by Miss Fletcher's having the opportunity to accompany Madame Schumann-Heink on a trip to the Pacific coast as her soloist.

Sergeant Pomeroy Edwards, nephew of General Clarence E. Edwards and well known in local fraternal circles, has returned to Camp Devens after several months spent in taking a special course in the South.
John Datson, formerly a lieutenant in the 101st Engineers, First Corps Cadets, who is well known in town, stopped off in Ayer Tuesday. Mr. Datson is now selling electric cranes and other hoisting machinery.

Dancing town hall Ayer Christmas afternoon from 3 to 7 and at Hardy's hall from 8 to 11.45, evening. Management of "Gill" Miner.
Miss Stella L. Taylor, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lyman J. Taylor of Shirley street, and Sergt. George R. Porter of East Waterboro, Me., were united in marriage Thursday evening, December 16, at the Baptist church by Rev. James T. Rider, Jr., the double ring service being used. The bride was attended by Mr. and Mrs. Frank McQuarrie. Mr. and Mrs. Porter spent their honeymoon in East Waterboro at the home of Mr. Porter's mother, Mrs. Blanche Henderson. Mr. Porter is now stationed at Camp Devens with the 13th Infantry. Mr. and Mrs. Porter are staying at the home of the bride's parents for the present.

Mrs. Lyman J. Taylor, who has returned from the Clinton hospital after having a serious operation for gallstone, is improving slowly.
Mrs. Emma L. Wood of Lancaster visited her brother, James M. Boutwell, last week.
Mr. and Mrs. Herbert A. Pollard are spending the holiday with Mrs. Pollard's relatives in Needham.

Richard Kittredge and children of Worcester spent the week-end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Otis Kittredge.
Samuel H. Proctor has been entertaining his brother from Cleveland, O.
Mrs. Flora Goodale of Lancaster has been visiting friends here.

Miss Minnie H. Evans has concluded her duties at Miss Graham's millinery establishment. Miss Maud Briggs is now employed there.
Mrs. Edward E. Puffer has returned from an extended stay in Albany, N. Y., where she was called by the illness and death of her brother-in-law.

Ralph H. Brown of the University of Pennsylvania is spending the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Brown.
Mrs. E. W. Carley and sisters, the Misses Flora and Minnie Ward of Illinois, descendants of Governor William Bradford, were guests on Tuesday, December 21, of the Massachusetts Pilgrim Tercentenary Commission at Plymouth. The ceremony given by the people of Plymouth, the inspiring exercises at the Colonial theatre, the visit to "The rock" luncheon at the armory, the mingling of guests on the special train to and from Plymouth and the wonderful winter's day all contributed in making the day a most memorable one. The picture of the state's invited guests, taken in front of Pilgrim's hall will be a priceless heirloom.

A special communication of Caleb Butler lodge of Masons will be held Monday evening, January 3. Installation of officers by Warren L. Preble,

assisted by Ellis D. Harlow as marshal. Supper in banquet hall at 6.30 o'clock. Entertainment after the installation services by the Schubert quartet of Boston with Louise Sprague, Eaton, reader.
The following real estate transfers have been recorded recently from this vicinity: Ayer—William A. Bancroft to H. K. Gray; Loretta H. Graves to W. F. Wildor et ux.; Pine Ridge Farm Co. est. by mortgagee to Fitchburg Cooperative bank; Almira M. Sargent et al. to S. J. Carlson. Littleton—Archibald Mackenzie to A. H. Spencer. Peppori—Elizabeth M. Lotender to T. A. Greenleaf et ux.; Thomas F. Mullin to L. I. Williams. Shirley—Fred A. Lawton to E. H. Price. Townsend—Will F. Russell to W. J. Hickey. Harvard—John B. Harlow to Louis Blanchi; Albert I. Houghton to Matti Ujija. Lunenburg—Fidelity Cooperative bank to Frank C. Blood et al., land on state road to Fitchburg; Frank C. Blood et ux. to Gustav Wiljanen, land on state road to Fitchburg; Frank C. Blood et ux. to Huth Kliskimen, land on state road to Fitchburg; Agnes C. Roux to John B. Viou et al., land on road to Lancaster.

The inventory of the estate of the late Frederick Whitney, filed by the administrator, Merrill D. Brigham, in the Middlesex Probate Court shows: Real estate \$4,400 and personal estate \$42,661.54. The personal estate included the following: 32 shares United Fruit Co., \$669.91; 4 shares U. S. Worsted Co., \$230; 59 shares American Woolen, \$5575.50; 45 shares Massachusetts Lighting Co., \$1315; 4 shares Boston and Maine R. R., \$178; 58 shares Swift & Co., \$6322; 20 shares New England Paper Co., \$1500; 10 shares Commonwealth Gas and Electric Co., \$750; 50 shares American Telephone and Telegraph Co., \$4900; 35 shares American Sugar Refineries, \$3710; 20 shares Northern States Power Co., \$1520; 7 shares Amesbury Electric Light, \$770; \$500 3d U. S. loan, \$440.70.

At the special meeting of Caleb Butler lodge of Masons, Friday evening of last week, a Past Masters' night was held. All the officers taking part in the ceremonies were past masters. The following served: Frank S. Pierce, master; George H. Bixby of West Gorton, senior warden; Ellexia D. Martell, junior warden; Philip R. Andrew, treasurer; Kimball W. Martin, sec.; Warren F. French, chaplain; Benjamin Taft, marshal; Ira G. Dwyer, senior deacon; Elshia D. Stone, junior deacon; Robert H. Irwin, senior steward; Dr. E. H. Hopkins, junior steward; John G. Allison, inside sentinel; E. B. Harlow, organist; E. H. Bigelow, tyler. A lunch was served after the meeting.

A special communication of Caleb Butler lodge will be held on Monday evening, December 27. The work will be the Fellow Craft degree. Another special will be held on Friday evening, December 31. The work will be the Entered Apprentice degree.

Theodore Barry, Jr., and Miss Hilda L. Osgood are home from Dean academy for the Christmas vacation of three weeks.
Edward Hopkins is home from Dartmouth for his Christmas vacation.

Three Peace and Unity club will hold their fifty-eighth annual celebration, concert and ball at town hall, Friday evening, December 31.

The regular annual meeting of Ida McKelvey chapter, O. E. S., was held in the Masonic room on Wednesday evening. The annual reports of the officers were read, and election of officers for next year took place. The election resulted as follows: Mrs. Viola Cole, worthy matron; Robert H. J. Holden of Shirley, worthy president; Mrs. Grace M. Ryman, associate matron; Mrs. May Casey, sec.; Mrs. Winifred Levitt, treas.; Mrs. Edna Zoller, conductress; Mrs. Florence Pillman, associate conductress; Mrs. Lucy M. Parsons, trustee for three years.

The regular December convocation of Bancroft Royal Arch chapter was held in the Masonic rooms on Tuesday evening. At the meeting the past and present officers made reports and degrees were conferred on several candidates. Following the meeting a lunch of waffles, rabbit, sandwiches, doughnuts, coffee and cocoa, was served in the banquet hall.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Smith arrived in Ayer by motor from their former home in Seneca Falls, N. Y., Thursday evening. Mr. and Mrs. Smith are to live in Fitchburg where Mr. Smith has an important position in the Fitchburg Machine works.

Two small children, a boy and a girl, evidently immigrants, arrived at the railroad station on the train from Boston about seven o'clock Thursday night, unaccompanied. In response to a telegram received here they were taken from this train and returned to Boston on the 8.20 train, the difficulty being that they had been placed on the wrong train at the North station, and were travelling away from their destination.

As a call was expected from the state auditor on the town books it was impossible to publish a list of delinquent tax-payers this week.

The boys of the Unitarian church have been organized into a club to be called The Edward Everett Hale club and to be known as the Hale club. They have elected their officers: Bruce Tibbott, pres.; Lester F. Brown, sec.; Benjamin Lawton, treas.; Arthur Baker, vice pres. Their last meeting was Thursday afternoon with Mrs. Barker. At this meeting Houghton Priest gave an account of some of his experiences in the Philippines, where his father was located as an army physician.

The Unitarian church school has this Friday evening a supper and Christmas tree given by the social service committee of the Ayer Branch Alliance.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest M. Gleason and daughter Marjorie are spending Christmas with Mrs. Gleason's mother, Mrs. Goodin, in Somerville.

Deaths.
Thomas Burns died Monday, December 20, in the early morning, after an illness of three days with pneumonia. He was somewhat broken in health, and fell an easy victim to the dread disease. He was born in Ireland seventy-five years ago, and came to America when a very young child. He lived first in Lowell, where he was educated, and came to Ayer 55 years ago. He married Mary McCoy of North Chelmsford in 1846. He was a moulder by trade.

Mr. and Mrs. Burns had six children, all of whom are living: Three boys, William R., John, H., and George T., all in business in Boston, but having their homes in Ayer with their father. The three daughters are Clara M., Mrs. John E. Donlon, whose home

is in Ayer, but who is now teaching in Somerville; Miss Etta C., teaching in Malden, but having her home in Ayer with her father; and Madeline A., wife of Edward A. Wilson of Arlington Heights. She has one daughter, the only grandchild.

The funeral was held from St. Mary's church Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock. Rev. Thomas J. Brennan officiated. The bearers were James McGuane, Joseph Markham and John Mullin of Ayer and William Madigan of Harvard. Mr. Burns has been a devoted father and all his children have returned to his love and care with an equal devotion. Mr. Burns was much interested in music, and at one time was a member of the Ayer band. Burial was in St. Mary's cemetery.

District Court.
On Monday morning Charles Knight of Pepperell was in court charged with the larceny of two brace chains from the office of the Paper Co., where he is employed. These chains were used to hitch a snow plow to the front of a motor truck for use about the company's premises, and the evidence showed that they had been put away with the plow last spring, and were missing when the plow was brought out recently. Andrew V. Pillsbury, attorney for the company, was called to the stand and sworn in as the defendant's witness. Chief Justice went to the defendant's premises with a search warrant and found one chain on his wagon, and the other in the barn. In court Mr. Pillsbury and George Houtwell, the driver of the motor truck, positively identified the chains. The defendant stated that he borrowed the chains from Miss Harriet Parker of whom he bought the wagon, and his wife testified that she was present when he borrowed the chains. With the defendant's permission Chief Justice stated to the court that Miss Parker denied loaning the chains to the defendant. The court continued the case until Tuesday to give the probation officer a chance to interview Miss Parker in regard to the matter, and on Tuesday morning he reported that Miss Parker denied making the loan to the defendant. The court found the defendant guilty, and imposed a fine of twenty dollars.

On Thursday morning Peter Coroni pleaded guilty to keeping liquor at his home on Elliot street, and was fined fifty dollars. Chief Justice under authority of a search warrant raided Coroni's premises, and found several bottles of whisky, a barrel partly full of mash and raisins, and another barrel nearly empty. The bottles were evidently bottles which had contained high-grade whisky, but were now filled with a low-grade whisky. A sample of the contents had been sent for analysis, but the report on it had not been received when the case came up. On recommendation of the government the minimum fine was imposed by the court. Attorney John D. Carney appeared for the government. A. Carney's feature of the case was the fact that the bottles which were found were filled with poor whisky, although they were sealed as bottles of high-grade liquor. This was apparently accomplished by cutting the bottoms from the bottles and then cementing them in place again after substituting the poor whisky for the original contents.

Chief of Police Beatty has recently recovered a fur neck piece which was lost by local boy, and which was advertised for in this paper. The neck piece was found on Main street by another party, who was seen to pick it up and who had retained it until notified by Chief Beatty to return it. The party claimed a reward for finding the neck piece, but under the circumstances no reward was forthcoming.

School Christmas Exercises.
The children of the public schools below the high school began their Christmas season with their school exercises last week Friday. At Pleasant street school building the eighth grade had a Christmas box in the morning, as the boys go to manual training in the afternoon. The other grades had their exercises in the afternoon. In the seventh grade there were games and refreshments of cake and cocoa were served. In the sixth and fifth grades there were games, an exchange of gifts between the pupils and boxes of candy were given by the teachers.

Probably the most fun was had at the Washington street schools where these were beautiful Christmas trees. These trees were the gift of the senior member of the school committee, George H. Brown, which was understood is a regular yearly custom with him. The trees were decorated by the teachers, and were veritable works of art, especially the one in the fourth grade, where the teacher, Miss Caroline Brown, is an efficient, conscientious and gifted guide. At these schools Santa Claus appeared in his winter dress and brought his bag of sweets, from which every pupil was served as the benevolent visitor passed around dispensing all the time of his journey and his plans.

Starving Children of Europe.
A tremendous emergency exists. Let us remember the starving children of Europe at this Christmas season. Surely our hearts go out to these poor, unfortunates, victims of the war. Poverty, suffering and death stalk through their land.

Over 3 1/2 millions of children in Central Europe alone face extermination unless we succor them. What sobering thoughts we make at this season of the Nativity than by remembering these helpless children? Surely our Christmas joy will be the greater.

Men, women and children of Ayer come forward and help in this noble work. Give through your churches, your societies and fraternal organizations or leave your money at the First National Bank of Ayer.

Chairman European Relief Council.
Fatal Accident.
The death of Michael F. Fitzgerald, whose body was found on the Boston and Maine railroad tracks on Tuesday evening about 5.20, came as a great shock to those who knew him. He was found about one hundred yards west of the overhead bridge and at that time was still breathing. His body was lying between the rails, both feet being covered above the knee, and his right hand badly crushed. He was found by Daniel Pasquale of Black street, who was crossing the tracks, and who summoned help. Dr. Sullivan was called and Chief Beatty was notified, and Mr. Fitzgerald was removed to the baggage room at the station, where he died soon after. The body was viewed by Medical Examiner

Bukeloy and was then removed to the undertaking rooms of Amos D. Mahony.
The cause of the accident is not definitely known, and as far as can be learned there was no one who saw it happen. Mr. Fitzgerald was employed by Robert Murphy Sons Co., in whose employ he had been for over thirty-five years; and it is supposed that he was coming home from work by way of the railroad tracks. A shifting engine used for shifting ice cars was in this vicinity at the time, and the probability is that Mr. Fitzgerald stepped aside to avoid the train due here at 5.02 and was struck by the shifter.

Mr. Fitzgerald was 54 years of age and was born in New York state, the son of Mary and Patrick Fitzgerald. At the age of nineteen he was married to Mary McMahon of New York. For over thirty-five years he had been in the employ of the Robert Murphy Sons' Co., coming to Ayer at the same time the business came here over fifty years ago. He was a quiet, industrious citizen and was well liked and respected by all who knew him. The community and the organizations of which he was a member will feel his loss deeply.

He leaves one son, William F. Fitzgerald of this town, and two daughters, Mrs. Mary Fitzgerald and Frances Fitzgerald of Waltham. He also leaves one sister, Mrs. John Hartney, of Northampton.

Mr. Fitzgerald was a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles and was president and past president of the order. He also held the office of chief ranger in the local lodge of the Foresters of America.

Regular high mass was held at St. Mary's church on Thursday morning, Rev. Fr. Brennan being the celebrant. The body was taken to Holy Cross cemetery in Malden for burial. The bearers were: William Hurley, John Duffy, Patrick Chester and Richard Donovan.

Church Notes.
The Federated church—Morning worship and sermon at 10.45. Bible school at twelve. C. E. meeting at six. Evening worship and sermon at seven. Mid-week service Thursday evening at 7.30. A series of three scripture lectures illustrating the complete story of the Pilgrim Fathers will be given the first three Sunday evenings in January. The young men of the Federated church met last Wednesday evening and organized a young men's club with Raymond Miller, president; Harold Wentworth, vice pres.; Albert Davis, sec. and treas. The club will use the Methodist church for basketball and other indoor games.

Unitarian church—Sunday service, 10.45—Regular office and sermon. Offering solo, "A Little while," Briggs. Preacher, Rev. Frank B. Crandall, the minister; subject, "A review of five years." Church school at twelve. The warrant for the annual parish meeting on Wednesday, January 5, was posted last Sunday. On Sunday, the fifth anniversary of the beginning of his pastoral ministry, the minister will review the progress made in the past five years and point out directions of progress in the year to come.

Baptist—Preaching at 10.45 a. m.; subject, "How to make 1921 a new year." Sunday school at twelve m. Young People's service at 6.15 p. m. Preaching at seven p. m.; subject, "Why I cannot go to the devil." Prayers at local church at 7.30 p. m. Last week Mr. Littlejohn, a young people's service gave a very interesting account of his experiences in the army during the Spanish-American war, the Boxer trouble in China, in the Philippines and especially among the headhunters. Mr. Littlejohn has been in the U. S. Army since 1897. He is now located at Camp Devens.

Strand Theater.
Christmas day the Strand presents as a holiday bill, Mary Miles Minter in "Sweet Lavender," from the play of the same name by Robert B. Mantel. The scenario was written by Beulah Marie Dix, Milton Sills and Theodore Roberts in supporting cast. The comedy will be Harold Lloyd in "Bumping into Broadway," one of his \$100,000 pictures. Please notice the matinee Christmas will be at three p. m. instead of two p. m.

Sundays Alice Brady in "A Dark Lantern." Also, a Reelart picture. Matinee, 3.30 p. m.

Christmas Services.
On Sunday services preparatory to the festival of Christmas were held at the First Unitarian Parish church at the usual hours. A large attendance of worshippers marked the day. The church was never more beautiful in its simple, dignified decorations. The altar was flanked with spruce trees, while another spruce tree stood at the center of the main aisle. The walls and ceiling were hung with laurel wreaths tied with red ribbon adorned the front entrance doors, organ screen, lectern and high pulpit. The Christmas star hung high under the main chancel arch.

The special music given at the services was ably rendered. Mrs. Walter C. Sargent and Miss Mabel Sargent, soprano; Mrs. Helen M. Brown and Miss Ellen Clark, contraltos; and George M. Barrows, violinist, took part. Harold True Shattuck was at the organ.

At the evening service the lighting of the church added much to its beauty. As the worshippers gathered, the church was illumined by the altar candles and the Christmas lights of the Christmas tree, giving the light. Rev. Frank B. Crandall read the service and preached the sermon. The feature of the service was a successful experiment in adapting motion pictures to religious use. Following the prayer office and an introduction to the nativity picture, Mrs. Sargent and the Clark sang "Silent Night," as the lights of the church were gradually extinguished. Mr. Shattuck and Mr. Barrows played the music of the best loved Christmas carols while the pictures were being shown. Mrs. Sargent sang "Adeste Fideles" in Latin at the conclusion of the pictures.

The pictures were thrown on the chancel wall and just occupied the space between the top of the altar cross and the impost moulding. The machine, the latest model by Pathé Freres, although not equipped with the theatre or long distance lens, gave excellent results, showing a clear-cut picture, absolutely free from flicker. William C. Galtie, Y. M. C. A. secretary at Fitchburg, operated the machine.

The pictures opened with a street scene in the city of Bethlehem. Next Joseph and Mary enter, seek in vain for lodgings and at last are directed by a little girl to the stable. The babe is shown in the manger with the oxen standing near. The scene is changed to the Judean plains where shepherds

are shown tending their flocks. After night falls the shepherds lie down to rest, the scene represents the appearance of the angel of the Lord and then of the heavenly host. The next scenes showed the pilgrimage of the shepherds and wise men to the manger and their adoration of the Holy child. The effect of the pictures as shown on the chancel wall was that the observer was looking through the material plane of the wall and was beholding the scenes of the first Christmas itself.

New Locomotives.
The Boston and Maine railway has recently put into service on its Berkshire division five of the heaviest and most powerful locomotives ever built. They are only equalled by the engines used on the Erie road over the grades of the Rocky mountain roads. There is nothing even approaching these gigantic machines in any other country in the world.

These locomotives, weighing 566,000 pounds, will permit the operation of approximately 3000-ton trains instead of 1775-ton trains, as at present, thereby increasing the capacity of the division almost 60 percent with the same number of trains and the same amount of trackage.

The locomotives are of what is known as the "2-10-2" or "Santa Fe" type. Twenty have been ordered in all, and when they have been delivered to the Boston and Maine will be able to run freight trains nearly a quarter of a mile long over the Berkshire gradients as easily as the "Narrow Gauge" trundles its cars around the Winthrop loop. They will operate between East Deerfield and Rotterdam Junction.

The Berkshire division with its heavy grades and difficult curves has the task of handling freight from two important New England gateways, Rotterdam Junction and Mechanicsville, and to keep the movement on this division at a maximum is essential to the health of the Boston and Maine system and a large number of New England industries dependent on that road. Already the results obtained with the new locomotives are highly encouraging to the officials of the system.

To show what the Berkshire division is now doing it may be said that in October the daily eastward movement of freight through the Hoosac tunnel averaged 1047 cars. These great power plants on wheels are attracting great attention from railroad men in the state. They are so well proportioned and symmetrical in their design that they do not impress the observer with their size until he happens to examine one at close range or, perhaps climbs up into the spacious cab.

Not only are they equipped with automatic stops and superheaters, and all the latest mechanical appliances, but the cab is provided with a vestibule which protects the engineers against every kind of bad weather. They are among the first engines in New England to have completely enclosed cabs. The weight on drivers of one of these locomotives is 32,700 pounds and the total weight of engine and tender, without coal, is 566,000 pounds, or 284 tons. Its length over all is 79 feet 1 inch, and its tractor effort 117,300 pounds. The driving wheels, 61 inches in diameter, have a base of 21 feet 10 inches and the total base of the engine is 39 feet 7 inches.

The Sunshine Club.
Santa Claus is a grand old man, always pictured with a face smiling with Christmas joy. The reason for this is that his life is spent bringing smiles to the faces and joy in the hearts of others.

There are many people with a Santa Claus smile, or the smile that won't come off, spreading sunshine wherever they go. They gather smiles and joy and pass it along to the other fellow. Start today and join the Sunshine club, begin gathering for your storehouse of smiles, and you will be surprised to find that it is soon filled, then open the doors, throw away the key and help brighten the lives of others.

These stars of smiles may be gathered from your friends and acquaintances, a good book or a play, and speaking of a play, there is one that will fill your storehouse to overflowing with good wholesome smiles and enjoyment. It is called "Bubbles," and will be presented in the Ayer town hall, Tuesday, Wednesday, January 19, Thursday, January 20, by the Baird-child players, for Robert Burns lodge, I. O. O. F. See it, join the sunshine club and get the Santa Claus smile.

Ayer A. A.
Thursday evening the Ayer basketball team won its second game of the year, defeating Townsend A. L. by the score of 20-14. The game was much better than the previous one, but Ayer showed they still can shoot baskets.

Earle Pillman starred in the first period, showing he had his eye on the basket. Dewey and Everett play together in grand style, both on the alert every minute. It is the same old story with Frank and Joe Donahue, just reach up and drop the ball in. "Doc" Sullivan is just as sharp as ever and gives the younger fellows a good run for their money. Townsend played good fast ball, but was outclassed by Ayer, as the score shows.

The Cyclones showed their superiority over Ayer Grange, defeating the latter 13-10.

ITEMS OF INTEREST
Boll wood ashes in coffee or teapots to cleanse them.
Apply alum water strong and hot to every place where there are insects and it will kill them.

Borax is excellent for washing clothes, dishes and hands. Keep a bottle of strong solution on the sink for general use.
Camel's hair stockings are used for sports wear.

Ammonia is useful in taking out old stains, softening hard water, washing grease from dishes or clothes, counteracting the poison of bee stings and other bites of insects and allaying the pain of burns.

New Advertisements
IN MEMORY
of my son, John McDowell, who was drowned November 18, 1920.
Died at his home here.
But, for me, no Christmas day.
As my heart is almost breaking.
For my darling who's passed away.
Oh, my darling how I miss you,
In my heart no longer can stay
And around the home at nightfall
I'm so lonely with you away.
I have watched for your homecoming,
But alas, with all my pain,
God, however, knows the reason
Why he did not so ordain.
Oh, my Johnny, darling Johnny,
There is still a vacant chair,
But when I sit down there
You'll be waiting for me there.

MOTHER.







AMERICAN BOSTON, MASS. A substitute for coffee... RATHSKELLER

NOTICE: Wishing to acquire an additional piece of land in Ayer, Bolton or Harvard...

ITCHY: Money back without question if HUNT'S fails to cure...

Autos for Hire: 5- and 7-Passenger Cars. Prompt and Efficient Service with Careful Drivers.

E. A. Whitney: Ayer, Mass. Office handy to Railroad Station...

CHICHESTER'S PILLS: THE DIAMOND BRAND. Sold by Druggists Everywhere.

Gardner W. Pearson: ATTORNEY-AT-LAW. Specialist on Patents and Trade-Marks.

N. A. SPENCER & SON: Wish to call your attention to their stock of...

GEMETERY MEMORIALS: which they would be pleased to have intending purchasers inspect and obtain prices.

ECZEMA: Money back without question if HUNT'S fails to cure...

FISH: Fresh and Frozen Fish, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

E. D. STONE: Fire Insurance Agent. Automobile and Cordwood Insurance.

Ralph H. Wylie: DENTIST. Barry Building, AYER, MASS.

Piano Tuning: WILMOT B. CLAVES. Phone 20 HARVARD, MASS.

FRANK S. BENNETT: Successor to ARTHUR FENNER. Insurance Agent and Broker.

CHARLES HAGUE: CABINET MAKER. All Kinds of Furniture Made and Repaired.



WILL HE COME IN?

The Heart of Christmas

"I fear we are going to have a very poor Christmas at our house," said Jane to Florence as they were walking home from school.

OPPOSED TO CHRISTMAS PIE

The Puritans were not alone in their opposition to mince or Christmas pie. The Quakers also fought against it.

SANTA CLAUS

Beyond the ocean many a mile, And lived a wonderful queer old man In a wonderful house of snow.

A SAFE AND SANE CHRISTMAS

Societies are being organized whose members are pledged against giving Christmas gifts outside their immediate families.

WHY JIMMY PRAYED SO LOUD

Dick and Jimmy were visiting their grandmother. One night when they were saying their prayers Jimmy voiced his petitions for Christmas presents in a tone that could be heard a mile.

Dates Served in Forty Ways

The date is the staple article of food in Persia, and a good cook there can prepare more than 40 dishes in each of which dates figure in an entirely different way.

COLD-BLOODED WITH GIFTS

Program for Those Persons Who Think Santa Claus Deception Should Come to End.

We have tried to work out a little Christmas program for those who object to Santa Claus. We respect the opinions of all who think the deception should be stopped and feel that we ought to help them to arrange a disillusioned and thoroughly harmless Christmas.

WONDERFUL SPIRIT OF GIVING

Another year is nearing its close and with its ending comes that glad time, the Christmas holiday season. The absent ones are home again or if they cannot come there are the letters and tokens to be sent and received.

FIRST CHRISTMAS OBSERVANCE

It is said that Christmas was first observed in the year 98 and that it was not until the year 137 that it was made a solemn feast.

A BRAVE SOLDIER

Jack-in-the-Box: Ha, ha, you're a brave soldier, to be scared of me.

A THRIFTY SAINT

"Don't you think holidays tempt us to extravagance?" "Not at all. If you will study the pictures of Santa Claus, you will observe he has on the same old clothes he has worn for years."

Lost-Continent Theory

Dr. William Alanson Bryan, professor of zoology and geology in the college of Hawaii, claims to have discovered traces of a 6,000-mile prehistoric bridge of land between South America and Hawaii.

Gulf Stream

The gulf stream is more rapid than the Amazon, more impetuous than the Mississippi, and its volume more than 1,000 times greater.

Wedding

At noon on Sunday, December 19, at Lane End, the home of Dr. and Mrs. Austin Peters, occurred the wedding of Ruth, the younger daughter, to Howard Phelps Putnam, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Howell Putnam of Harvard and Philadelphia.

HARVARD

The ladies of the Unitarian society will hold a supper and social on Wednesday evening, December 31.

Sunday morning there will be a special Christmas service at the Unitarian church. Mr. Thayer, with Miss Elvira George, will sing and Wilfred Parkinson will assist with the violin.

The Congregational Men's club, whose supper and entertainment was announced for next Friday night in error, is to be given Friday evening, January 7.

On Wednesday evening at 7.30 o'clock, December 29, there will be a meeting of the Congregational church parish. Business pertaining to the renovating of the church will be fully discussed and it is hoped every member of the parish will be present.

The grammar school children gave their annual Christmas concert at the school building on Wednesday afternoon. They gave a splendid program, but owing to the limited opportunities of the building, only comparatively few of the parents and friends of the children could enjoy it.

George McMahon, now with the merchant marine located at New York city, is home for the holidays with his brother, M. F. McMahon.

John Lee is having a new barn built on his farm on the depot road.

Both of H. A. Thayer's colts dogs were killed by a passing auto early this week. It is thought they were playing together and did not see the approach of the car.

Miss Catherine Hazard spent last week-end with friends in Boston.

Mr. and Mrs. Earle O. Turner are home from Frederick, N. B., for the holiday season.

Frank O. Ryan has a new chummy roadster auto and John H. Madigan has a new touring car.

The heavy rains of last week did several hundred dollars worth of damage to our roads.

The Electric Light Co. are installing meters and continuing their lines to the houses of J. H. Madigan, Steve Barba and James Rutledge on the depot road.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Gale, with Mr. and Mrs. Harry Atwood, spend Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Stone in Still River.

Next Saturday Francisca Billington in the six-act feature, "The day paid" by Fannie Hurst, a story that came out in the Cosmopolitan magazine as "Oats for women." Miss Billington's support is great.

Charles "Clary" Lieut. Marcel Dragageon officially credited with fourteen Hun-year of Nancy, France, in the part of Mary Ann is worth the price to see her alone, the villain, Harry Van Meter, charged San Juan Hill with Roosevelt's rough-riders in the Spanish American war.

Received this week at public library: O'Brien's White Shadows in the South Seas; and Lawrence Abbott's Impression of Theodore Roosevelt; Main Street by Lewis, The Devil's Paw by Oppenheim, The Peddler by H. C. Rowland, Valley of Silent Men by Curwood, and a fresh copy of an old but timely novel, Standish of Standish.

At the meeting of the Woman's club on Monday evening, December 20, a good number were present to hear the interesting lecture by Dr. Roland B. Maynard on the Himalayas and Western Tibet. The wonderful scenery of this region was shown in numerous stereoscopic views.

Grange Tree and Entertainment. The Grange had their Christmas tree and entertainment on Tuesday evening.

The entertainment was in charge of Mrs. Blanche Davis, assisted by Ethel Wright and Edith Haskell. The new members took their parts in songs, piano solos and readings.

At the recent meeting of the Franz Walde Miller post, A. L., the following officers were elected for the coming year: John Belkender, com.; George Fred Tenney, vice com.; Carl Liddell, adjutant; Leslie Hurley, finance officer and treasurer.

The games of basketball, which have been held under the direction of the Townsend Athletic club this year, will be held under the management of the local post, A. L., in 1921.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dobson have closed their cottage at the Center and have come to the home of their daughter, Mrs. George Winchester, for the winter.

Mrs. A. J. Manchester, who has been quite ill, is reported as improving, and her niece, Miss Alice Conway, of Salem, is caring for her at present.

Albert Wyman recently entered the employ of Damon & Richardson. He is still boarding at the Center and goes back and forth in his automobile.

Ian Rusk from the University of Maine is spending his vacation with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Duncan Rusk.

Messrs. Arnold, Bebin and Sullivan from Boston, who are employed on the Homer grounds, have been stopping at Squannacook Inn.

Harrison Young visited Worcester Saturday and his little grandson, who is still boarding at the Center and goes back and forth in his automobile.

Eva Hamilton, the little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Foster Hamilton, is suffering from an attack of jaundice.

Ford The Universal Car. Less than pre-war prices. Let everybody ride. The war started in August, 1914, and below we show a comparison between the prices of Ford cars in 1914 and the present prices.

home in Ansonia, Conn., after January 15.

TOWNSEND

The L. B. S. of the Methodist church cleared \$75 at the recent sale held in the hall of the church.

Rev. and Mrs. A. L. Struthers have been entertaining his brother, Arthur J. Struthers, of Cliftondale.

Miss Flora Caroline Stewart, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. John Stewart and George Victor Powell, son of Mrs. Emma Powell of this town, were united in marriage Saturday evening at eight o'clock at the Townsend Congregational parsonage by Rev. A. L. Struthers, the double ring service being used.

The couple was attended by the bride's sister and husband, Mr. and Mrs. J. Sanford Johnson. Mr. and Mrs. Powell have gone to housekeeping in the Stearns cottage on "Bow street, recently vacated by Willbur Bruce.

Mrs. Herbert Cook and sons, Warren and Josiah, of Hyannis are visiting Mrs. Cook's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Seaver.

Mrs. Susie M. Turner left Tuesday for Orlando, Fla., where she plans to spend the winter months.

At the meeting of the Grange to be held next Monday evening, December 27, the third and fourth degrees will be conferred upon a class of candidates. The third degree will be worked by a ladies' degree team with Mrs. Edna Bray, acting as master. The feast which follows initiation is to be in charge of Mr. and Mrs. Irving A. Seaver.

On account of the funeral services of Mrs. Etta Sanders and the serious illness of Mrs. George E. Clark, the Christmas observance exercises which were to have been held Friday afternoon at the Methodist church have been postponed one week, and will be held New Year's eve.

The meeting of the Community Workers will be held next week Thursday afternoon in the pastor's room of the Congregational church at the usual time.

At the recent meeting of the Townsend farm bureau, Lyman Cook was elected director. Mr. Cook plans to attend the County Farm bureau meeting to be held in Boston, December 29.

All those having bills against the town are requested to present same to the selectmen on or before Saturday, January 1.

The members of the Phoebe Weston Farmer tent, D. of V., have been preparing Christmas gift boxes this week and distributed them Wednesday among the Townsend Civil War veterans.

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when a contribution will be taken at the morning service for the European children's relief. The pastor's sermon will be on "The message of Christmas." Sermon to the children, "A babe in the manger," evening vespers service with special music and Christmas story.

The sum total cleared at the recent Congregational L. B. S. fair was \$151.51.

L. B. S. Annual Fair. The L. B. S. of the Congregational church held their annual fair last week Wednesday afternoon and evening in the vestries of the church, when a sale of aprons, home-made candy, fancy articles and mystery packages was held at four o'clock, with the following in charge of the booths: aprons, Mrs. A. L. Struthers and Mrs. E. H. Seaver; candy, Mrs. Helen Jaffe and Mrs. Agnes Woods; fancy articles, Mrs. Lilla Estes and Mrs. J. Livingston; handkerchiefs, Mrs. Bernice King; mystery packages, Mrs. Joshua Swicker and Miss Lizzie Whitcomb; ice cream, Mrs. Benson and Mrs. E. King. The decorations of the vestry were unusually attractive, as were also the decorations of the various booths, the Christmas green and red with red bells and tinsel being used very effectively.

At six o'clock about 150 were served a supper in charge of Mrs. Emma Clarke, Mrs. George Gates and Mrs. Emma Lances with the members of the Ever Ready class as waiters. A large number were also present at the evening's entertainment at eight o'clock, which consisted of humorous songs, readings and duets by the "Sweet family," Mrs. Gertrude Piper acting in a most perfect manner, the role of "Ma Sweet" and leader of her "musical family." The other characters were equally comical in their impersonations and all received hearty applause from the audience. The entertainment program was in charge of Mrs. Jeca Cowdry and Mrs. Gertrude Piper. The vestry decorations were in charge of Mrs. L. U. Clement and Mrs. H. J. Miller.

The members of the Ever Ready class held their regular meeting this week with Miss Helen MacDonald on Wallace hill. A part of the afternoon was spent making the candy bags for the church Christmas tree, after which a social time with the serving of refreshments by the hostess was enjoyed.

West. Miss Elsa Delano, who teaches at Athol, is at the home of her parents on Elm street for a fortnight's vacation.

During the heavy rain storm last week when the water was so high that many of the country roads were flooded, the old White dam in the woods back of the J. A. Manchester home in Joslynville, was swept away, flooding the low land and the vicinity of the Belgrade Rug factory. This dam was the land was purchased by Mr. White, built probably about 1840 and when the owner of the old tub factory, it was practically rebuilt in 1850. This dam fed the streams which are noted by the trout fishermen from this vicinity and Fitchburg.

Mrs. Mary Heath had charge of the library books at the reading-room last Saturday in the absence of Miss Seaver, who was out of town.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry B. Hathaway entertained a party of friends from Leominster last week.

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The public library will be closed on Saturday as it is Christmas day and books out in this village may be kept another week, until January 1, without incurring a fine.

Miss Lindsey, who has been stopping for a few days at Squannacook Inn, has returned to her home in Fall River.

Waldo, the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Richards, is recovering from an attack of chicken pox.

Arthur Homer and family have returned to their main street home for the holidays.

Runaway Accident

Emory Wyman is confined to his home with a badly injured ankle as a result of a runaway accident last Saturday evening. While loading grain at Damon & Richardson's mill about five o'clock, the horse became started at a large auto truck passing and started toward the village. Mr. Wyman, who was beside the team, sprang for his head and missed his hold of the bridle, falling under the wheels and the loaded wagon passed over his leg near the ankle. With true Yankee grit he sprang up and ran quite a distance after his team, until his injuries caused him to fall by the roadside, where he was picked up by a passer-by, who learning his trouble, took him back to the mill and he was taken to his home on the Fitchburg road by Mr. Richardson in his car and a doctor summoned. Meanwhile, his brother started out in search of the team, which had been stopped in the yard of Joseph Gowen's place on Main street. Mr. Wyman was taken to Burbank hospital Saturday evening and was cared for, and is now resting comfortably at his home.

New Advertisements

NOTICE

All persons having accounts due from the town of Harvard are requested to present their bills on or before December 31, 1920. The Selectmen will be at the town hall to draw orders for the same on December 30 and 31, from 10 o'clock A. M. until 4 o'clock P. M.

John E. Maynard, Percy Beard, Eben F. Corey, Selectmen of Harvard.

Harvard, Mass., Dec. 21, 1920.

NOTICE

The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of the Townsend National Bank will be held at their Banking Rooms on Monday, January 3, 1921, at ten o'clock A. M. to choose a Board of Directors for the ensuing year, and act upon any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

C. B. WILLARD, Cashier.

Townsend, Mass., December 6, 1920.

NOTICE

The Annual Meeting of the Shareholders of the First National Bank of Ayer will be held at the Banking Rooms in Ayer, Mass., on Monday, January 10, 1921, at 9:30 o'clock A. M., for the purpose of acting upon the following business:

To choose a Board of Directors to serve for the ensuing year, and to transact any other business that may come before that meeting.

CHARLES A. NORMAND, Cashier.

5115 Ayer, Mass., December 6, 1920.

Lowell and Fitchburg Street Ry. TIME TABLE

Cars leave Ayer for North Chelmsford and Lowell once an hour at 9:00 A. M. to 9:00 P. M.

Leave North Chelmsford once an hour from 6:15 A. M. to 10:15 P. M. Sundays the same except the first car in the morning.

Last car from North Chelmsford to Ayer 10:15 P. M.

Last car from Ayer to North Chelmsford 9:00 P. M.

LOST BOOK—In accordance with Chap. 89C, Sec. 40 of the Acts of 1908 and amendments thereto, notice is hereby given that Book No. 1871 has been lost and application has been made for the issuance of a duplicate book.

NORTH MIDDLESEX SAVING BANK. Ralph L. Hastings, Treasurer.

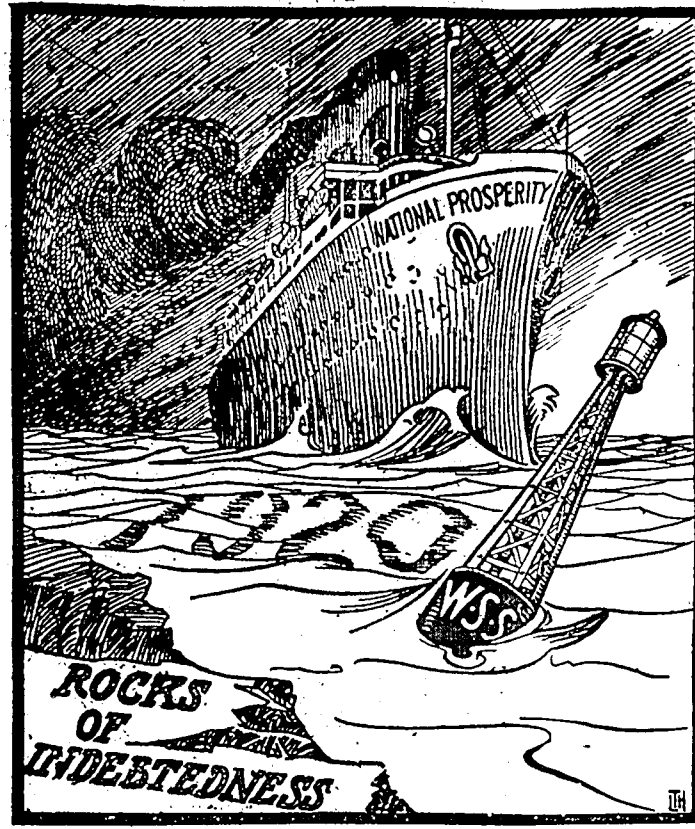
Ayer, Mass., December 17, 1920.



The Tree of Love

I Am The Tree Of Love. I am the light That Christmas-tide Brings. I am ever green My limbs are yearning to Bear the burden of gifts of Noel. I live in the high, open Spaces where God smiles bright- est on the world, where his light Keeps the memory of Christ's birth Refreshed. Years ago men fought and Knew no time to think of the Gentle One who spoke of Love. And then one Night a star beamed in the east and filled Me with a sweet grace. My soul quivered, And I was born again. And now I come With the Christmas time to remind you of Love—Love, that fades, but lives again. I am But a dream unless you know me. I wish To ache under the burden of love gifts. Yes, I am ever green; I live forever, but You do not know me always. I ask You to remember the little ones Whom Love has passed when some Forget me. I pray the light that Never dies shall flame out again In your heart. For this I live. For this I ask. I wish To live and serve. I am Love Hope Life I am the Tree of Love.

War Savings Stamps Will Help Keep Her off the Rocks



LITTLE TALKS ON THRIFT

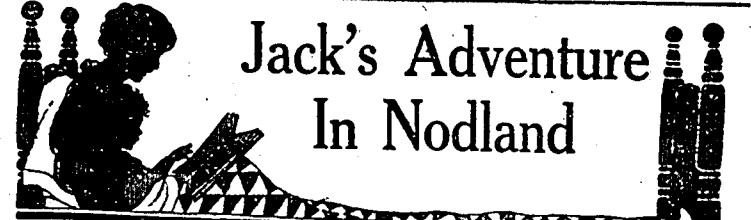
The late Henry P. Heinz, who achieved both fame and fortune through the '57 varieties' was a firm believer in the inability of the tall to wag the dog. 'Extravagance is to wag the dog,' he once said. 'And why are we extravagant? For the fun of it? No. For the neighbors' sake. 'I know a man who awoke very late one winter's night and found his wife just returning shivering to the bedroom. 'What was that loud noise I just heard and what are you doing up in the cold?' he asked. 'It's all right dear,' his wife answered. 'You see people are just coming home from the opera and I just slipped down and slammed the front door hard so that the neighbors would think we'd been there.' One of the objects of the thrift and saving campaign of the Savings Division of the Treasury Department is to call attention of the people of America to the fact that it is not worth a bare foot trip in the cold to slam the door on a neighbor's opinion of spending, and that possession of government savings securities, War Savings Stamps and Treasury Savings Certificates offers better evidence of prosperity than extravagant and useless buying.

YOUR MONEY

Don't nickname your money. You know it won't pay; Call dollars 'Simoleans' and, zip—they're away! Call a dollar a Buck and before a day's time, All that is left is a smooth, slippery Dime! We talk about spending our Cash and our Kake And what do we spend it for? Our memories fail. As if by magic it just disappears. Result of our spending a Headache and Tears! From Beans, Chink and Tenners you can't save a cent! Iron Men and Spondulies are sure to be spent! Don't nickname the money you get next pay day. Call it 'Salary' and spend in the War Savings Way! Apologies to G. E. S.



Andrew Carnegie said: 'It is the first hundred dollars saved which tells Begin at once and lay up something invest it securely. The bee predominant in the future millionaire. Thrift requires that money should be used and not abused. Invest in War Savings Stamps.



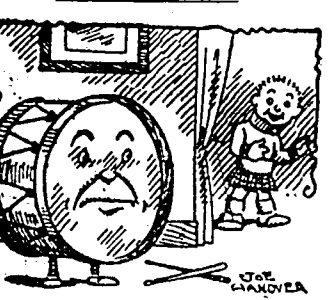
By LOWELL AMES NORRIS "I don't want to go to bed," complained Jack, after his mother snatched off the electric light and went down stairs. "Everybody else sits up at New Year's Eve and I don't see why I can't." "You don't really want to," piped a small voice at his elbow. "Why not?" demanded Jack. "Because I couldn't see you then," the small voice continued. "I go on duty at twelve o'clock for three hundred and sixty-five days and I've come here to visit with you until then. I am 1920, the New Year." Jack looked around—the room was deserted. "Here I am," said the voice and Jack glancing down at the pillow saw the smallest, jolliest, happiest man he had ever seen. "You and I are going to visit the home of Past Years," said the stranger. The next instant Jack found himself with the small man outside a huge stone house on the top of a high hill, which seemed to dominate the entire world. He rapped on the door of the massive stone house. The door flew open. Inside stood a lot of little ladies and gentlemen some of whom looked familiar to Jack. He asked his guide who they were. New Year replied that those in uniform were the "War Years" 1914, 1915, 1916, 1917 and 1918 and that they were arranging a celebration to honor the return of the Peace Year, 1919. "The ladies are leap years," 1920 whispered to Jack. Suddenly Jack heard a noise which reminded him of feeding time at the Bronx Zoo. He asked 1920 what it was, and the little man motioned for him to follow. They came to a barred door. Jack peered through. Never in his life had he seen so many hideous, deformed and ugly creatures. Whining and screaming they fought continuously. "Who on earth are those horrid beings?" said Jack, "and who is that one leading them?" "Those are the bad resolutions which always return to us just before Christmas, when everyone on earth changes them for good resolutions." The New Year pointed across the hall to a cheerful miniature dormitory which was deserted. "And that is the place for the good resolutions which return not kept." "You mean they come back here?" "Yes," said 1920. "You have been taught thrift in school. You know thrift means wise saving." "I know all about it," said Jack. "Our schoolroom has bought more Thrift Stamps than any other room in the city, and I have six War Savings Stamps and father gave me a Treasury Savings Certificate on Christmas to give me a start for college." "Help me to keep the good resolutions in the world by being thrifty, Jack." A clock commenced to strike. "Twelve o'clock," said 1920, and as he spoke began to grow and grow until he was as old as Jack's big brother. "I am due back in the world," New Year vanished. Jack awoke with a start. In the streets he could hear the sound of horns, bells and cheers of the people. "Oh," said Jack, yawning and rubbing his eyes. "1920 is here." Then he remembered his dream adventures. "I certainly am going to keep my thrift resolutions," Jack had made his first start toward success.

Make Every Day a Christmas

Too prone are we all to allow our Christmas sentiments to evaporate with the day, forgetting that there are other days in the year for a sympathetic hand clasp and an encouraging word. If Christmas is better than other days in the year, it is because the feeling of brotherhood and fellowship belongs to it. Why not have every other day in the year filled with brotherliness and fellowship? Why not soften the asperities of life, speak the kindly word, and extend the helping hand for the other 364 days? In a word, why not make every day a Christmas? Carry the Christmas spirit with us throughout the year and say, with Tiny Tim, at all times and seasons, "God bless us, everyone." Let us keep Christmas in this spirit, then, forgetting not to whom thanks for the many blessings and privileges of this great country of ours are due, looking forward to the age that is coming: "When the common sense of most shall hold the fretful realm in awe And the kindly earth shall slumber lapt in universal law."

SIMPLE HOME-MADE GIFTS

Handkerchiefs, neatly hemmed and an embroidered initial adorning one corner, may be made from a stray remnant of linen or lawn. Canvas or denim gloves for the woman who hangs out wet clothes are a boon—and so easily made on the sewing machine. Night slippers are a joy to children who must walk upstairs after preparing for bed. Any material of downy texture is adaptable, and they are made as simply as a stocking foot. Every country woman should have a knit, woolen corset-cover. A worn sweater, by removing the collar and lower part of the sleeves (parts, by the way, most likely to show wear) serves beautifully for this purpose. Knowing the size of any little girl's doll, it is a simple matter to make a dress, a bonnet or cloak for it. Mittens are neatly and quickly made on the sewing machine. Use any flexible woolen material. A child's fur set can be made from an out-of-date fur piece, or if you have only a trifle of fur use it simply for the rim of the muf and the scarf-end. To an invalid friend is sent your cheeriest house-plant to gladden the Christmas day.



IN FOR IT

Drum: Gee, from the looks of that husky kid, I'm in for some beating!

SACRED DAY FOR THE BABIES

Never deny the babies their Christmas! It is the shining seal set upon a year of happiness. Let them believe in Santa Claus or St. Nicholas or Kris Kringle, or whatever name the jolly Dutch saint bears in your region.—Marion Harland.

A CHRISTMAS WISH

Father: "What were you wishing?" Johnny: "I'd like to be the janitor's little boy, 'cause his father has to be polite, too."

FUN IN PLAYING OLD CHRIS

Amusement for Both Young and Old in Impersonating Blustery, Present-Laden Santa.

HERE is great fun in impersonation and none more than in taking the part of that prince of good fellows, jolly old Kris. Several little brothers, sisters or cousins should make up the audience to be amused. All of them young enough to believe implicitly in the whole story of the journey in reindeer sleigh from the North Pole to country to one's own particular chimney. Parents and other big folks must, of course, be in the scheme and coached to play an active part.

You will be missed from the company, to be sure, and dad and mother should search the house and look up and down the street and make all sorts of excuses for your absence. And if your voice cannot be continually and very successfully disguised you had better not talk, but convey your meanings by nods and motions, not forgetting to shake hands all round repeatedly and to laugh, silently but heartily, with much shaking of sides and bending over.

Santa may play at being late, and after he has filled the stockings he is caught by dad, who loudly notifies the household and insists that the old fellow pay a visit and distribute the gifts. Questions are asked about the sleigh, which is supposed to have gone on without its driver, so that the youngsters won't want to run out and look for it. At the end of the ceremonies, which should not last over half an hour, a sudden disappearance may be arranged by calling the children to the window with the supposed discovery of the returning sleigh, and Santa may slip out of the room door, shed and hide his duds and get out of the house by the back way, returning presently, with much noise, by the front way, as though having been gone for a long time and, of course, much disappointed to have missed seeing Santa.

As for the costume, that is a matter of varied opportunity, except that the white whiskers and wig, the funny little old tattered cap and the fat stomach are essential.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

Come back to Bethlehem, The year is on the wane; A truce to strife that wastes life, A truce to grief and pain. Oh, heart, return to Bethlehem And hear its song again! If stern voices luring thee, Have turned thy thoughts aside, If thou hast quaffed the bitter draft Of envy or of pride, If thou in agony of shame Hast thy dear Lord denied, Come back today to Bethlehem! Though thou hast wandered far, No rest shall fill thy yearning breast Until thou see the Star. Oh, heart, return to Bethlehem, Where yet the angels are!

EXCUSE FOR CEASING WORK

The Russian working people have always seized upon Christmas as an excuse for ceasing all work for a somewhat lengthy period—sometimes for a month. Before the recent revolution on Christmas eve, when the peasants gathered about the houses of the nobles, sang carols and scrambled for the coins tossed to them from the windows. Then came a great masquerade, when peasants of all ages dressed themselves to represent animals, the idea being to perpetuate the memory of the lowliness of the Saviour's birth in the stable.

Due to a Drawing Out.

A bank run that the women would like to have stopped is the too frequent "run" in the little bank.—Boston Transcript.

Do It Now.

Motto for Desistants—Never put off till tomorrow what you can rue today.—Boston Transcript.

Loss by Impatience.

Every cloud has its silver lining, but some folks are so impatient they just can't wait for that side to turn out.

Definition of "Culture."

Culture is then properly described not as having its origin in curiosity, but as having its origin in the love of perfection; it is a study of perfection.—Matthew Arnold.

Old Stiff for Him.

If the opposition thinks it can disturb me by his cries and clamor it is entirely mistaken. I am used to being called "idiot" and "blockhead"—Megendorfer Bloetter, Munich.

Old Dominion Philosopher.

Death is not a welcome guest, but he relieves us of a lot of our troubles.—Richmond Planet.

Silent Contempt.

Silent contempt is the noblest way a man can express himself—when the other fellow is bigger.—From Life.

Or Less.

It is only the intelligent who can be convinced that they need more intelligence.—Cartoons Magazine.

HOLLIS, N. H.

News Items.

James Jewett of South Framingham, Mass., son of Francis Jewett, and brother to Andrew Jewett, died last Sunday night as a result of a fall that caused internal injuries. Mr. Jewett was 68 years old and worked for 46 years as a locomotive engineer for the New Haven road. For the last five years he had been retired on a pension. The body will lie in state in the church all day Thursday in South Framingham, funeral services being held there in the evening. Services will be held here at the vestry Friday afternoon at 2.30. Mr. Jewett was an Oddfellow, Mason, Red Man and a member of the Brotherhood of Engineers. Burial will be in the family lot in the East cemetery.

The entertainment given last week Friday night by the high school under the direction of Miss Welton, the principal, and her assistant, Miss Hyde, was deserving of the high praise it received from the large audience present. The program began with the singing of the "Star Spangled Banner" hymn, Plymouth, The courtesy of Miles Standish; tubax, Miles Standish. The Lover's Brand, John Allen and Miles Standish, The Council, The Sailing of the Mayflower, The Indian Encampment, Priscilla and John Alden, the wedding scene. There were four Christmas carols sung, French carol, "God rest ye merry gentlemen," "What child is this?" and "Holy Night." The entertainment closed with "America." Mrs. Robert M. French was the reader for the tableaux. Dancing brought the evening to a close. A good sum was realized.

Twenty-two dollars were taken at the entertainment and sale of home-made candy and small Christmas gifts made by the pupils of Miss Ruth Hills. There was a short program, a piano duet by Ann Wetherbee and Alvira Marvel, piano solo by Alvira Marvel, Pilgrim play by the school, song, "It came upon a midnight clear." Girl Scout song, Evelyn and Dorothy Hills, Elizabeth Pines, Alvira Marvel, Alice Bigelow playing a violin accompaniment, song, "Little town of Bethlehem," Santa Claus play.

Miss Charlotte Leslie left Boston last week with a force of 26 girls for Tampa, Fla., where she will have charge of a large hotel. She will remain till the middle of May. Last summer Miss Leslie had charge of a hotel in Bay of Naples, Me., for three months. Miss Farquhar and her pupils had the Christmas tree in the Grange hall Friday afternoon of last week. Miss Newton's little ones had a Christmas party at the schoolhouse the same day, all having their dinners together, then going for a walk and on their return all enjoyed a beautiful Christmas tree. Miss Read and Miss Hills had their Christmas tree together for their children with gifts for all and the usual merry time.

Mrs. Henrietta Hooper is spending the winter with Henry Dalton and family. At a meeting of the Red Cross executive committee last Sunday it was voted to give \$50 to the tuberculosis drive.

Raymond Flaniers and Herlan Muzey came home from Kimball Union academy, Meriden, for the Christmas vacation.

Andrew Jewett of Nashua was in town Tuesday, making arrangements for the funeral services and burial of his brother, James Jewett.

The Girl Scouts are taking a course in first aid under the instruction of Miss Ruth Hills.

Repairs are being made on the road that goes by Andrew Spaulding's. This road from Perley Lund's to the Peppercorn line is one of the worst in town. During the recent bad traveling everybody who was driving had to go around back of Mrs. Goodwin's farm, as the road was impassable.

Mrs. Lena Lord was home from Manchester over the week-end. Mrs. C. J. Bell has with her for an extended visit, her sister, Mrs. Minnie Howe Dodge, and Mr. Dodge, from Littleton, Mass.

Rev. R. M. French was a Boston visitor last week. At the next meeting of the Woman's club at the ladies' parlor, Wednesday, December 29, the Girl Scouts will be the guests of the club.

Miss Ellen Clark came home Thursday of this week for the Christmas recess.

Mrs. Laura Clark and her sister, Miss Tait, are at home for the Christmas vacation.

Howard Hills, Vera Plaz and Althea Nute are ill with chicken pox. Miss Dorothy Farley is home from the hospital and making a fine recovery from her recent operation.

Ralph Horrick and family left town last Saturday for their new home in Winchester, Mass.

In the opening basketball game of the season at the Y. M. C. A. in Nashua last Saturday night between the employed boys and the Hollis Independents, the Nashua boys won 44 to 14, getting a good start off for the season.

Mrs. Joseph Mayle and daughter, Dora and Mrs. Leslie Locke and daughters were Nashua visitors last Monday.

Clifton Glenn, who is having a vacation from the New Hampshire state college, has been a guest at E. E. Hardy's.

A little daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Henry D. Blood, Wednesday, December 15. Her name is Elizabeth Dunster.

Erving Simonds, Ernest Woodin and Clara Smith are at home from the N. H. State college for the Christmas vacation.

New Advertisements

HAY FOR SALE—Ten tons first quality Timothy or English mixture, new seeded and cut in June. In barn or delivered. For information write HARRY FLETCHER FARM, Harvard, or Telephone Groton 10, 117.



Choose Your New Starr Phonograph NOW Plays Any Record

DON'T wait until the Christmas rush to make your selection. Choose now, while our stock is complete and fresh and thus make sure of delivery when you want it.

Special Easy Terms or Cash Payments

The Starr is the best phonograph you can buy. It's beautiful finish, sturdy construction and handsome style make it an instrument to be proud of. The tone modifier and speed regulator enable you to play loud or soft, fast or slow, as your mood dictates. You can see it in the Starr—the clear grained, "silver spruce" wood horn.

This is the same wood that made the Stradivarius violin famous for tone quality. Come in and hear the Starr today

J. J. BARRY & CO. Ayer, Mass.

CHOOSE GIFTS THAT SPEAK YOUR THOUGHTS

A visit to our store will help you to select Christmas gifts that convey a message of good cheer and friendship.

ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES are appropriate as gifts and will be appreciated beyond all others—they are a lasting reminder of your thoughtfulness.

THE CHOICE is wide—percolators, irons, toasters, radiators and many other appliances.

Make your selection now and have it put aside for you.

Ayer Electric Light Co. Barry Building Ayer, Mass.

Electrical Supplies

Store open 3.45-8.00 p. m. daily—Saturday all day

JOHN F. RYAN Main Street New Carley Block AYER, MASS.

AYER GARAGE M. J. COCHRANE, Prop.

Ford Sedan, 1919 \$450 Paige, Seven-Passenger \$600

Thirty-seven used cars in fine condition for sale. We have room for few more cars for winter storage.

FOR SALE—Sweet Cider, WILLIAM B. HASKELL, Still River, Mass. 316

WANTED—Dressmaking and sewing of all kinds. MRS. MURPHY, Box 61, Shirley, Mass. 2116

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS. Probate Court. To all persons interested in the estate of ABBIE C. SAWYER, late of Harvard County, deceased, notice is hereby given that the first and final account of the executor of the will of said deceased has been presented for allowance.

You are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court to be held at Worcester, in said County, on the fourth day of January A. D. 1921, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, if any you have, why the same should not be allowed.

And it is ordered this citation be served by delivering or mailing by registered mail, a copy thereof to all persons interested in the estate fourteen days at least before said Court, or by publishing the same once in each week, for three successive weeks, in the Harvard Herald, a newspaper published in Ayer, the last publication to be one day at least before said Court, and by mailing a copy of this citation to all known persons interested in the estate seven days at least before said Court.

Witness, William T. Forbes, Esquire, Judge of said Court, this thirteenth day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and twenty, 3116 HARRY H. ATWOOD, Register.

WITNESSES, George F. Lawton, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this tenth day of December in the year one thousand nine hundred and twenty, 3116 F. M. ESTY, Register.



**AMERICAN**  
**BOSTON, MASS.**  
 A...  
**RATHSKELLER**

**NOTICE**  
 Wishing to acquire an additional piece of land in Ayer, Bolton or Harvard, I invite anyone having such a piece for sale to communicate with me, giving description and assessed valuation. If the piece selected adds to the enclave of Tabasco, the owner can retain his improvements and become a lessee of the enclave.  
**FISKE WARREN.**  
 Priest Cottage, Harvard, Mass.  
 Telephone 44-11.  
 October 19, 1920.

**ITCHY**  
 Money back without question if HUNT'S Salve fails in the treatment of ITCHY, WINDY, RINGWORM, TETTER or other itching skin diseases. Try a cent box at our risk.  
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 5- and 7-Passenger Cars  
 Prompt and Efficient Service  
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 Office handy to Railroad Station—ask anyone—they all know Whitney.  
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 Wish to call your attention to their stock of

**GEMETERY MEMORIALS**  
 which they would be pleased to have intending purchasers inspect and obtain prices.  
**PARK STREET**  
**Ayer, Mass.**

**ECZEMA**  
 Money back without question if HUNT'S Salve fails in the treatment of ECZEMA, RINGWORM, TETTER or other itching skin diseases. Try a cent box at our risk.  
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**FISH**  
 Fresh and Frozen Fish, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. We ship by parcel post to neighboring towns. Tel. or mail orders promptly attended to.  
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**WILL HE COME IN?**

**The Heart of Christmas**

"I fear we are going to have a very poor Christmas at our house," said Jane to Florence as they were walking home from school.  
 "You know father's been out of work on account of the strike, and mother's long illness will make it next to impossible to buy gifts for the children. And we may not even have a Christmas tree!" And at the thought of a Christmas without a tree, her voice which had been tremulous, broke into a half-stilled sob.  
 Florence looked very thoughtful, then said in comforting tones, "But your father's at work again isn't he?"  
 "Yes."  
 "And your mother's health is much better."  
 "Yes, we expect her downstairs for Christmas day."  
 "Well, then I think, Jane, that you should have great cause for rejoicing at your house—Christmas tree, or no Christmas tree."  
 "I had not thought of that Florence, but you are right."  
 "Sometimes, I think we lose the real spirit of Christmas," continued Jane, "by thinking that Christmas comes from what we get or give instead of realizing that it is right in our hearts."  
 By this time the friends had come to the parting of the way, and with a friendly nod and "Goodbye," went to their homes to vision anew the possibilities of Christmas.

**OPPOSED TO CHRISTMAS PIE**  
 The Puritans were not alone in their opposition to mince or Christmas pie. The Quakers also fought against it, and at length even many good people of the Church of England began to think that clergymen should abstain from it, against which prejudice Bickerstaffe thus remonstrates: "The Christmas pie is, in its own nature, a kind of consecrated cake or badge of distinction, and yet it is often forbidden the druid of the family. Strange that a sirloin of beef, whether boiled or roasted, when entire is exposed to the utmost deprecations and invasions, but if minced into small pieces and tossed up with plums and sugar it changes the property, and forsooth is meat for his master."

**SANTA CLAUS**  
 Beyond the ocean many a queer old man and many a year ago,  
 He keeps a wonderful number of old men and every little boy and girl,  
 As Christmas times arrive,  
 No doubt will be very glad to hear  
 The old man is still alive.

**FIRST CHRISTMAS OBSERVANCE**  
 It is said that Christmas was first observed in the year 98 and that it was not until the year 137 that it was made a solemn feast. Pope Telesphorus decreed that it should be celebrated by all Christians in that year. On one early Christmas day the Roman Emperor Diocletian, hearing that the Christians assembled in their church were engaged in celebrating the birth of Christ, commanded that the doors of the church be closed and the building set on fire. This was done and six hundred persons lost their lives in the burning church.

**A SAFE AND SANE CHRISTMAS**  
 Societies are being organized whose members are pledged against giving Christmas gifts outside their immediate families. Christmas giving has been overdone, and if the intemperance can be checked in that way, well and good. But let us hope the "reformers" will not try by legal enactment to impose their views upon others. There are many things in this life to be remedied, and most of them should be remedied without resort to legislation.—Tacoma (Wash.) Ledger.

**WHY JIMMY PRAYED SO LOUD**  
 Dick and Jimmy were visiting their grandmother. One night when they were saying their prayers Jimmy voiced his petitions for Christmas presents in a tone that could be heard a mile.  
 "Why do you pray for your Christmas presents so loud?" interrupted Dick. "The Lord ain't deaf."  
 "No," whispered Jimmy, "but grandma is."

**A BRAVE SOLDIER**  
 Jack-in-the-Box: Ha, ha, you're a brave soldier, to be scared of me.

**A THRIFTY SAINT**  
 "Don't you think holidays tempt us to extravagance?"  
 "Not at all. If you will study the pictures of Santa Claus, you will observe he has on the same old clothes he has worn for years."

**Last-Continent Theory.**  
 Dr. William Alanson Bryan, professor of zoology and geology in the college of Hawaii, claims to have discovered traces of a 6,000-mile prehistoric bridge of land between South America and Hawaii.

**Gulf Stream.**  
 The gulf stream is more rapid than the Amazon, more impetuous than the Mississippi, and its volume more than 1,000 times greater. The waters are blue, and the line of junction can be easily marked by the eye.

**HARVARD**

**News Items.**  
 The ladies of the Unitarian society will hold a supper and social on Friday evening, December 31. Suppers served as usual. Mrs. Arthur H. Turner, chairman of the committee. At eight o'clock there will be an entertainment, followed by social dancing under the direction of Mrs. Lillian P. Cleaves.

Sunday morning there will be a special Christmas service at the Unitarian church. Mr. Thayer, with Miss Elvira Scorgie, will sing, and Wilfred Parkinson will assist with the violin. In the evening at 7:30 o'clock there will be a vesper service under the direction of Mr. Thayer. A double mixed quartet will sing. Madeline Parker Sargent of Ayer, soprano, will assist at this service. All are welcome. Rev. George Kent, the minister, will conduct both services.

The Congregational Men's club, whose supper and entertainment was announced for next Friday night in error, is to be given Friday evening, January 7.

On Wednesday evening at 7:30 o'clock, December 29, there will be a meeting of the Congregational church parish. Business pertaining to the renovating of the church will be fully discussed and it is hoped every member of the parish will be present.

The grammar school children gave their annual Christmas concert at the school building on Wednesday afternoon. They gave a splendid program, but owing to the limited opportunities of the building, only comparatively few of the parents and friends of the children could enjoy it. Miss Stone, with her associate teachers, Misses Rowe, Urquhart and Glidden, deserve commendable mention, with the children, for their very enjoyable program.

George McMahon, now with the merchant marine located at New York city, is home for the holidays with his brother, M. F. McMahon.

John Lee is having a new barn built on his farm on the depot road.

Both of H. A. Thayer's colts dogs were killed by a passing auto early this week. It is thought they were playing together and did not see the approach of the car.

Miss Catherine Hazard spent last week-end with friends in Boston.

Mr. and Mrs. Earle O. Turner are home from Frederick, N. B., for the holiday season.

Frank O. Ryan has a new chummy roadster auto and John H. Madigan has a new touring car.

The heavy rains of last week did several hundred dollars worth of damage to our roads.

The Electric Light Co. are installing meters and continuing their line to the houses of J. H. Madigan, Steve Barba and James Rutledge on the depot road.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Gale, with Mr. and Mrs. Harry Atwood, spend Christmas day with Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Stone in Still River.

Next Saturday Francisella Billington in the six-act feature, "The day she paid" by Fannie Hurst, a story that came out in the Cosmopolitan magazine as "Oats for women." Miss Billington's support is great. Charles Clay, Liout, Marcel Draganson officially credited with fourteen Hun planes, play a minor role. Little five-year old Nancy Caswell in the part of Mary Ann is worth the price to her alone; the villain, Harry Van Meter, charged with the slaying of Roosevelt's rough-riders in the Spanish American war.

Received this week at public library: O'Brien's White Shadows in South Seas; and Lawrence Abbott's Impressions of Theodore Roosevelt; Main Street by Sinclair Lewis; The Devil's Paw by Oppenheim; The Peddler by H. C. Rowland; Valley of Silence by H. G. Wells; and a fresh copy of an old but timely novel, Standish of Standish.

At the meeting of the Woman's club on Monday evening, December 20, a good number were present to hear the interesting lecture by Dr. Roland B. Dixon of this town on "The Himalayas and Western Tibet." The wonderful scenery of this region was shown in numerous stereopticon views.

**Grange Tree and Entertainment.**  
 The Grange had their Christmas tree and entertainment on Tuesday evening. The entertainment was in charge of Mrs. Etta Sanders, assisted by Ethel Laddell. The orchestra consisted of members took their parts in songs, piano solos and readings, Francis Hirsch, Rachel Ryan, Helen Rowe, Frank Preston, Hubert Ryan and Carroll Madigan were among those who took leading parts. There was a contest won by Ethel Wright, a box of chocolates. There was also a Christmas tree, with presents for everyone. The business session of the meeting, P. O. Ryan, with Mrs. Ryan, were delegates to the State Grange session at Pittsfield, gave a very excellent report of the meetings. About fifty were present.

At the next meeting, to be held January 4, the program for 1921 will be installed. The organization of Camp Devens will do the work.

**Wedding.**  
 At noon on Saturday, December 18, at the home of Mrs. Dr. Durr, Mrs. Austin Peters married the wedding of Ruth, the younger daughter, to Howard Phelps Putnam, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Howell Putnam of Harvard and Philadelphia. About seventy-five relatives and intimate friends gathered in the rooms decorated with green, yellow, carnations and clematis, and as the wedding march was played by an orchestra from the 36th Infantry in the sun parlor, the bride, wearing her mother's wedding gown and carrying bride's arms, came down the stairs upon the arm of her father.

A picture long to be remembered was made by the wedding party as it formed beneath a shower of greenery and flowers in the alcove connecting the two large porches. The maid of honor, Miss Dorothy Peters, sister of the bride, was charming in a gown of brown lace with an armful of pink roses. Frederick Manning of New Haven, Conn., a classmate of the groom, acted as best man.

The ceremony was performed by Rev. Angus Durr, former vicar of St. Andrew's church in Ayer. An informal reception and wedding breakfast followed. Friends lingered long in the atmosphere of hospitality and charming informality, which were all in keeping with the fine old home in which the wedding was held.  
 Mr. and Mrs. Putnam will be at

**Ford**  
 The Universal Car

Less than pre-war prices. Let everybody ride. The war started in August, 1914, and below we show a comparison between the prices of Ford cars in 1914 and the present prices.

1914 Price F.O.B. Detroit	Today's Price—1920 F.O.B. Detroit
Touring \$490	\$440
Roadster \$465	\$395
Sedan \$975	\$795
Less Starter and Rims	With Starter and Rims
Coupe \$850	\$750
Less Starter and Rims	With Starter and Rims

MAKE YOURSELF A XMAS PRESENT  
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WHY? WHY?

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 You can buy a Ford Car on Time Payments

**K. M. MacLENNAN**  
**AYER, MASS.**  
 Agent for Ayer, Harvard, Shirley and Groton

home in Ansonia, Conn., after January 15.

**TOWNSEND**

The L. B. S. of the Methodist church cleared \$75 at the recent sale held in the hall of the church.

Rev. and Mrs. A. L. Struthers have been entertaining his brother, Arthur J. Struthers, of Chittenden.

Miss Flora Caroline Stewart, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. John Stewart and George Victor Powell, son of Mrs. Emma Powell of this town, were united in marriage Saturday evening eight o'clock at the Townsend Congregational parsonage by Rev. A. L. Struthers, the double ring service being used. The couple was attended by the bride's sister and husband, Mr. and Mrs. J. Sanford Johnson. Mr. and Mrs. Powell have gone to housekeeping in the Stearns cottage on Bow street, recently vacated by Wilbur Bruce.

Mrs. Herbert Cook and sons, Warren and Josiah, of Hyannis are visiting Mrs. Cook's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Seaver.

Mrs. Susie M. Turner left Tuesday for Orlando, Fla., where she plans to spend the winter months.

At the meeting of the Grange to be held next Monday evening, December 27, the third and fourth degrees will be conferred upon a class of candidates. The third degree will be worked by a ladies' degree team with Mrs. Edna Bray, acting as master.

The feast which follows initiation is to be in charge of Mr. and Mrs. Irving A. Seaver.

On account of the funeral services of Mrs. Etta Sanders and the serious illness Mrs. George E. Clark, the Christmas observance exercises which were to have been held Friday afternoon at the Methodist church have been postponed one week, and will be held New Year's eve.

The meeting of the Community Workers will be held next week Tuesday afternoon in the pastor's room of the Congregational church at the usual time.

At the recent meeting of the Townsend farm bureau, Lyman Cook was elected director. Mr. Cook plans to attend the County Farm bureau meeting, to be held in Boston, December 29.

All those having bills against the town are requested to present same to the selectmen on or before Saturday, January 1.

The members of the Frodoe Weston Farme Tent, D. of W., have been preparing Christmas gift boxes this week and distributed them Wednesday among the Townsend Civil War veterans.

At the recent meeting of the Franz Waldo Miller post, A. L., the following officers were elected for the coming year: John Baehelder, com.; George Fred Tenney, vice com.; Carl Louie Drake, adjutant; Leslie Hurley, finance officer and treasurer.

The games of basketball, which have been held under the direction of the Townsend Athletic club this year, will be held under the management of the local post, A. L., in 1921. Leon Marshall has been elected general manager and Clarence L. Wyman, assistant manager.

The recently formed Townsend high school orchestra held its first rehearsal Tuesday evening at the home of Miss Louie Drake. The orchestra consists of the following members: Irene Moulton, first violin; Lucie Reynolds, second violin; Richard Powell, trombone; Francis Wright, first cornet; John Markham, second cornet; Marshall Higgins, snare drum and cymbals; Miss Drake, piano accompanist; Miss Howd, school supervisor of music, director.

Under the auspices of the Red Cross auxiliary, moving pictures will be presented in Memorial hall next week Wednesday evening, December 29. The proceeds are for European relief for starving children. Money spent by attending this entertainment is helping feed a hungry child somewhere in Europe. The American Red Cross has made a direct appeal to all Red Cross organizations to lend every possible aid in cooperating with Mr. Hoover to put the drive over in order to feed the three and one-half millions of starving children of Europe. It is hoped that everyone will help in getting the local quota. There will also be an opportunity to give to this fund Christmas Sunday, December 26, at the Congregational church.

when a contribution will be taken at the morning service for the European children's relief. The pastor's sermon will be on "The message of Christmas." Sermon to the children, "A babe in the manger," evening vesper service with special music and Christmas story.

The sum total cleared at the recent Congregational L. B. S. fair was \$151.51.

**L. B. S. Annual Fair.**

The L. B. S. of the Congregational church held their annual fair last week Wednesday afternoon and evening in the vestries of the church, when a sale of aprons, home-made candy, fancy articles and mystery packages was held at four o'clock, with the following in charge of the booths: aprons, Mrs. A. L. Struthers and Mrs. E. H. Savage; candy, Mrs. Helen Jeffs and Mrs. Agnes Woods; fancy articles, Mrs. Lilla Estes and Mrs. J. Livingston; handkerchiefs, Mrs. Bernice King; mystery packages, Mrs. Joshua Swicker and Miss Lizzie Whitcomb; ice cream, Mrs. Benson and Mrs. B. King. The decorations of the vestry were unusually attractive, as were also the decorations of the various booths, the Christmas green and red with red bells and tinsel being used very effectively.

At six o'clock about 150 were served a supper in charge of Mrs. Emma Clarke, Mrs. George Gates and Mrs. Emma Lancy with the members of the Ever Ready class as waiters.

A large number were also present at the evening's entertainment at eight o'clock, which consisted of humorous songs, readings and duets by the "Sweet family," Mrs. Gertrude Piper acting in a most perfect manner, the role of "Ma Sweet" and leader of her "musical family." The other characters were equally comical in their impersonations and all received hearty applause from the audience. The entertainment program was in charge of Mrs. Jess Cowdry and Mrs. Gertrude Piper. The vestry decorations were in charge of Mrs. L. U. Clement and Mrs. H. J. Miller.

The members of the Ever Ready class held their regular meeting this week with Miss Helen MacDonald on Wallace hill. A part of the afternoon was spent making the candy bags for the church Christmas tree, after which a social time with the serving of refreshments by the hostess was enjoyed.

Miss Elsa Delano, who teaches at Athol, is at the home of her parents on Elm street for a fortnight's vacation.

During the heavy rain storm last week when the water was so high that many of the country roads were flooded, the old White dam in the woods back of the J. A. Manchester home in Joslyville was swept away, flooding the low land and the vicinity of the Belgrade Rug factory. This dam was built probably about 1840 and when the owner of the old tub factory, it was practically rebuilt in 1860. This dam fed the streams which are noted by the trout fishermen from this vicinity and Fitchburg.

Mr. Mary Heath had charge of the library books at the reading-room last Saturday in the absence of Miss Seaver, who was out of town.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry B. Hathaway entertained a party of friends from Leominster last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dobson have closed their cottage at the Center and have come to the home of their daughter, Mrs. George Winchester, for the winter.

Mrs. A. J. Manchester, who has been quite ill, is reported as improving, and her niece, Miss Alice Conway, of Salem, is caring for her at present.

Albert Wyman recently entered the employ of Damon & Richardson. He is still boarding at the Center and goes back and forth in his automobile.

Ian Rusk from the University of Maine is spending his vacation with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Duncan Rusk.

Messrs. Arnold, Beblin and Sullivan from Boston, who are employed on the Homer grounds, have been stopping at Squannacook Inn.

Harrison Young visited Worcester Saturday and his little grandson, who has been visiting him, has returned to Woonsocket to spend Christmas with his mother.

Eva Hamilton, the little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Foster Hamilton, is suffering from an attack of jaundice.

The public library will be closed on Saturday as it is Christmas day and books out in this village may be kept another week, until January 1, without incurring a fine.

Miss Lindsey, who has been stopping for a few days at Squannacook Inn, has returned to her home in Fall River.

Waldo, the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Richards, is recovering from an attack of chicken pox.

Arthur Homer and family have returned to their Main street home for the holidays.

**Runaway Accident.**

Emory Wyman is confined to his home with a badly injured ankle as a result of a runaway accident last Saturday evening. While loading grain at Damon & Richardson's mill about five o'clock, the horse became startled at a large auto truck passing and started toward the village. Mr. Wyman, who was beside the team, sprang for his head and missed his hold of the bride, falling under the wheels and the loaded wagon passed over his leg near the ankle. With true Yankee grit he sprang up and ran quite a distance after his team, until his injuries caused him to fall by the roadside, where he was picked up by a passer-by, who learning his trouble, took him back to the mill and he was taken to his home on the Fitchburg road by Mr. Richardson in his car and a doctor summoned. Meanwhile, his brother started out in search of the team, which had been stopped in the yard of Joseph Gowan's place, on Main street. Mr. Wyman was taken to the bank hospital Saturday evening and was cared for, and is now resting comfortably at his home.

**New Advertisements**

**NOTICE**

All persons having accounts due from the town of Harvard are requested to present their bills on or before December 31, 1920. The Selectmen will be at the town hall to draw orders for the same on December 30 and 31, from 10 o'clock A. M., until 4 o'clock P. M.

John E. Maynard,  
 Percy Beard,  
 Eben F. Corey,  
 Selectmen of Harvard.  
 Harvard, Mass., Dec. 21, 1920.

**NOTICE**

The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of the Townsend National Bank will be held at their Banking Rooms on Monday, January 3, 1921, at ten o'clock A. M., to choose a Board of Directors for the ensuing year, and act upon any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

C. B. WILLARD,  
 4115  
 Townsends, Mass., December 6, 1920.

**NOTICE**

The Annual Meeting of the Shareholders of the First National Bank of Ayer will be held at the Banking Rooms in Ayer, Mass., on Monday, January 10, 1921, at 9:30 o'clock A. M., for the purpose of acting upon the following business:

To choose a Board of Directors to serve for the ensuing year, and to transact any other business that may come before that meeting.  
**CHARLES A. NORMAND.**  
 5115  
 Ayer, Mass., December 6, 1920.

**Lowell and Fitchburg Street By.**

**TIME TABLE**  
 Cars leave Ayer for North Chelmsford and Lowell once an hour at 8:30 A. M. to 9:00 P. M.  
 Leave North Chelmsford once an hour from 6:15 A. M. to 10:15 P. M. Sundays the same except the first car in the morning.  
 Last car from North Chelmsford to Ayer 10:15 P. M.  
 Last car from Ayer to North Chelmsford 9:00 P. M.

**LOST BOOK.**—In accordance with Chap. 590, Sec. 40 of the Acts of 1919 and amendments thereto, notice is hereby given that Book No. 277 has been lost and application has been made for the issuance of a duplicate book. **NORTH MEDFORD SAVING BANK**, Ralph L. Hastings, Treasurer, Ayer, Mass., December 17, 1920.



TWO DOLLARS A YEAR IN ADVANCE

This Paper is Sold by C. E. P. Co., Main Street, Ayer...

Saturday, December 25, 1920

PEPPERELL

News Items.

Miss Mildred Lunt came home on Thursday from Beverly, where she is now teaching. It is expected that after the family gathering at the home of her parents...

The pupils of the Clara M. Shattuck school are to be accredited with the sum of \$41.07 for the "Child-feeding fund" instead of the sum of \$441 appearing by error in our columns last week.

Leader Stewart came home last week on Saturday from Maryland university for his two weeks' vacation.

The Current Events' talk at Lawrence library, which would occur on December 27, coming in regular order of every two weeks, will be postponed one week, until January 3, as the speaker, D. L. Whitmarsh, is to be in Maine during the holidays.

The water in the Nashua river in this point was higher last week Thursday and Friday than was ever known before in December, and very rarely in the spring floods.

Miss Gertrude Raymond is expected home on Friday from Melrose Highlands, where she has been boarding with relatives since taking her position in the office of the Boston and Maine railroad in Boston.

Mr. and Mrs. Nell McWilliams from Lawrence are expected here to spend the holiday at their home on Franklin street.

The annual Get-Together of the County Bureau of Agriculture with the addition of the newly-organized Farm Bureau, is to convene in Horticultural hall, Boston, Wednesday, December 29, with morning and afternoon sessions.

It is expected that more than 300 people will be present, representing practically all of the principal towns and cities. A caterer will furnish dinner at noon.

George Willis was taken to the hospital at Worcester last week for observation and treatment, following his attack of mental trouble of the early part of the week.

Miss Sadie Cotton in company with her father, H. B. Cotton, went to Boston on Saturday and witnessed the great demonstration for Mrs. MacSwiney.

Mrs. John Marshall, who has been stopping with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Willis, returned to her home in Windham, N. H., on Monday.

Christmas trade is reported slack this year and the decorations do not seem quite up to the usual standard in most of the local stores.

Mrs. M. A. Cuthbertson, who has been stopping at the home of Mrs. W. A. Kemp for a week or more, left for Worcester to visit with her daughter, Mrs. Tierney, and family, over the holiday.

Principal Whitmarsh went to his old home in Blue Hills, Me., on Wednesday to spend his vacation.

Mrs. M. M. Drumm returned Thursday from Worcester, where she has been visiting her sisters for a few days. Her son, Francis Drumm, of Holy Cross college, returned here at the same time, for his Christmas vacation.

Jerry N. Annis was called to Charlotte, Me., on Thursday, by the sad news of the death of his mother, Mrs. Alonzo Annis, of that place. His sister, Mrs. J. A. Donnelly was called there about three weeks ago, by news of her illness, and has remained. Mrs. Annis was but 74 years of age, and has been ill for some time with heart trouble and hardening of the arteries, so that her death was not unexpected.

Charles Tucker of Hudson was in town last week, the household goods of the late Miss Lizzie Tucker having been removed from the house on Hollis street. Mr. Tucker is negotiating with a party in town for the sale of the property.

Willis Bosworth and family from Brockton arrived on Friday to pass the holiday with his mother, Mrs. Maude Silker, Franklin street.

The household goods of Mrs. Martha Bancroft arrived by auto truck on Monday from Medford, and are soon to be settled in the rooms she has reserved for herself in her newly purchased home.

Mrs. C. T. Williams has leased the Behrens house on Mill street to the present occupants, Mr. and Mrs. George Deware, who find it difficult to move this cold weather, and have arranged to stay there until March 1.

Mrs. Lucy Perry entertained her nephew, Alfred Williams, and niece, Mrs. Gladys from Nashua, N. H., over the week-end.

Miss Doris Butler, Lillian Stewart and Dorothy Dennen from the Framingham Normal school are expected to be at their respective homes in town over the holiday vacation.

Popperell Troop 2, Boy Scouts, will take a hike to Lake Massapoag on Wednesday morning, December 29, at eight o'clock.

Clifford Shattuck and wife are expected from Revere to spend Christmas and Sunday with his parents, on River street.

According to the posters, programs and all accounts, the coming minstrel show to be given by the Woman's Auxiliary of the Frank West post, A. L. 1, is to surpass anything in this line recently staged. It is to be held at Prescott hall on the evening of December 31, and will be a fitting climax to all the entertaining events of the year of 1920.

Mr. Mullin, has been excellent. An attraction will be the feature and solo dancing, music to be furnished by Collins of Marlboro. General dancing will follow the minstrel show. A table of home-made candies and one of tonics will be in charge of a committee of ladies for sale during the evening.

Miss Flora Boynton has been at home this week from her duties as instructor at Lasell.

Mrs. Louise Whittaker and children, Miss Doris, from Boston, on Sunday to visit her sisters, Mrs. Prescott and Mrs. Crockett.

Rev. and Mrs. D. R. Child and sons from Hudson spent Monday in town with Mrs. Child's mother, Mrs. Bowman, and on their return Master Richard was left here for a longer visit. He went home on Thursday, Mrs. Bowman returning with him, for a visit over Christmas.

Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Durant and their daughter, Miss Doris, from Boston, and sons, Kenneth and Edward, will spend Christmas day at Mrs. Durant's old home in Milford, N. H.

Nearly all the ex-soldiers at the Convalescent home will be able to reach their homes for Christmas, having leave of absence for the holiday, to visit their families.

N. W. Appleton has been entertaining his brother, William Appleton, of Boston the past week.

The family of B. K. Thorogood, who have been occupying the Clocomb cottage on Oak hill, moved last week to Newton Center for the winter. The duties of Prof. Thorogood were becoming more strenuous, as in addition to his work as instructor in the engineering department at Harvard, he was recently placed in charge of a similar department in one of the vocational schools, maintained in Boston under the Federal board, where there are 250 ex-soldiers under instruction.

Miss Esther Robbins and Miss Hester Waite were week-end guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Roger Robbins, Lawrence.

The firemen's ball on Friday evening was termed a great success, as it was a pleasant occasion, exceedingly well attended, and satisfactory financially. There were many parties from surrounding towns. The music by Newell's orchestra was generally liked, and at intermission ice cream and cake were for sale, in place of the regular supper.

Frederic L. Burns and wife (Miss Helen Lovejoy) were in town last week, being called from New Jersey by the death of Mr. Burns' mother, Mrs. Sarah Burns, of Milford, N. H., who died there on Tuesday, December 14, at the age of 91 years. The services on Thursday were also attended by Mrs. F. W. Lovejoy of this town.

Mrs. Burns was a native of Amherst, N. H., but during the lifetime of her husband, the late Luther Burns, they were frequent visitors here in town, coming from Milford, where they resided for many years.

Miss Esther Robbins recently returned east from Duluth, Minn., where she spent last fall, to take a position as instructor in a seminary. She will pass the Christmas vacation at her home in town, and possibly may conclude to remain east.

The regular meeting of the East Village club will be postponed from December 29, to the following week, January 5, 1921. An all-day meeting will then be held with Mrs. M. C. Lane, Cottage street, and will be a combined New Year party, with the pleasures of a Christmas tree for the guests included. Each one is attending is asked to bring some inexpensive gift to be placed on the tree for later distribution.

News was received last week of the death of the mother of Mrs. Harry Dawborn, who at one time resided in town in the McGrath house, Main street. Her mother, Mrs. J. E. Bradstreet, who was an artist, often visited here and made many friends. Following the removal of Mrs. Dawborn to Nashua, her mother went to live in New York City. She suffered a shock there last spring, and has since lived at her old home place at Bridgeton, Me., where her death occurred on Tuesday, following a second shock on Monday.

Mrs. Clarence Keith and little daughter, Evelyn, came from Swampscott last week Saturday, to remain here during the holidays at the home of B. A. Keith.

Mr. and Mrs. George S. Carter will observe the fifth anniversary of their marriage at their home on Wednesday, December 29. They will be pleased to receive any friends who may be able to call, between the hours of two and five in the afternoon, also, from 7:45 to 9 o'clock in the evening.

Frank Hamilton is quite ill, having been confined to his home for two weeks.

Christmas greens, including laurel wreaths and roping, are being shipped from town in large quantities.

At the regular meeting of Acoma Rebekah lodge at the L. O. O. F. hall on Tuesday evening, December 28, the initiatory degree will be worked on a class of seven candidates. It is expected that the president of the Rebekah assembly, Mrs. Helena M. Fisher, and marshal, will be present, also, Miss Mattie V. Lee, district deputy president, and suite, of Leominster.

Other lodges will probably be represented. Five members of Acoma lodge were chosen to make arrangements for serving a collation to the guests.

An auto party from Waltham, Mr. and Mrs. Smith and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas, visited at the home of Mrs. Allen McElhinney on Sunday, the weather being sufficiently mild for a pleasure trip, although the roads are reported rather rough.

Mrs. W. H. Edwards is improving from her lameness so that she is able to walk out on pleasant days. The dry walks are a blessing to some of the shut-ins, who are dreading the winter snows.

Miss Elizabeth McNayr will spend her Christmas holiday with her sister, Mrs. Charles Marshall, and family, at Fitchburg.

Other Popperell matter on page 2.

Community Church Notices.

Morning service at 10:30. Rev. R. W. Drawbridge will preach. Mrs. E. W. Walker's class will furnish and arrange the church decorations.

Church school at noon. An invitation is extended to all in our congregation to share the instruction of the church session. Visitors are welcome in all departments.

Regular motion picture service Friday evening, December 31.

"The miracle man" is coming Friday evening, January 7. This is a picture with an amazing soul, a picture no one can afford to miss. The committee are giving this to you at a nominal admission. Let everyone of the church boost this service. Parents are requested to have their children sit with them.

Red Cross Meeting.

At the meeting held at the Red Cross rooms on Wednesday, December 8, the business consisted of a discussion in regard to a request from Red Cross headquarters for some assistance in affording immediate relief to the suffering children of Europe. Several of the local branches have not met the desired quota in making the garments and at this meeting it was voted to give \$100 toward the fund for purchasing ready-made garments in order that the need might be met at once.

Also, a box was packed, containing all the ready-made garments made by the local branch during the summer and fall, which consisted of 41 pair of children's stockings, woolen and hand knit, also 13 children's flannel nightdresses and 8 sweaters. Although no regular meetings are to be held at the rooms, there is still on hand a quantity of yarn for stockings or sweaters, which may be had for knitting these children's articles by anyone desiring to help.

Methodist Church Notes.

Next Sunday will be Christmas Sunday at the churches and the pastor, Rev. B. W. Rust, will preach on the theme, "The wonderful babe."

There will be special Christmas music, under the direction of Mrs. C. E. Marchant, consisting of solos and Christmas anthems by a large choir.

Regular session of the church school at twelve o'clock.

A Christmas concert will be given at seven o'clock in the auditorium in which the church choir will augment the singers of the Sunday school. There will be selections of music from the classics, with arrangement of appropriate Christmas hymns. Recitations will be given by the boys and girls of the school.

On Tuesday evening at 7:30 devotional hour, topic, "The pure in heart." Thursday afternoon the Ladies Aid society will meet with Mrs. W. A. Sheppardson, High street. Business of importance will be brought before the meeting.

The Epworth League on Friday, the last evening of the year, will have fitting observance. The meeting will be a half hour later than usual at eight o'clock and the first period will be a devotional hour. The second period will be devoted to an illustrated lecture on South America by William Boyd, whose personal acquaintance with the country from some months' residence there, will make the talk well worth hearing. The third period will be given up to sociability and refreshments will be served. The closing hours will be spent in quiet, devotional manner, under the leadership of the minister.

Christmas Celebration.

The young men of the Homestead entertained their friends at Saunders' hall on Tuesday evening, and were, in turn, entertained there by parties from Lowell and Boston. A delegation of twenty-six came from Lowell, members of the A. L. and the Women's Auxiliary, under Mr. Hewett, Welfare Committee. They brought gifts for each member at the Homestead, boxes of fruit and cake and confectionery, and such invalid slippers, also cigars and tobacco.

Mrs. Katherine Grinnell, community war service worker of Boston, was instrumental in sending a party of young entertainers, under the direction of Miss Kate McCormack and Mr. Frothingham, a party including soloists, dancers, and a comedian. The entertainment given at the Grosvenor in the afternoon, were also present, giving solos, and quartet numbers. It was an expensive program and a varied one, lasting nearly two hours.

The hall was most brilliantly illuminated and decorated with Christmas greenery, occupying the prominent place. This was finely decorated and lighted by electric bulbs, with a brightly lighted star at the top. The part of Santa Claus was taken by Mr. Bailey, of the Homestead. Paper caps and Christmas favors were distributed, and Mrs. Deware, the much respected and liked helper at the Homestead was much surprised by the great number of boys at the Homestead of a gold piece, in recognition of her kindnesses, past and present.

About eighty couples participated in a grand Mardi Gras march, with music by Leslie Parker and Miss Butler. At the conclusion, the zesty reached its height, and there were showers of confetti, colored streamers, bonbons, thrown among the dancers, who formed into sets for old fashioned dances and cotillions. Christmas revelry was the key note of the hour, and all united with good will.

Those in town who lent much assistance were C. B. Hamilton, who made a donation of a golden ball; also, C. H. Jewett, Mrs. Hutchinson, Mrs. Bangs, and Miss Doyle, the ladies attending to the furnishing of home made cakes, which were served with the ice cream sent as a gift from the Red Cross headquarters at Lowell. Delicious coffee made by Mrs. Boula and Mrs. Grenier was served. A treat of a box of fine cigarettes, by Mr. Loring and other minor donations from parties, were appreciated.

The affair was in charge of James C. Barry, of the Homestead, who spoke near the close of the evening of the kindness of Madame Hutchinson and her faithful work in this last great war, as well as in the times of former conflicts. A request for a song was made with two selections, "The little gray home in the West," and "The sunshine of your smile."

Excusable. When the mercury is past 85, you have our permission to say sweat instead of perspiration. — Arkansas Thomas Cat.

What Makes a Book. If a book come from the heart, it will continue to reach other hearts; all art and authorcraft are of small amount to that. — Carlyle.

Helps the Circulation. One of the largest New York hotels supplies each of its guests, who average 2,000 a day, with a free copy of a morning newspaper.

Nervous. It is the man of many parts who should be careful not to go to pieces. — Cartoons Magazine.

Mr. Barry also paid tribute to the work of the American woman during the war, and asked that a silent tribute be paid to the memory of the "Boys in France," which was observed with every member of the company standing. The fine action was a fitting conclusion to a most congenial evening.

Fire. At an early hour on Tuesday morning fire was discovered in the Cowdroy house on Mill street nearly opposite the Popperell Card shop. In an attempt to sound an alarm from the central telephone office, as usual, only one blast at a time could be secured, and an alarm from box 26 was sounded by one of the engineers, after some delay.

As the house was not inhabited, having been badly damaged by fire about three years ago and never repaired, no anxiety was felt concerning that property, and the attention of the department was given to adjoining houses, and particularly to the Popperell Card shop, just across the street. Watchmen were posted upon the roof to put out any stray sparks, and the hose was used to drench the side of the plant nearest the fire. The house burned for the second time, was a part of the E. E. Tarbell estate, and was judged a total loss at the former fire. It was one of the oldest houses of the town, built of large strong timbers, and even after this second fire, parts of the wall were left standing. The fire is supposed to have been incendiary.

Garden Champions. The champion market garden club of Middlesex county is the most Goldwaite of Dunstable, and the champion potato club member is Roger Ryan of Pepperell. These boys in competition with 500 others who are enrolled in the clubs carried on under the direction of the Middlesex County Bureau of Agriculture and Home Economics, have been given the highest honors by Robert P. Trask, agent in charge of boys' and girls' work.

Ernest Goldwaite was potato club champion a year ago and has been a member of the market garden club for three years. His profit on 1/10 acre was \$124.48, after deducting all expenses for seed, fertilizer and labor. Roger Ryan made a profit of \$66.84 above all expenses on 1/2 acre of potatoes. He was a member of the garden club last year and won a two days' trip to the state college.

The second prize in the county goes to Paul Kimball of Littleton who had 1/20 acre on which he raised 14 bushels of potatoes. His profit was \$13.75 above all expenses.

The two champions will have a week in camp at the Massachusetts Agricultural college next summer. Other club members who will be given a two day trip as a reward for excellent work are: Charles Howe, Acton; Arthur Roberts, Ashby; Rosamond Cross, Groton; Alice LaFountain, Townsend.

"Brainy" Lizard Discovered. Colorado has made an interesting "find." A mass of, skeletonized bones was unearthed some time ago from a deep pit, and since then archaeologists and experts in natural history have been occupied in piecing the bones together. The result is a singular formation. It is 14 feet high at the shoulder with a giraffelike neck stretching 20 feet into the air and a total length from the front of the head to the tip of the tail of more than 50 feet. The lizard had a brain an inch in diameter.

Perfume From Orange Buds. The fruit buds of the bitter orange also give an essential oil known as essence de petit grain; and from the white flowers is extracted a delightful perfume called essence de Neroli. That is prepared chiefly at Nice, Cannes and Grasse, in the south of France. All the flowers of a fine tree will yield only a single ounce of Neroli oil. The peel also yields an aromatic principle that the ancient Arab physicians esteemed highly as a tonic; it is still considered a useful stomachic.

Placing Blame. A vulgar man, in any ill that happens to him, blames others; a novice in philosophy blames himself, and a philosopher blames neither the one nor the other. — Epictetus.

Usually a "Bluffer." A person who goes around bragging about his "awful temper" is the easiest person in the world to cow by a very small show of firmness and determination.

But It Pays "Anyhow." "De man dat 'tends strictly to his own business," said Uncle Eben, "sometimes don't git no credit 'cep' for being unsofable."

Venerate Sandal Wood. No wood is so largely used by Hindus in India as sandal wood. Whether living or dead, it has been connected with their religious ceremonies for over fourteen centuries.

Many Species of Bats. There are about 130 species of bats, and these are distributed over nearly every quarter of the globe. The larger bats are found in the warmer regions.

Pigmy Pigs. The smallest known species of hog are the pigmy wine of Austria. They are exactly like other hogs in every particular except size, being no longer than a good-sized house rat.

Excusable. When the mercury is past 85, you have our permission to say sweat instead of perspiration. — Arkansas Thomas Cat.

What Makes a Book. If a book come from the heart, it will continue to reach other hearts; all art and authorcraft are of small amount to that. — Carlyle.

Helps the Circulation. One of the largest New York hotels supplies each of its guests, who average 2,000 a day, with a free copy of a morning newspaper.

Nervous. It is the man of many parts who should be careful not to go to pieces. — Cartoons Magazine.

TALBOT'S MEN'S SHOP THE SENSATION OF SENSATIONS! \$64,330 Worth of BATES STREET SHIRTS AVERAGING LESS THAN HALF PRICE The Sale of a lifetime—probably the greatest Shirt Sale ever staged in this country. 24,000 of the famous Bates Street Shirts, known as America's finest tailored product and which our Ayer Store got its share of this purchase.

To Remove Tattoo Marks. Tattoo marks may be removed by the application of a paste of salicylic acid and glycerine. A compress of the paste is applied to the tattooing and the whole secured with sticking plaster. After about eight days the paste is taken off, the dead skin removed and the application of paste repeated. As a rule about three applications do the work.

Dec. 24 1920 Fitchburg's Big Market SPECIAL FOR SATURDAY Dec. 24 1920 WE WISH YOU A MERRY, MERRY CHRISTMAS A FEW SUGGESTIONS OF OUR MANY ECONOMICAL SPECIALS FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS TABLE NEEDS NICE YOUNG TURKEYS . . . 58c, 63c, 68c lb. Plump Chicken . . . 50c, 55c lb. Fatted Ducks . . . 52c, 55c lb. FINE FAT GESE . . . 45c, 48c, 50c lb. Fresh Shoulders of Pork . . . 15c lb. Roasts of Pork . . . 30c, 35c lb. Cut from Fresh Hams WE MAINTAIN THE LARGEST AND MOST UP-TO-DATE VEGETABLE DEPARTMENT IN NORTH WORCESTER COUNTY FANCY MAINE POTATOES, 40c pk. LARGE ONIONS, 3c lb, 30c qt. FRESH CABBAGE, 3c lb, 10 lbs, 25c CRANBERRIES, 18c qt. YELLOW TURNIPS, 2 1/2c lb. FRESH CELERY, 29c bunch BLUE HUBBARD SQUASH . . . 6c lb. TALL MAMMOTH ASPARAGUS . . . 35c can FANCY SUGAR CORN . . . 19c can SELECT SWEET PEAS . . . 18c can NEW NUTS FOR CHRISTMAS EXTRA FANCY BUDDED WALNUTS . . . 37c lb. CALIFORNIA SOFT SHELL WALNUTS . . . 33c lb. NEW PECANS . . . 34c lb. NEW FANCY FILBERTS . . . 28c lb. NEW SOFT SHELL ALMONDS . . . 42c lb. NEW MIXED NUTS . . . 28c lb. SHELLED WALNUT HALVES . . . 55c lb. CANDY RIBBON CANDY, all flavors . . . 29c lb. PEANUT BRITTLE . . . 29c lb. POP CORN BRITTLE . . . 29c lb. SPICED JELLY DROPS . . . 29c lb. SPICED JELLY STRINGS . . . 29c lb. FUDGE, three flavors . . . 39c lb. 5-lb. BOX ASSORTED CHOCOLATES DOUBLE DIPPED . . . \$2.69 1 lb. BOX CHOCOLATES, Nutor Fruits . . . 75c GRANDMOTHER'S MINCE MEAT . . . 16c pkgs. NONE-SUCH MINCE MEAT, Ready to use No. 2 1/2 tin . . . 53c Ready to use No. 10 tin . . . \$1.48 Package Condensed . . . 16c ALL ORDERS OF \$5.00 OR OVER PACKED AND SHIPPED ANYWHERE BY EXPRESS OR PARCEL POST. WE DO NOT PREPAY. PLEASE INCLUDE AMOUNT TO COVER POSTAGE IN YOUR ORDER. HEINZ MINCE MEAT, No 2 tin . . . 78c CHRISTMAS SPECIALS 1 TON FANCY CHOCOLATE COOKIES . . . 25c lb. Brockelman Bros. MAIN OFFICE—FITCHBURG, MASS. U. S. Wharf Director's License No. 015,182 V. R. STORES IN FITCHBURG, LEOMINSTER, CLINTON, MASS. COMMUNITY CHURCH MOTION PICTURE SERVICE "COME OUT OF THE KITCHEN" MARGUERITE CLARK "Model Husband," DeHaven Ford Educational Pepperell

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the subscriber has been duly appointed administrator of the estate of GEORGE ANNA WENTWORTH, late of Ayer in the County of Middlesex, deceased, intestate, and has taken upon herself the trust by giving bond, as the law directs. All persons having demands upon the estate of said deceased are required to exhibit the same, and all persons indebted to said estate are called upon to make payment to EMMA G. WENTWORTH, Adm'r. 8 Craigie Circle, Cambridge, Mass. Dec. 23, 1920. 3117