

TURNER'S PUBLIC SPIRIT.

Fifty-third Year

Ayer, Mass., Saturday, January 1, 1921

No. 18. Price Five Cents

PEPPERELL

News Items.
 D. L. Whitmarsh returns from his visit to New Hampshire the latter part of this week, and it is expected will give his Current Events talk at the library on Monday afternoon, Jan. 3.
 Ernest Keith and family spent the holidays here, from Derry, N. H.
 Frank Satter came from Pittsfield to spend Christmas and Sunday with his family.
 Mrs. M. M. Richards entertained her sister, Mrs. George E. Shattuck and husband, on Christmas day.
 Miss Madelyn Drown has returned to her work as telephone operator at the Groton School, after a vacation of ten days.
 There was an excellent attendance at the meeting of the Men's Club on Monday evening, at Grange Hall, considering the weather and travelling. All were rewarded by the practical talk given by Prof. Giles, of the Lumbering department of Harvard, who spoke on "How to enhance the value of your wood-lots." Although many of the points made by him were not entirely new to those interested in the preservation and care of such property, yet the ideas gained a new value, coming from such excellent authority. Following his talk of an hour or more, the members of the club held an informal discussion on matters of local and personal interest. A collation was served at the conclusion of the evening.
 On Saturday, next, seven members of Beacon lodge are to attend the Amnon encampment to be held at Leominster.
 Miss Alice Lawson has been spending her school vacation here at her home, coming from Springfield, where she has a position in a school just outside the city.
 George A. Shattuck and wife entertained her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Smith of Hollis, N. H., on the holiday, also, her sister, Miss Clara from Durham college.

Mrs. J. E. Andrews went to Ayer on Christmas day, to visit Mr. and Mrs. Earl Farnsworth and daughter.
 Miss Adele Boynton spent the holidays at her home, returning to New York on Thursday.
 The Woman's club will hold Guest Night on Tuesday, January 4, at the vestry of the Community church. A reception will take place about eight o'clock, followed by an entertainment. Miss Virginia Allen Griley, harpist, of Boston, will be assisted by local musical talent, in rendering an attractive program. A collation will conclude the evening. Each member is entitled to one escort ticket, by which admittance will be given.
 Mr. and Mrs. Walter L. Shattuck entertained her brother, Mr. Andrews, and family, from Fitchburg, over Christmas day.
 Mrs. Helena Fisher and Mrs. Leona Beckwith, from Springfield, coming here on an official visit at the time of the Rebekah initiation on Tuesday evening, were entertained as the guests of Mrs. Gertrude Tarbell.
 Mrs. A. A. Blood, from Gardner, and Mrs. Mary Parkhill, from Leominster, who came to attend the initiation, were guests respectively at the homes of Mrs. Arthur Bartlett, and Mrs. Jennie Gilbert.
 Yuletide blessings in full measure were given by Mrs. E. A. Hayward through the thoughtfulness of friends. A fine little tree was placed in her rooms, and was well loaded with gifts, and from four to six, on Christmas eve she entertained a merry young party of eleven young folks, who sang to her, and amused her with their games. Mrs. Rainford Deware, who led the way for this charming Christmas thought for the elderly lady, was present during the afternoon, and with a neighbor, Mrs. E. J. Milroy, attending to serving all with a fine collation. The arrival of a modern Santa Claus, during the day, by auto truck, with a goodly supply of dry kindling wood, should not be counted as the least of her blessings. In the evening,

when the Christmas carollers were about town, every window of her home on Crescent street, was aglow with candles, in a welcome which they did not fail to acknowledge by several songs.
 Mrs. Jennie Seaman of Brookton was the guest of Mrs. Maude Silker on Christmas day.
 Charles Waite and family passed Christmas day with Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Grover, in Nashua, and on his return Mr. Waite was taking pleasure in exhibiting a new watch, the gift of his family, who gathered to enjoy the occasion.
 Mr. and Mrs. James Blake entertained Mr. and Mrs. White and child from Dorchester, over Christmas and the week-end.
 Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Willey had the usual large Christmas gathering over the holiday season. Mr. and Mrs. Guy Willey and daughter, Gladys, from Neponset; Mr. and Mrs. James Melje from Jamaica Plain, and Charles Burkinshaw from Oakland, Conn., remained over Sunday, the latter visiting during the past week also. The Christmas day party included Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Powers, and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Powers and Alphonso Powers, from Brookline, N. H., also Mr. and Mrs. John V. Rodier, from this town, and Arthur Cook and Miss May Mooars from Nashua, N. H. A handsomely lighted tree with gifts, closed a pleasant day, electric effects on the tree being the work of Mr. Willey of Neponset, an electrician.
 Miss Ada Whitney, who went to pass the holidays with her cousins in Nashua, the Hills, expects to remain there about three weeks or more, dressmaking.
 The regular meeting of Prudence Wright Chapter, D. A. R., will be held with Miss Annetta Merrill, at Highledge, on Thursday afternoon, January 6. The program will be in charge of Mrs. H. N. Tower, Mrs. A. F. Wright, the other members of the committee, Miss Jordan and Miss Boynton, being out of town. The election of delegates to the Continental Congress will take place at this date, also. The meeting is planned to be in commemoration of the wedding anniversary of Mary Washington, the mother of George Washington.
 Miss Hope Davison from Boston has been spending her vacation at her cottage on Townsend street, and with friends in town.
 A gay Christmas house-party was entertained by Mrs. Lucy D. Cushing at her home in town, during the holiday season. Miss Ruth Cushing and friend, Dorothy Fairfield were at home from college to assist. Other guests were Miss Grace Reed from Springfield, Miss Gertrude Goff, from Melrose, and Ren Naripa, the little Japanese protegee of Miss Harriet Dow, from New York.
 Mrs. C. A. Deane returned last week from Cambridge, where she had been under treatment for her lameness, in season to keep Christmas day with her family. The two daughters, Miss Marjorie and Lorna, enjoyed a very pretty little tree in their home, handsomely lighted with colored electric lights, and adorned with gifts. A guest of the holiday was their aunt, Mrs. Edith Beegan, from Holbrook.

Methodist Church Notes.
 At the Methodist church next Sunday morning at 10.15 the pastor will preach on the theme, "The divine Immanence." At twelve, church school. At 6.45, meeting of the Hope Circle in the chapel. At 7.30, singing worship, theme, "Perfect Christians." On Tuesday evening at 7.30, devotional hour. Friday evening, at 7.30, Epworth League night, with devotional period, and business sessions, followed by a social.
 A pleasant Christmas atmosphere greeted all who attended the services at this church on Sunday last. Altar and choir railing, and the pulpit, were decorated with touches of Edison, was arranged, and the walls were also decorated with the same colors, the whole giving forth a cheery welcome of the yuletide. The pastor, in his direct way, gave the Christmas message and portrayed once more the birth of the Christ child, that old story of the wondrous "Star of the East." The music was appropriate, the anthem being, "Come and worship the Lord," with duet by alto and tenor, and for the response, "Christmas morn."
 At seven o'clock the Christmas concert was given, with the choir assisting in the music. The following program was rendered: Opening chorus, "Ring, merry bells, ringing"; the program song, "Room for Jesus"; address of welcome; recitation, "Fred Hasey"; recitation, "Beulah"; song, "Have ye sought Him?"; recitation, "Help somebody"; Edna Rust; recitation, "Beverly O'Brien"; song, "Through the night"; recitation, "What can I do?"; Phyllis Marchant; recitation, "Christ is born"; Inez Hardy; song, "Forward in the pathway of the star"; recitation, "A good time," Helen Hackett; recitation, "Christmas bells and holly"; Dorothy Rust; song, "See ye the starry light?"; recitation, "A New Year, carol"; Nellie Harris; song, "Bethlehem"; recitation, "Don't forget"; Fred Hunt; recitation, "We need Christ"; Edith Hunt; song, "Nazareth"; recitation, "Doris Marchant"; recitation, "Laugh and smile"; Dorothy Harris; song, "While shepherds watched their flocks"; recitation, "Merry Christmas"; Anna Hasey; recitation, "A prayer"; Clifford Hunt; recitation, "Under the Christmas star"; Mildred Robinson; song, "O little town of Bethlehem"; remarks by the pastor and offering; closing song, "A song the world is singing"; benediction.
Community Church Notices.
 Morning service at 10.30. Rev. R. W. Drawbridge will preach a New Year sermon. The church decorations will be contributed and arranged by members of his class.
 Church school at noon. An invitation is extended to all in our congregation to share the instruction of the church school session. Visitors are welcome in all departments.
 A young people's class, ages above seventeen years, will now be led regularly by Miss Anna Boynton. All young people of the church are invited to join this class, and to attend in regular instruction and attendance.
 On Thursday evening, January 8, at eight p. m. there will be the regular meeting of the trustees of the church in the vestry.
 Friday evening at eight p. m. on January 7, "The miracle man" will be shown. You cannot afford to miss it.
 The annual meeting of the Congregational church will be held Thursday, January 6, at 1.30 p. m.
 The annual meeting of the church school will be held Thursday, January 20. The business meeting for the Community church members will be held in the afternoon. Supper will be served by the Community church workers to all members of the society and entire parish. For the evening service a program is being prepared. Speakers from out of town are expected.
Christmas Pageant.
 On Thursday evening, December 23, at the Community church a Christmas pageant portraying the birth of Christ was presented under the direction of Rev. R. W. Drawbridge, Mrs. Drawbridge and Miss Pond, assisted by Mrs. E. H. Bliss and Mrs. C. A. McGraw. This service was one of unusual impressiveness splendidly enacted by members of the church school.
 A large platform was built over the rostrum with curtains on either side and with the aid of the stage, most beautiful lighting effects were acquired in the portrayal of the many scenes. The painting of the sphinx by Miss Maybelle Howe was wonderfully realistic and great praise should be given her for this beautiful work as well as the slides painted by Mr. Drawbridge, which made a most excellent background for the portrayal of the story.
 An appropriate outline of the pageant, taken from the scriptures, was told in a most pleasing way by Miss Anna L. Boynton. Carols were sung at various intervals which represented no little thought in the Christmas story.
 The characters were as follows: Joseph, Charles Benson; Mary, Miss Deware; the angel, Miss Dunton; the three wise men, Ed. Nutting, Dana Merrill, Mr. McGraw; the shepherds, Ellery Newhall, Maurice Allen, Edward Durant, Philip Blood, William Hutchinson.
 Many of the costumes were loaned by Mr. McGraw's father and were real Syrian garments brought by him to this country on his return from a trip abroad.
 The rare lighting effect was most efficiently handled by Byron Allen in the scenes of the shepherds watching their flocks; the angel, the star of Bethlehem; the wise men with their incense; of Mary and Joseph at the manger; the shepherds and the wise men; and Mary at the foot of the sphinx in Egypt.
 The service was one of the most impressive ever held in the town and will long be remembered for the beautiful thought which it left in the minds and hearts of the congregation.
 At the close of the pageant a gift-manger was filled with food and clothing for the needy and shut-ins in town and money received to be sent for the relief of the starving and destitute children of the near East. Committee, Mrs. Mary Pond, Mrs. Gustaf Anderson, Mrs. P. J. Hayes.
 Christmas trees laden with gifts for the children of the church school were then enjoyed by everybody in the vestry. They were furnished by the trust-

tees in charge of E. D. Walker, ably assisted by Mr. and Mrs. Warren C. Fuller of Melrose.
Community Christmas Tree.
 The Community Christmas tree in the second year of its appearance, probably was viewed and admired by twice as many as on its first appearance, as the location chosen near the railway station was a much more public place than in the school grounds, as last year. The lights from the tree during the week welcomed all incoming holiday guests, the many passersby and shoppers at the stores just a short distance across the street.
 On Christmas eve when the carols were sung about the tree, fully two hundred people no doubt participated by actual attendance or from their homes. The group of singers was fairly large and the carols were well sung under the direction of Rev. Mr. Drawbridge. At the conclusion the singers were divided into groups, one party under direction of Miss Anna Boynton, in the large auto truck of the Pepperell Card & Paper Co., making a circuit of the eastern half of the town, in the residential part, and another group under Mrs. Alice Bartlett, in the large four-seated barge of Mr. Durant, making a circuit of the center and outlying streets. The Oak Hill section was taken by members of the O. H. I. S., carried by Rupert Blood.
 Many of the residents along the

main thoroughfare had noted the request for the extra lighted window, and the lights streamed out in welcome to the carollers in many parts of the town. At some houses, lights sprang forth in answer to the first notes of the singers, as though in greeting. As the singers went through the quiet moonlit streets, as still was the night that one could hear them at some distance. The old Christmas carol, "Christ was born in Bethlehem," would be heard, and like an echo, in the upper part of the town, the words could be plainly heard, with pretty effect, sung by the other group. The quaint old world custom should be revived again next year. The Community Service girls, to whom the town is indebted for the origin of the plan, assisted during the evening.
 A request was made to Station Agent Harris for a space of two cars to be left open so that the tree might easily be seen on Christmas night. The road square; and on the night in question there was not a freight car left standing on the side track, toward the shopping district and street. Happily, also, no train passed during the hour of carol singing at the tree.
Acoma Lodge Initiation.
 At the regular meeting of Acoma lodge on Tuesday evening, the initiation of seven candidates occurred, the work being exemplified by the regular lodge officers, the floor work receiving a good degree of praise. Miss

Robbins was pianist, and Mrs. Marchant soloist. The guests of note were Mrs. Helena Fisher, president of the Rebekah Assembly, and her marshal, Mrs. Leona Beckwith. Also, the District Deputy President, Miss Mattie V. Leo, and her marshal, Miss Eadie Rock, both of Leominster. Other guests were present from Leominster, Fitchburg, Dunstable, Shirley and Townsend.
 The lodge room was splendidly adorned with the lodge colors, pink chrysanthemums being combined with laurel leaves, with fine effect.
 The banquet hall, where a collation was served after the initiation, was decorated with Christmas greenery, and, at each small table, scattered about the hall, there were decorations of laurel and scarlet poinsettias. Refreshments of ice cream, cake and coffee were served by a committee of five, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Kate Dunlap.
 During the business session, preceding the initiation, the election of officers for the ensuing year, took place, resulting as follows: Mrs. Carrie Pittman Davis, noble grand; Mrs. Lettie Wood Sylvester, vice grand; Mrs. Florence Fliske, recording secretary; Miss Anna Sartelle, fin. sec.; Mrs. Effie Robbino, treas.; Mrs. Susie Fredericks, trustee for three years.
 By vote of the lodge the invitation of Beacon lodge, I. O. O. F., to hold a joint installation, in January, was accepted.

KNITTING YARNS AT WHOLESALE PRICES

You Can Save Your Car Fare by Coming Here. Mail Orders Filled.

HANLEY & CO.

Forge Village, Mass.

A. G. Pollard Co.

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

Rubbers Overshoes Rubber Boots

Whatever Kind of Footwear You Want It is Here in THE GREAT UNDERPRICED BASEMENT FOR MEN FOR WOMEN FOR CHILDREN

Below Are Listed Some of the Very Attractive Values Offered

RUBBERS	OVERSHOES
Women's Rubbers, first quality, styles to fit all shoes \$1.00 Pair	Women's, all styles \$4.50 Pair
Women's Rubbers, in a good variety of styles; some first quality in the lot 75c Pair	Misses', sizes 11 to 2 \$3.25 Pair
Misses' and Children's Rubbers, wide or narrow toes—	Children's \$2.75 Pair
Sizes 3 to 10½ 65c Pair	Boys' Ball Band, sizes 3 to 6 \$4.50 Pair
Sizes 11 to 2 75c Pair	Youth's Ball Band, sizes 11 to 2 \$3.50 Pair
Misses' Red Sole Rubbers, made on good fitting styles. All sizes, 11 to 2 90c Pair	
Boys' Red Sole Rubbers, the good wearing kind. All sizes, 10 to 13½ and 1 to 2 \$1.00 Pair	
Sizes 2½ to 6 \$1.25 Pair	
Men's Rubbers to fit all style shoes, wide or narrow toe. All sizes \$1.25 Pair	
	RUBBER BOOTS
	Children's Knee Length, sizes 6 to 10½ \$1.98 Pair
	Children's Storm King \$2.49 Pair
	Women's Knee Length, sizes 3 to 8 \$2.98 Pair
	Men's Knee Length, sizes 6 to 10 \$3.95 Pair
	Men's Heavy Rubbers, for stockings, made by Hood Rubber Co. All sizes 6 to 11 \$2.25 Pair
	Men's Heavy Rubbers, for felt boots. All sizes, 1 buckle \$2.49 Pair
	2 buckle \$2.98 Pair

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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	OVERCOATS
¼ OFF	¼ 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	Percales and Madras, Soft or Laundered Cuffs \$1.95
\$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 98c
\$3.00 Derby-Ribbed, now \$2.25	\$1.50 Blue Chambray 98c
\$3.50 Wool Union, now \$3.00	\$1.50 Domet Flannel 98c
\$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	\$1.00 values for 59c
PAJAMAS	\$5.00	\$1.50 values for \$1.00
\$3.00 values for \$2.35	\$10.00 Hats, now	\$7.00
\$3.50 values for \$2.75		\$1.75 values for \$1.25

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.

TWO DOLLARS A YEAR IN ADVANCE
GEORGE E. B. TURNER, Publisher
We publish the following papers:

WESTFORD

Center.
George H. Cadman has gone to California for the winter months.
Mrs. Perry E. Shupe is a patient at the Memorial hospital in Nashua.

games and frolic from four to six and at six a supper for the children, followed by the Christmas tree and a program of recitations by the children.

children the best of dental treatment. The charge for the work is \$2 per hour. Information can be obtained from Edward M. Davis and the executive committee of the Red Cross and Parent-Teacher association.

Champion Pugilist Puts \$1000 in T. S. Certificate



JACK DEMPSEY, CHAMPION PUGILIST, BUYS \$1,000 SAVINGS CERTIFICATE AS A PRESENT FOR HIS MOTHER.

Jack Dempsey, pugilistic champion of the world, is proving himself as canny in the world of finance as he is in the realm of fistcuffs.

Dr. Crane Says

Thrift is simply the application of intelligence to expenditure. It does not mean only saving. It does not connote skimping and penny-pinching, niggardliness and miserliness.

FARMERS TODAY NO "MARKS" FOR THE BUNCO MEN

There was a day, years ago, when the farmer was considered inexperienced in matters of business and a "mark" for the bunco man.

WATCHES DIAMONDS GOLD RINGS CUT GLASS SILVERWARE OPTICAL DEPT. HOMER'S AYER Repairing of All Kinds

Ford THE UNIVERSAL CAR Solid Logic About Ford Cars The Ford Car has been fundamentally right from the beginning. J. M. HARTWELL Authorized Dealer to Sell Ford Products Anywhere in the United States

"Doubly Delicious" says VIRGINIA DARE BESIDES their wonderful double-strength flavoring power— which makes Virginia Dare Extracts twice as far as ordinary single-strength flavors— Virginia Dare Extracts are doubly delicious, for they contain all of the sun-ripened lusciousness of the pure fresh fruit.

Graniteville.
The bowling season is on in full swing here and large crowds gather afternoons and evenings at Richard's bowling alleys, where some interesting matches are run off.

Center.
The center primary and grammar schools started again this week after a Christmas vacation of one week.

Handling the Household Income

By S. AGNES DONHAM TIME BUDGET FOR HOUSEWIVES When work has to be done it is desirable that nothing shall be crowded out or attended to hurriedly because it was forgotten or neglected for less important things.

Everybody Wants Their Glasses Right Some want one kind of glasses and some another. F. H. GATHERCOLE CONSULTING OPTOMETRIST New Carley Block

GARRETT & COMPANY, INC. 10 Bush Terminal, Brooklyn, N.Y.

SHIRLEY
News Items.
The Middlesex County Farm bureau clinic will begin its work in Shirley on Thursday, January 6.

Center.
The center primary and grammar schools started again this week after a Christmas vacation of one week.

Some Very Rare Coins.
Some United States coins are very rare. There are only three of the gold eagle of 1793 in existence.

NOTICE
The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of the Townsend National Bank will be held at their Banking Rooms on Monday, January 3, 1921.

"Lighting a New One"



K. C. STAR

New Year's Day in Many Lands

NEW YEAR'S DAY is a time for thanksgiving and mirth and happiness, and in some countries, for the interchange of gifts. It is also a day which, because it is the beginning of another year in one's life, has associated with it a certain sacredness which often takes the form of resolutions to do more and better things than one has ever done before.

are asleep the children pelt with peas those whom they dislike, and then sprinkle wheat over their friends. High mass is celebrated on New Year's at Madrid. Many presents are given between friend and friend, and by the rich to the poor.

A Chinese New Year custom is for the people to buy or bake small cakes made of rice, flour and sugar, which, with fruit and dates, they put on plates and place before the image of Buddha. This is the one time of the year when everybody is religious. New door gods are pasted upon the doors, consisting of colored prints of the reputed likenesses of two great warriors of ancient times, who were supposed to be defenders not only of the country but of the home.

At the close of the Sunday evening service Rev. Leroy Lyon, pastor of the Methodist church, was presented with a purse of money from the people of his parish, as an expression of their love and esteem and appreciation of his faithful labors among them during his pastorate.

Mr. and Mrs. Soper and son Willis spent the Christmas vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Swainston, at the farm near Cleveland, Ohio, where Mr. Soper will take up his work as superintendent of the Braddock Nail and Manufacturing Co. Mr. and Mrs. James Carey of Shrewsbury are also holiday guests in the home.

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel McKenzie of this town announce the engagement of their daughter, Violet Isabelle, to Milton Bernard Rydell, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Rydell, of Arlington, N. J. Miss McKenzie, a graduate of the T. H. S., is at present teaching in Passaic, N. J.

At the meeting of the Grange Monday evening the third and fourth degrees were conferred upon a class of candidates, the ladies' degree team working the third degree. Mrs. Edna Bray acting as master, and Mrs. Mabel Birch, as scribe. The serving of refreshments followed the initiation in charge of Mr. and Mrs. L. Seaver. During the evening interesting reports of the recent State Grange meeting held at Pittsfield were given by Miss May Parker, master of the Townsend Grange. Miss Parker is also state treasurer. T. E. Flarity is assistant at the state Grange. Stephen Keef, lecturer-elect of the Townsend Grange, gave a report of the state lecturers' conference.

Supt. John Bacon, Mrs. Bacon and Roger are spending this week with Mrs. Bacon's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Marble, at Spencer. It was Gentlemen's night at the meeting of the Monday club at Wyndecott, the home of Mrs. R. G. Fessenden. On account of the snow storm only twelve were present. A merry evening was enjoyed, however, with a violin and Christmas story-telling around the Yule log and much fun was derived from the exchange of "white elephant gift Christmas tree." Tempting refreshments were served by the hostess during the evening and each guest received a unique peppermint candy doll favor made by Mrs. Fessenden.

Mrs. Georgianna Moore spent the Christmas season with her brother at Melrose. Mrs. Levi Richardson cared for Mrs. Boyden during her absence. Mr. and Mrs. N. Howard Pease and baby son, N. Howard, Jr., and Mrs. Abbie Barber of Fitchburg spent Christmas day with Mrs. Barber's sisters, Mrs. A. Greenleaf and Mrs. N. Fowler, at Townsend hill.

Late Sunday afternoon Fire Chief Piper received a telegram for a chimney fire at the home of Lyman Cook on Wallace hill. Upon his arrival with C. W. Meade with extinguishers they found that the fire had penetrated the partition walls and rat nests around the chimney base were a bed of coals. Had there been a few moments' delay in responding to the call the house would have been doomed. By the energetic efforts of the men and use of chemicals the fire was soon under control.

TOWNSEND

Center. Phoebe Weston Farmer, tent, D. of V., will hold a joint installation of officers with the Anson D. Fessenden camp, S. of V., Monday evening, January 3, in Oddfellows' hall.

The E. A. Spaulding Rebekah lodge recently elected officers as follows: Mrs. Edna Bray, m. m.; Mrs. A. Belle Cowdry, v. e.; Mrs. Mary E. Smith, sec.; Mrs. Harriet E. Savage, treas.; Mrs. Emma Lancy, trustee, 3 yrs.

Mrs. George E. Clark, who has been in poor health for some time, died at her home on Elm street, Thursday morning, from cerebral hemorrhage. Funeral plans will be announced later.

The Red Cross auxiliary have placed in the Fessenden store the "invisible" cards to be sold for the European relief fund. These cards contain the picture of a child's face and each card sold provides food for one hungry European child from one day to one year according to its value. The cards of four colors, red, blue, green and brown. Ten cents provides food for one day, \$1 for one month, \$10 provides food for the next harvest and over \$10 supports for an indefinite period.

The January meeting of the Birthday club is to be held at the home of Mrs. Alice Marshall Tuesday afternoon, January 4. Mrs. Annie Bliss is to have charge of the program and the hostesses are Mrs. Alice Marshall, Mrs. Gertrude Hodgman, Mrs. Mary Sherwin and Mrs. Florence Dobson.

The vespers class of the M. E. church met in the church parlors Tuesday afternoon and elected the following officers for the coming year: Miss Emeline Lawrence, pres.; Mrs. Hattie Misner, vice pres.; Mrs. Mabel Birch, sec. and Miss May Parker, treas. Following the business hour refreshments were served by Mrs. Ella Wilson, hostess.

At the close of the Sunday evening service Rev. Leroy Lyon, pastor of the Methodist church, was presented with a purse of money from the people of his parish, as an expression of their love and esteem and appreciation of his faithful labors among them during his pastorate.

Mr. and Mrs. Soper and son Willis spent the Christmas vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Swainston, at the farm near Cleveland, Ohio, where Mr. Soper will take up his work as superintendent of the Braddock Nail and Manufacturing Co. Mr. and Mrs. James Carey of Shrewsbury are also holiday guests in the home.

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel McKenzie of this town announce the engagement of their daughter, Violet Isabelle, to Milton Bernard Rydell, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Rydell, of Arlington, N. J. Miss McKenzie, a graduate of the T. H. S., is at present teaching in Passaic, N. J.

At the meeting of the Grange Monday evening the third and fourth degrees were conferred upon a class of candidates, the ladies' degree team working the third degree. Mrs. Edna Bray acting as master, and Mrs. Mabel Birch, as scribe. The serving of refreshments followed the initiation in charge of Mr. and Mrs. L. Seaver. During the evening interesting reports of the recent State Grange meeting held at Pittsfield were given by Miss May Parker, master of the Townsend Grange. Miss Parker is also state treasurer. T. E. Flarity is assistant at the state Grange. Stephen Keef, lecturer-elect of the Townsend Grange, gave a report of the state lecturers' conference.

Supt. John Bacon, Mrs. Bacon and Roger are spending this week with Mrs. Bacon's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Marble, at Spencer. It was Gentlemen's night at the meeting of the Monday club at Wyndecott, the home of Mrs. R. G. Fessenden. On account of the snow storm only twelve were present. A merry evening was enjoyed, however, with a violin and Christmas story-telling around the Yule log and much fun was derived from the exchange of "white elephant gift Christmas tree." Tempting refreshments were served by the hostess during the evening and each guest received a unique peppermint candy doll favor made by Mrs. Fessenden.

Mrs. Georgianna Moore spent the Christmas season with her brother at Melrose. Mrs. Levi Richardson cared for Mrs. Boyden during her absence. Mr. and Mrs. N. Howard Pease and baby son, N. Howard, Jr., and Mrs. Abbie Barber of Fitchburg spent Christmas day with Mrs. Barber's sisters, Mrs. A. Greenleaf and Mrs. N. Fowler, at Townsend hill.

Late Sunday afternoon Fire Chief Piper received a telegram for a chimney fire at the home of Lyman Cook on Wallace hill. Upon his arrival with C. W. Meade with extinguishers they found that the fire had penetrated the partition walls and rat nests around the chimney base were a bed of coals. Had there been a few moments' delay in responding to the call the house would have been doomed. By the energetic efforts of the men and use of chemicals the fire was soon under control.

The exercises at the Methodist church were postponed until New Year's on account of a death and funeral in the parish.

Rev. Mr. Lyon, pastor of the M. E. church officiated last Saturday at the funeral services of a former neighbor at Enfield. Mr. Lyon is spending this week at Enfield with his mother. Townsend friends regret to learn that his father is ill in a hospital at Springfield.

John Bacon, school superintendent, Mrs. Bacon and Roger are spending this week with Mrs. Bacon's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Marble, at Spencer.

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel McKenzie announce the engagement of their daughter, Violet Isabelle, to Milton Bernard Rydell, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Rydell, of Arlington, N. J. Miss McKenzie is teaching school at Passaic, N. J.

Mrs. W. Dudley is spending the Christmas holidays at the home of her son, Frank Dudley, at Fitchburg.

Among the Christmas guests and home-comers in town were Miss Gertrude Higgins of Framingham Normal and Miss Helen Higgins, teacher at Marblehead at F. B. Higgins; Miss Charlotte Struthers of Mount Holyoke and Francis Struthers of New Hampshire state college at Rev. A. L. Struthers; Harold Swicker of Maine, invited by J. Swicker; George Davis of Winchendon at G. Davis; Florence Lancy at Jackson school at R. A. Lancy; Mr. and Mrs. Earle Miller of Somerville, Mr. and Mrs. John Moore of Amesbury and Mrs. E. Harvey of Danvers at G. G. Clarke's; Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Morgan of Leominster at T. Goodwin's; Mrs. C. Creighton and children of Templeton at J. Arlin's; Agnes Farrar, teacher at Fitchburg at Mrs. J. Swicker's; Joseph Temple of Worcester with his family here; Miss Annie B. Dudley of Fitchburg Normal at E. Dudley's; Miss Irene McGuire of Framingham Normal and James McGuire of Springfield at N. J. McGuire's; Mr. and Mrs. B. Potter and son Roger of Rutland, Mr. and Mrs. James V. Perrin and daughter of Cambridge and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Perrin of Woodstock, Conn., at R. C. Fessenden's; Mr. and Mrs. Fred Jettis of Worcester at L. C. Jettis; Miss Helen G. Whitcomb of Northfield seminary at G. L. Whitcomb's; Miss Ethel Hinds of Boston at A. J. Hinds'; Mr. and Mrs. Louis Streeter and son Norman of Waltham at E. E. Hinds'; Mr. and Mrs. Alton Dodge and son Robert of Lynden, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Upham and Miles Upham of Malden and Mr. and Mrs. George H. Upham and baby son, Albert, of this town at G. Upham's Elm Lane farm.

TOWNSEND

Christmas Festivities. Christmas exercises were held in the lower grade schools last Friday forenoon, and in the fifth and sixth grades a surprise Christmas tree laden with gifts, was presented by the children for their teacher, Mrs. Clara Craig. All schools in town will re-open Monday, January 3.

Friday afternoon, December 24, in the Congregational vestry the children of the Sunday school were given merry Christmas by the teachers of the primary, junior and cradle roll departments. Recitations were given and carols were sung by the children of the various departments, after which the gifts were distributed from the beautifully decorated Christmas tree by Henry C. Knight, who acted the role of Santa Claus.

At the Sunday morning service an appropriate sermon was preached by the pastor, Rev. L. Struthers, on "The message of Christmas" and during the Sunday school hour Miss Hester Russell told "The story of the first Christmas carol" and Master Carey Swinton "The story of foreign relief shown by the wise men." The program was interspersed with selections on Swiss born musical disks by C. W. Stetson of Ayer, who also made remarks relative to the influence and mission of the Sunday school. Remarks were also made by Mr. Burrill Ayer, who is connected with Sunday school extension work. The church decorations were in keeping with the wreaths and red bells being arranged effectively. The electric lighted star that shone from the church tower Christmas eve, and Saturday and Sunday evenings, was admired by many. The offering taken at the morning service was for the European Children's relief fund.

The evening service special organ selection was rendered by Albert G. Seaver and orchestra. T. E. Flarity, euphonium, G. Gilchrist, cornet; J. Sanfred Johnson, clarinet and John J. Piper, melophone. A duet was sung by Mrs. John Bacheider and Mrs. Icaea Cowdry. The pastor was in charge of the opening exercises and during the service Mrs. W. A. Russell gave a reading, "The Christmas angel."

Funeral services of Mrs. Etta Sanders, who passed away at Burbank hospital last week Tuesday afternoon, were held at the Methodist church, Townsend Friday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. The Rev. Walter Van Kirk of Needham Heights, a former pastor, officiating, assisted by the Rev. A. L. Struthers of the Congregational church. The selections, "Lead Kindly Light" and "Softly and Tenderly" were rendered by Mrs. Elliott Farrar and Frank Higgins and the interment was in the family lot in the Hillside cemetery, the bearers being George Gales, Roswell Lancy, Austin Allen and Herbert Bowley.

Mrs. Sanders was a native of this town, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William E. Switzer, and was aged 52 years, 2 months and 3 days in this town, where for many years she had been a popular and efficient nurse in many homes in this and neighboring towns. She held office in the Daughters of Veterans' organization and was a member of the Dorcas class of the M. E. church and was always ready and willing to do cheerfully and dutifully as well as to the sorrowing family. The home on School street was closed immediately after the burial and the family are spending a few days with friends out of town.

The Home tree for the children of the public schools was held at the reading-room on Christmas afternoon from two till four o'clock and gifts, candy and a treat of ice cream and cake were provided for the 85 children enrolled, under the charge of Miss Alice Seaver, assisted by Mrs. Joseph Thompson, Mrs. Mary Heath, Mrs. C. T. McEmond and Mrs. G. A. Seaver.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sanders of Ayer have been recent guests at the home of the Misses Adde and Fannie Sanders.

Mr. and Mrs. Hart and their daughter, Glenna spent the holiday with relatives in Ashby.

Herman Clark and family from Worcester have been recent guests of his mother, Mrs. W. T. Cook, and Mrs. Cook spent the holidays at their home in Worcester.

Charles Winchester is on the sick list this week at the Spauldwick Inn.

Joe Oja, the nine months-old baby of Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Oja, whose step-mother died Monday night of intestinal trouble. Burial took place at the Center Wednesday afternoon.

Saturday, a legal holiday, no library books can be returned for another week at the reading-room.

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Shepherd entertained John and Clifford Farrow of Clinton and Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Steve and daughter, Harriet, from South Leominster, at their home in Joslynvill Saturday.

Morton Campbell from Maine is spending a part of the holidays with his sister, Mrs. Frank Farnsworth.

Mr. and Mrs. George Wright and son, Richard, from Ayer are spending a few days with Mrs. Wright's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Thompson.

The friends of W. A. Boutwell and family have received word that they are getting nicely settled at their new home in Lake Worth, Fla., and like very much.

Leonor Smith, who has been at the home of his grandfather, Rodney Richards, on a furlough, left Tuesday for New York to sail on the battleship Pennsylvania for Cuba, where he expects to spend the winter.

Rev. Joseph McKean will preach an appropriate New Year sermon next Sunday morning and the services will be held in the vestry until spring. The Y. P. S. C. B. will be held at the usual hour in the evening, a purpose meeting being led by Mrs. McKean.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Homer and family entertained a house party at their home on Main street Christmas and also provided a Christmas tree well loaded with good things for their employees and families.

LUNENBURG

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Ripley from Nashua, N. H., are spending a few days with Mrs. Ripley's mother, Mrs. Mary Forsythe, at G. M. Streeter's.

Mrs. Sawlor and her daughter, Miss Ivora Sawlor, are spending the holidays with relatives in Boston.

Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Lancy and little son from Melford, who are visiting at the Lancy home at the Center, spent Christmas day with Mrs. Lancy's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Thompson.

Miss Ruth Bennett, who is employed in Worcester, is spending her vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bennett.

Mr. and Mrs. Harding Brooks from Ashby were Christmas day guests at the home of Dr. Clara A. Warren.

Miss Marion Boutelle and friend from North Andover are spending the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. Frank Boutelle of Bayberry hill.

Mrs. Dubey, who has been assisting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. Z. Sherwin, has returned to her home in Milton for the present.

Mr. and Mrs. Chester Davis and baby from Peterboro, N. H., spent the holidays with relatives in town.

Hazel Elliott of Beverly is enjoying her vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Elliott, of Bayberry hill.

Misses Agnes Thompson from Fitchburg, Grace Thompson from Taunton and Mabel Thompson from Waterbury spent the holidays with their mother, Mrs. Charles Patch.

Mrs. Young and family spent Christmas with relatives in Fitchburg.

Mrs. Ivers P. Sherwin and son Roger are visiting relatives in Nashua, N. H., this week.

William W. Webster of West Groton visited his son Clarence Christmas day.

Marion Wyman and Janet Brown from Worcester were recent guests of Mrs. Addie Evans.

Mrs. Joseph McKean is on the sick list suffering from an attack of grippe cold and influenza.

Mrs. Janet Clark is ill at her home suffering from chicken pox and Edwin Shepherd is also on the sick list.

Mr. Ashley and family from Boston spent Christmas at their home, the Gray cottage, and entertained a neighborhood party on Christmas eve. A pretty feature of the celebration which gave pleasure to the community was the electrically lighted Christmas trees in front of the house on the river bank which burned till midnight and were visible throughout the length of Main street. The party returned by auto to their home in Boston Saturday afternoon.

William Mills of Leominster spent Christmas with Mrs. Mary Tucker and family from West Groton, who were at their home for the past week. Mrs. Tucker having been in town for a week assisting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. Z. Sherwin.

Mrs. Georgianna McKean, a teacher in Beverly, spent the holidays at the home of her father, Rev. Joseph McKean.

Madison Tumber of Boston is spending a few days with his parents on the farm on the Fitchburg road.

LUNENBURG

Christmas Tree. The Christmas tree for the Baptist Sunday school was held at the Baptist vestries on Christmas eve, and was well attended. The room was prettily decorated with wreaths and Christmas greens and an exceptionally beautiful tree well-laden with gifts for the children of the room. A brief program was presented in charge of the superintendent, Frank Hamilton. Christmas carols were sung outside the room, the singers being accompanied by the mandolin by Mrs. Frank Hamilton. Francis Hodgman recited a brief poem, a selection, "A present for mamma," was given by Dorothy Sherman and a recitation, "Sleepyhead," by Virginia Brown. Little Alden Sherwin, Jr., was heartily cheered in his recitation of a Christmas song and after a few remarks by the pastor, Rev. Joseph McKean, the congregation sang various songs while waiting for Santa Claus, who was impersonated by Abbie Hodgman, and who distributed the gifts from the tree to the young ladies of the Good Cheer class.

Death. Frank Russell Farrar, who has been an invalid for a number of years, passed away at his home on Lowell, Main street Friday night at 10:30. Prayers were held at the home Sunday afternoon at three o'clock, the Rev. A. L. Struthers of the Congregational church officiating and the body was taken to Manchester, N. H., on the morning train Monday for burial in the family lot in the Pine Grove cemetery. Mrs. Farrar and her sister, Mrs. McDole, accompanied the body and will remain with relatives for a few days.

Mr. and Mrs. Farrar moved to Townsend from Manchester, N. H., about 23 years ago, and had a farm in the south part of town and later one on Bayberry hill. His health gave out several years ago and he has been tenderly cared for at his home on lower Main street by his devoted wife through long months of suffering. He was a native of Woodstock, Me., and was aged 71 years, 3 months and 13 days.

News Items. Lunenburg is again on the map of local news after three or four weeks of silence and hope to stay there for a while longer—at least. There have been several cases of grippe, or bad colds, as generally spoken of, here in town, but fortunately all are convalescing, so far as heard from, your correspondent among the number. Hope there may be no more cases.

After a green Christmas, the first snowstorm of the season came upon us, beginning about midnight Sunday. Continuing through the night and nearly all day Monday, the earth was covered with a white blanket of about four inches in thickness. There was just enough moisture in the snow to make it pretty heavy and cause it to stick to car tracks, enough to interfere with traffic to such an extent that only one car was on time on Monday, the first of the morning. Through the day cars continued to run as they could, coming as far as the foot of the hill, and the few passengers who were unfortunate enough to be on board walked up the hill into the village. During Monday night the track was cleared and all cars were running as usual Tuesday.

On Sunday the temperature varied in different localities, running from ten above to two below.

Christmas passed off very quietly and pleasantly, but without as many trees, socials and suppers as usual in the churches. The pastors of both churches delivered very fine Christmas sermons and in the evening of December 19 the senior and Junior C. E. societies presented a Christmas program at the town hall, to which everybody was invited, and the hall was filled. The program, "Holy night—the three wise men," as taken from Ben Hur, pantomimed and arranged with a musical setting, closing with "Midnight on Judaea" was well acted and delighted everyone. After this the smaller children in their pretty child-like way, presented "The true spirit of Christmas." The entire program was deeply religious in its character, its messages soul-stirring, and could not fail in producing a good impression upon the minds of all who witnessed it.

Frederick Penbody, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Penbody, was taken to Burbank hospital on Sunday afternoon for treatment and removal of tonsils, which was to be done on Monday morning.

The municipal year closes January 1 and all bills against the town should be presented to the selectmen Thursday evening.

Since the snow came the small boys, and girls, too, are enjoying their Christmas vacation with sleds, skis and snowshoes.



Lengthens Any Appliance Cord

HAVE you ever found appliance cords too short to reach just where you want to use the appliance? The G-E Cord Connector will solve your problem. This is an inexpensive, inconspicuous device permitting the addition of as much cord as you require. Standard plugs fit this connector, which can be used for any kind of electrical appliance.

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Your mouth is a good indication of the condition of stomach and bowels.

BEECHAM'S PILLS

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COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex, ss. Probate Court. To the heirs-at-law, next of kin and all other persons interested in the estate of ELIZABETH H. TUCKER, late of Pepporell, in said County, deceased.

Whereas a certain instrument purporting to be a will and testament of said deceased has been presented to said Court, for Probate, by CHARLES F. TUCKER, who prays that he be appointed executor of said estate, 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 one o'clock in the forenoon, to show cause, if any you have, why the same should not be granted.

And said petitioner is hereby directed to give public notice thereof, by publishing a copy of this citation for three successive weeks, in the Pepporell Chronical-Advertiser, a newspaper published in said County, the last publication to be one day, at least, before said Court, and by mailing post-paid, or delivering a copy of this citation to all known persons interested in the estate, seven days at least before said Court.

Witness, 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, Registrar.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Worcester, ss. Probate Court. To all persons interested in the estate of ABIE C. SAWYER, late of Harvard in said County, deceased.

Whereas, the first and final account of the executor of said estate, the last published 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, to show cause, if any you have, why the same should not be allowed. And it is ordered that this citation be served by delivering or mailing by registered mail, a copy thereof to all persons interested in the estate, seven days at least before said Court, or by publishing a copy of this citation for three successive weeks, in the Harvard Hillede, a newspaper published in said County, the last publication to be one day at least before said Court, and by mailing post-paid, 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 tenth day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and twenty, 3116 HARRY H. ATWOOD, Registrar.

LOST BOOK.—In accordance with Chapter 518, Sec. 2 of the Acts of 1908 and amendments thereto, notice is hereby given that Book No. 77 has been lost and application is now made for the payment of the amount of deposit represented by said book. NORTH MIDDLESEX SAVINGS BANK, Ralph I. Hastings, Treasurer. Ayer, Mass., December 25, 1920. 3116



THE RESOLUTION TREE.

Behold the resolution tree, Lugubrious to view; It stands so straight it backward leans, And all its leaves are new.

It does not glitter in the gloom, No cheerful gleam invites, There is no chance for jollity— The lid is on its lights.

And though alluring articles Festoon it round about, The branches are entirely hung With things to do without. —McLanburgh Wilson.

WHAT THE NEW YEAR MEANS

THE New Year means new opportunity to every man, woman and child. It challenges the best that is in them and promises unusual reward for effort made. In it is the hope of years to come concerning whatever is for the well-being of society.

Result of Experience. Wives try to reform their husbands during the first year of married life. After that they try to keep them from getting worse.—Stoux City Journal.

Where the Speed Is. When it comes to automobile parties, a machine is only as fast as the people in it.—The Sun-Dial.

Has 14,000,000 Readers. The British museum library has more than 14,000,000 recorded readers annually and is the largest reference library in the world.

Jud Tunkins. "A good loser," said Jud Tunkins, "very often has the makings of a good winner at some future time."

Beautiful Tropical Plant. The climbing plants which interlock the tropical forests have flowers unsurpassed in beauty.

AMERICAN 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...

ITCHI
Money back without question if HUNT'S Salve fails in the treatment of ITCH, ECZEMA, RINGWORM, TETTER or other itching skin diseases.

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Fresh and Frozen Fish, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. We ship by parcel post to neighboring towns.

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Plans For Sale and Rent 1918

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, 1920, at 8:30 o'clock A. M., for the purpose of acting upon the following business:

The Old Year Passes
The winds that from the Northland blow, From regions of eternal snow, At midnight now are chanting low Their Miserere drear, The while the Old Year, bent and gray, Goes desolate upon his way, A King without a realm to sway, Like sad, disrowned Lear.

The Old Year passes; lo! he stands And watches Time's fast falling sands, Like dying flames from dying brands, That soon will quench their light, And now a last flame fitful throws Its flickering light o'er wintry snows, And lights the way the Old Year goes To distant realms of night.

But while we stand, silent, devout, O'er eastern hills, old Time's redoubt, There comes a gladdening "Hail!" and shout, That brings to us new cheer. For Twenty-One, both lithe and young, With merry peal from glad bells flung, Has come with joys as yet unsung— A new King now is here!

New Year Kissing Customs
Saluting the Parish Pump

THERE has always been a close and mystic association of kissing with the New Year. Every lover, if circumstances permit, thus salutes his sweetheart at the dawn of the New Year—and some lovers are not particular whose sweetheart she is that they thus salute on this auspicious occasion.

There is an ancient kissing custom associated with a parish church in Lancashire. The legend is that anyone who at the first stroke of midnight kisses the keyhole of the church door, and then runs right round the edifice in time to kiss the keyhole before the last stroke of the hour, is certain of good luck during the whole of the year.

It requires a certain amount of nerve to enter this country churchyard at the dead of night, even for such a purpose, but rumor hath it that no new year is born without someone essaying the race round the church. The distance is such that it is impossible for more than one person to thus court a year's luck.

Churchyards have always been favorite places for New Year osculations. In the Wensleydale district, in days gone by, all and sundry could kiss "without scandal" on New Year's eve in the porch of the church.

It was largely availed of, too, for it is on record that the accommodation fell lamentably short of the demand, and consequently there was even more squeezing than kissing—if that were possible.

A somewhat gruesome kind of churchyard kissing used to obtain among the Basques of the Pyrenees on New Year's eve. It was the custom for the maidens to then repair to the churchyard, and on their fingers wait kisses to the four quarters of the universe.

A kiss was supposed to brush their lips on return, and if it was warm it indicated that they would marry and be happy ever after. On the other hand, if the kiss was cold and of the earthy earth, the inference was that single "blessedness" would be their lot.

The only means by which the omen could be broken was by repairing to the church and kissing the church bell, a gravestone and a piece of coffin wood. This remedy was very frequently resorted to; and so superstitions were the Basque maidens that but for the consolation afforded some of them would have lost their reason.

In these degenerate days the lot of the mayor of Durham is far happier than that of his predecessors in ancient times. If tradition can be relied on the chief magistrate was then under an obligation to kiss the first cow, the first sheep and the first pig brought into the first market of the New Year.

Something in This. Clothes make the man when people do not know the man. The folks who would not know a man when they see one are the very folks who do know clothes when they see them.—Exchange.

Fatigue and Production. Curiously, recent observations have shown that production actually increases with fatigue within certain limits; feverish haste and a dislike of not finishing up are not infrequent even when the work is not congenial.

HOLLIS, N. H.

News Items. The annual entertainment and Christmas tree held at the town hall last week Friday night brought out the usual good crowd. There was a short entertainment consisting of speaking by the little folks and eight young ladies marched into the darkened hall bearing lighted candles and singing Christmas carols; then came the most important part of the evening, the wonderful Christmas tree, when Santa Claus, in the person of George Morrill, disbursed Christmas gifts that made many a happy heart.

"Following the star" was the program carried out by the church school last Sunday morning. The program began with an organ prelude and professional hymn and invocation by the pastor. A Christmas story was told to the children by Mrs. French, then followed songs and recitations by the little ones and responsive reading. A short pageant followed. This was opened by the "Spirit of Christmas," who told the meaning of God's gift. In part second Christmas and the Pilgrim spirit; the Pilgrims follow the gleam of the star, as do all the nations who come here at a time. Hymn, "Jesus shall reign," choir and audience, prayer, pastor; offering; hymn, "Joy to the world," benediction.

The Christmas sermon was preached in the evening by the pastor, Rev. R. M. French. William Withering came on from Newbury, N. Y., to spend the holidays with his family. He is working in the navy yard there, making furniture for passenger boats, going there from the Portsmouth navy yard, when that was closed, where he did the same kind of work.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Brown and daughter, Marion, of Topsfield, Mass., visited at Jason Reid's from Tuesday of last week until this week Tuesday. Mr. and Mrs. Scott Farley are guests at Wilbert P. Farley's. Mrs. Elizabeth D. Worcester and Mrs. May T. Worcester attended the funeral of John H. Sawyer at Arlington last week Friday.

George Woodin and Mrs. Lella Brooks Pierce were united in marriage by the Rev. Robert M. French at the parsonage Wednesday, December 22. This comes as a surprise to their many friends in town who wish them many years of happiness together. Arthur Hale of Cambridge visited his mother recently. Miss Sarah L. Bell has been having a two weeks' vacation. Mrs. Mandana Verder is enjoying her annual visit with her son, William Verder, and wife, in Worcester, Mass.

The schools in town will open again next week Monday. Miss Wilton has been spending her vacation with her sister in Wollaston, Miss Newton here at her home in Ashburnham, and Miss Farquhar went to Fitchburg. Clyde J. Eaton of Manchester, visited his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Eaton, from Saturday till Thursday. Mr. and Mrs. Rodney T. Hardy and son Rodney motored up from Arlington Christmas day, calling on a few of their friends to wish them the season's greetings, then driving to the Nashua Country club for dinner.

Miss Mildred French is home from Haverhill, Mass., for the week. Miss Jennie Stratton came home from Plymouth last week Friday for a week's vacation. Mr. and Mrs. George W. Hardy entertained Christmas Eve, Mr. and Mrs. William Gangle and family of Milford, Graham Blood of Winchendon, Fred C. Hardy and Mrs. Flora Wheeler and Bernard Wheeler of Nashua. Christmas evening they were joined by William Sanders and family and had their usual Christmas tree.

Miss Elizabeth Robbins is spending her Christmas vacation with William Sanders and family. Mrs. Myra Hills and daughter Ruth were guests of George Hills and family Christmas day. Miss Frances Leighton visited her aunt, Mrs. C. J. Bell, during the Christmas vacation. While driving to church last Sunday David Wright's horse fell down just above Edson Hurd's and broke one of the shafts. No one was hurt. Miss Florence Howard spent Christmas at her home in Mt. Vernon. Mr. and Mrs. Harold E. Hardy entertained Christmas day Mr. and Mrs. Perley Foster and daughter, Glenna, of Concord, Robert Pratt of Nashua, Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Hardy, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Woodin and Ernest Woodin.

Hannah Burton is spending a short vacation at home. Doris Lovejoy is home for this week from her school work at Hudson. Arnold Coelin has been visiting Mrs. Josie Maxwell. Alwyn Carleton is at his home in Mont Vernon this week to assist his father, who injured his knee. Wallace Bascom's home this week for the Christmas holidays. Myron Welch and Samuel Bascom are boarding in Nashua, coming home for week-ends. C. Anderson Gilman, Charles E. Hardy, Harold E. Hardy and Edward Hills attended the Farmers' institute in Milford Monday. George E. Hardy taking them in the car.

Mrs. Helen Hazen, Scott is seriously ill at St. Joseph's hospital in Nashua with pneumonia. George Eaton was in town to spend the holiday with his family, coming on from Baltimore, where he is employed by the government. The Ladies' Reading and Charitable society will meet at the ladies' parlor Thursday afternoon, January 6. Dustin D. Wright of Boston was the guest of his brother, D. J. Wright, and family, over the holiday. Bernard Wheeler of Nashua, formerly of Hollis, has been elected master of the Nashua Grange. Mrs. Anna Bell and Miss Bell were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Wilson Christmas.

The Misses Lillian Sawyer and Marlon Worcester of Cambridge, Mass., are guests at the Worcester farm this week. Ralph and Anna Hardy are visiting their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Tenny, this week. Miss Ruth Hodgkins of Wellestee, Mass., visited her sister, Mrs. Waldo Flagg, over Christmas. Robert Ladd and his sister, Miss Lona, were home for the holiday. The Misses Frances and Florence Wright were home for the holiday.

BROOKLINE, N. H.

News Items. The engagement of Miss Frances Melville Farnsworth to Matthew Williams Burke is announced. Miss Marian Smith from Ashburnham and Miss Marjory Christmas from Waverly spent the Christmas holiday with their mother, Mrs. Mabel Smith. Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Powers and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Powers spent Christmas at the home of Mr. Willey and family at Pepperell, Mass. Fred Farnsworth and family left here the past week for their winter home in Florida. John Lover has gone to the St. Joseph hospital in Nashua for an operation.

A young doe was found frozen in the lake on Sunday by some of the young men skating. She had tried to cross the lake and broken through. Mrs. Florence Barnaby very kindly remembered the shut-ins with bouquets of green and red berries on Christmas. William Homolinsky spent Christmas with friends in Boston. Mr. and Mrs. George Dodge and family entertained on Christmas Mr. and Mrs. Norman Dodge from Ayer, Earl Dodge from Leominster and Mr. and Mrs. John Gilmore of South Brookline.

Miss Marion Stiles from Nashua spent Christmas with her mother, Mrs. Josie Stiles. Mrs. Ada Taylor, who has been caring for her mother, Mrs. Carrie Whitcomb, who has been ill, has returned to her home in Fitchburg. Mrs. Whitcomb is much improved. Harry Hall and family from Fitchburg spent the week-end with relatives in town. Mrs. Myrtle Rockwood spent Christmas with her mother, Mrs. Eddy, at the home of her sister, Mrs. Minnie Hooper, in Nashua. John Holden had the misfortune to lose his pocketbook last week with a sum of money in it. Frank Perkins from Jeffersonville, Vt., has been visiting his sisters, Mrs. Alice Perkins and Mrs. Rollie Austin. Miss Edith Huxhes from Worcester spent the holiday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Huxhes.

The teachers all returned from their vacation on Monday night and all schools opened on Tuesday morning. The skating has been very fine at the lake for the past week and the boys and girls have taken advantage of it. The Christmas tree held at the church on Saturday evening was enjoyed by young people and old. George Nye took the part of Santa, with his usual jolly manner. Brookline Grange held its regular meeting on Wednesday evening. The usual exchange of ten-cent presents was enjoyed by those present. The next meeting will be January 12 and will be installation of officers. Past master, Clara E. Russell, will install. Mrs. Maude Greeley and Master Olin, Misses Ethel and Velmar Taylor have been recent visitors in Nashua. Mr. and Mrs. George Davis entertained on Christmas Herbert Corey and family, Mrs. A. A. Gore and Henry Shattuck at "Rock Haven," their new home. Mr. and Mrs. Davis have just had a hot-air furnace installed.

Fire. A disastrous fire occurred Wednesday afternoon about four o'clock on the Milford road, about three or four miles from Brookline. It seems that Mr. Elias Mattson, who had charge of a six-year-old girl, left her locked in the cottage house where she lives and visited a neighbor. While away he was in the house, first in some unknown way and Charles Dunbar, who was on his way from work, saw

the flames and drove up to the house, it being located but little distance from the road. He heard screams but could not get into the house as at that time it was all in flames. The mother of the victim of the terrible catastrophe is dead and the father and little sister were taken to Grasmere about three weeks ago both suffering from consumption and a son was left with Clark Barnaby in the village. The house and contents were a total loss. Mr. Dunbar went toward Milford for help and that is the reason the Brookline fire department was not notified in time to help.

South Brookline, N. H. News Items. Friends who assisted the Federated Sunday schools in raising money for the New Year. East from the year to know that they secured \$50. Mr. and Mrs. Edward Pace were in Boston Wednesday of last week on a combined business and pleasure trip. Lewis Morse spent the holiday in Framingham, Mass., with her daughter, Mrs. Dr. Hill. Myrtle Farrar of Concord and Florence Farrar of Boston spent Christmas at the Farrar homestead. Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Fessenden motored to West Newton Friday night, spending the holiday with Mrs. Fessenden's parents, returning home Monday afternoon. Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Morse and son, Roger, spent Sunday on Townsend hill with Mr. Morse's parents. Mrs. Clara Fessenden was a dinner guest at her son's, O. D. Fessenden's, Christmas day. O. D. Fessenden made a business trip to Boston the early part of the week. Mrs. Harry Rideout and Mrs. E. Dodge of Winthrop, Mass., were guests of their sister, Mrs. John Ferguson, over the Christmas holiday. Walter Fessenden spent Wednesday of last week in Boston.

At a special meeting of Frank Killduff post, A. L., for the election of officers, the officers of the past year were re-elected. Miss Clara Whitney of Pepperell high school and Miss Virginia Lathé of Milford high school are enjoying their Christmas vacation at the home of their parents. A strong cement for china or glass—With a small camel's hair brush rub the broken edges with a little carborundum oil and it will be perceptible. When thoroughly dry it will stand both hot and cold water.

New Advertisements. FOR SALE—Overland Chummy Roadster, model 30, newly painted, in good running order. Apply to HERBERT F. MORSE, Harvard, Mass. WOOD FOR SALE—A fine lot of maple and birch. Will deliver at Littleton or Westford. S. B. WATSON, Westford, phone 8-2. 1118. FOR SALE—Sweet Cider, WILLIAM B. HASKELL, Still River, Mass. 3115. COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex, ss. Probate Court. To the heirs-at-law, next of kin, creditors, and all other persons interested in the estate of GEORGE F. GILSON, late of Groton 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 WILLIAM F. FITZGERALD who resides in the County of Middlesex, without giving a surety on his bond. You are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court to be held at Cambridge in said County of Middlesex, on the twentieth 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 you are hereby directed to give public notice thereof, by publishing this citation once in each week for three successive weeks, in the County of Middlesex, if said estate are called upon to make payment to WILLIAM F. FITZGERALD, Adm'r. 3117. F. M. ESTY, Register.

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ARE THE EQUAL TO ANY 60c OR 70c TEA IN THE CITY
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CLAMS 25c pt.
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BOUQUET WAFERS 16c pkg.
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COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex, ss. Probate Court. To the heirs-at-law, next of kin and all other persons interested in the estate of JAMES C. LEBMAN, late of Townsend in said County, deceased. Whereas, a certain instrument purporting to be the last will and testament of said deceased has been presented to said Court, for Probate, by JAMES C. LEBMAN, the junior of that name, who prays and letters preliminary may be issued to him, the executor therein named, without giving a surety on his official bond. You are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court to be held at Cambridge in said County of Middlesex, on the seventeenth day of January A.D. 1921, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, to show cause, why the same should not be granted. And you are hereby directed to give public notice thereof, by publishing this citation once in each week, for three successive weeks, in the County of Middlesex, if said estate are called upon to make payment to JAMES C. LEBMAN, Jr., Executor. 3118. F. M. ESTY, Register.

FRANK S. BENNETT
Successor to ARTHUR FENNER
Insurance Agent and Broker
Main Street Turner's Building
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Lowell and Fitchburg Street By-TIME TABLE
Cars leave Ayer for North Chelmsford and Lowell once an hour at 6:00 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. 21f

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex, ss. Probate Court. To all persons interested in the estate of SARAH F. GILSON, late of Groton in said County of Middlesex, deceased, intestate. Whereas, HERBERT B. PRIEST, the executor of the will of said deceased, prays and letters preliminary may be issued to him, the executor of said deceased, without giving a surety on his official bond. You are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court to be held at Cambridge in said County, on the tenth day of January A.D. 1921, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, to show cause, why the same should not be granted. And said executor is ordered to serve this citation by delivering a copy thereof to all persons interested in the estate of said deceased, if said estate are called upon to make payment to HERBERT B. PRIEST, Executor. 3117. F. M. ESTY, Register.

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 that 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 EDNA C. WENTWORTH, Adm'r. 3117. Dec. 23, 1920. NATHAN W. TAYLOR, Adm'r. 2111 Road, Littleton, Mass. Telephone 1920.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the subscriber has been duly appointed executor of the will of FRED C. HARTWELL, otherwise known as Fred C. Hartwell, late of Littleton in the County of Middlesex, deceased, intestate, and has taken upon herself that 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 FRED C. HARTWELL, Adm'r. 3117. December 24, 1920. NATHAN W. TAYLOR, Adm'r. 2111 Road, Littleton, Mass. Telephone 1920.

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TWO DOLLARS A YEAR IN ADVANCE This Paper is Sold by G. H. P. Co., Main Street, Ayer, N. H., and by the following:

1261 1/2 Avenue, Haverhill, Mass. PEPPERELL

News Items.

Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Shattuck went to Boylston last week, to spend the holiday with their son, Russell Shattuck and family.

Among the coming noteworthy events is the Woman's Club concert, February 1, with the Schubert Male Quartet, and Mrs. Irene Tarbell Attridge, reader.

Paul Maxwell from Amherst College was in town with his family at the Tucker homestead over the holidays.

Mrs. Julia B. Johnson closed her summer home in town on Wednesday, and went to Boston, and it is understood may later go South, accompanied by her daughter, Miss Gladys.

Howard Shattuck is making good progress toward recovery, following his recent operation for appendicitis and returned home on Friday.

Miss Miriam Harlow from Boston, came Thursday as the guest of Miss Margaret Olsen.

Ensign Lloyd Tower has been enjoying a ten-days' furlough during the holidays, at his home in town. Miss Gertrude Crampton, from St. Johnsbury, Vt., was also an invited guest of Mrs. H. N. Tower, during the Christmas season.

There were seventeen Christmas guests present at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Chapman on the holiday, an appropriate number, as the anniversary was the seventeenth one of their marriage. The guests included the parents of Mrs. Chapman, Mr. and Mrs. John Pierce, and Mrs. M. C. Lane, and daughter, Mrs. and Mrs. John Boynton and Miss Anna, Mrs. Olive Hammond, and son John, and Miss Bertha Pierce. The Christmas atmosphere was emphasized by the many decorations of evergreen and red bells, and the whole house was redolent of the Christmas charm.

A beautiful Christmas dinner, the guests enjoyed a program of music, tableaux, and recitations by the Chapman children and Charlotte Lane, under the direction of Miss Boynton, and a well-filled and ornamented tree was the centre of attraction to the party, young and old.

Guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ramsford Deware over the holiday were their daughter, Mrs. Lindol French, with her husband, and Mrs. John Boynton, Dr. Weaver, and Miss Boone, from Manchester, N. H., were also entertained there for the holiday.

Walton Bosworth was called to care for one of the convalescent soldiers at the Homestead last week, who was taken worse, having been sent here from the hospital, but a short time since, Mr. Bosworth accompanied him to Boston on Wednesday, to Parker Hill hospital, and on his return will have the care of Mr. Hamilton, who is still quite ill, and requires a nurse, constantly by him, for massaging and general care. Mr. Bosworth's experience as attendant in several hospitals, have given him excellent insight into the care of the sick.

Joseph Mitchell of Petersham visited his cousin, Miss Vida Patch over the holiday. Miss Patch also entertained her sister, Mrs. Wright, and husband, Alvin Wright, from Ayer over Christmas day.

Mrs. Frank Farley is reported as doing well following an operation for gallstones, at St. Joseph's hospital, Nashua, performed on Tuesday.

An all-day meeting of the East Village Social Club will be held on Wednesday, January 6, at the home of Mrs. M. C. Lane, Cottage street. Lunch will be served at 12.30. The program in the afternoon will be of a Christmas nature, with a tree, and the topic will be "Suggestions on the betterment of the club for the coming year."

Karl Newhall, Boston university '21, passed his two weeks of vacation at the home of his parents, Rev. and Mrs. George Newhall.

The snow on Monday was sufficient to bring out the sleighs in earnest, for the first time this season, and sidewalk ploughs were called into requisition in this afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Soule from West Boylston and Miss Hazel Soule from Worcester were at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Soule over the holiday and Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. George Herrig and daughter, Rachel, spent Christmas day on Sunday at Woodside, with Mrs. Herrig's parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Pierce.

Miss Althea Sartelle, now teaching at Wilmington, was at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Sartelle, this week, for her Christmas vacation.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Morgan entertained a large gathering of relatives over the holiday season. Mrs. Harriet Fulda and friend, Miss Conrad, came on from New York, accompanying Miss Clara Caldwell, who had been in the city to act as bridesmaid at the wedding of a classmate. Louis Caldwell spent his school vacation here, and over Christmas day the party included Mr. and Mrs. James Irvine from Orange and Eneas Morgan and wife from Leominster. A very handsome little Christmas tree well decorated and adorned with gifts, was one of the pleasant after-dinner features. As Mrs. Irvine's birthday comes on December 24, the celebration was of double significance. Mrs. Fulda and friend remained a part of the coming week, and on Monday were pleased to participate in the sport of skating with some of the younger experts.

Miss Irene Whitcomb came from her teaching duties at Mont Vernon, N. Y., last week, to pass the holidays at her home.

Mr. and Mrs. George Shaw entertained their daughter, Mrs. George Martin, her husband, and small daughter, Frances, over the holiday. Mrs. Jennie Hazen from Fitchburg. The party was augmented on Christmas day by Mrs. Shaw's brother and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Elias Soule, also the little daughters, Dorothy and Phyllis, and Miss Hazel from Worcester and Mr. and Mrs. Ray Soule from West Boylston.

Christmas greetings received from Mrs. George F. Durgin came from Ipswich, where she has been visiting friends since leaving town. She was expecting to join Rev. Mr. Durgin in the west now at any time.

Mr. and Mrs. Carlisle Kelgin from Lexington joined the Christmas dinner party at Woodside, but were obliged to return home early Sunday morning as Mrs. Kelley had a previous engagement as violinist at one of the Arlington churches.

Mrs. Sarah Robbins from Lawrence and Miss Elizabeth, from Watertown, spent the holidays with Mrs. Robbins and daughter, Miss Helen, on High street.

Miss Janet Newhall, who resigned her position as assistant librarian in the Springfield public library last fall, and entered Boston university, is spending her two weeks' vacation at home.

Miss Nellie Errington came from Orange last week to pass her school vacation with her father, F. J. Errington, Main street.

Announcement is made of the marriage of Miss Margaret Gardner to William E. Danforth of Lewiston, Me., on Tuesday, December 21, at the St. Joseph rectory, Rev. Thomas V. Cronan performing the ceremony. The couple were attended by Mrs. Agnes (Gardner) Kimball, and Frank Gardner, the two brothers of Mr. Danforth, who will reside in Lewiston, Me.

Russell Wright passed Christmas day in town with his mother, Mrs. Bessie Jordan Wright, coming from Boston, where he is connected with the firm of Crowell & Thurlow, ship brokers. He left here on a week's business trip to New York on Sunday, intending to return here in time for the minstrel show and dance on New Year's eve.

Miss Mollie McDonald, local operator at the telephone exchange, spent the holiday season, Friday to Monday, with her relatives at Hartford, Conn.

Mrs. Nellie McGrath went to Boston last week to stay over the holidays with her daughter, Miss Alice McGrath.

The little son of Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Bouchard (nee Miss Eva Janelle) born December 16, has been given the family name of Janelle.

Report had it that the fire of last week at the old Crowder house unearthed a distillery, on a small scale here in our midst. As there were no indications of anything of the kind discovered by the engineers, the report no doubt started from a chance remark that in ancient times, "old Capt. Crowder made his own rum," which was not infrequently done in that day and being just right during this last fire, sparks were lodged on the roof of the shop, and prompt attention was necessary to avoid a conflagration there.

Miss Marion Merrill took a short vacation from her duties in the grain office of I. J. Rowell over the holiday, going on Thursday night to West Burke, Vt., to visit her sister, Mrs. Robert Carter, and family. In order to reach here early Monday morning Miss Merrill left Vermont about midnight, and reports seeing the big fire of the Tilton Optical works at Tilton, N. H., which was burning as the train came by at four o'clock on Monday morning, account of which was noted in the Boston papers on Tuesday morning.

On Friday, January 7, the Branch Alliance held their regular all-day meeting in the Community church, commencing at eleven o'clock. Lunch at one o'clock. At 2.30 in the afternoon there will be an open meeting with an address by Mrs. Caroline Lawrence of Boston. Subject, "Isles of Shoals." A large attendance is hoped for, of both men and women.

Mrs. C. E. Marchant is entertaining her sister, Mrs. Albert Brown, and her two children from Leominster, this week.

Mr. and Mrs. A. N. Prescott and children, Phillip and Helen, and Mr. and Mrs. Lyman Crockett and child were guests over Christmas day at the home of Mrs. Louise Whittaker at Maynard, going and returning in the Whittaker auto. The party was enjoyed by the presence of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Stokes of Maynard.

The annual meeting of the District Nurses association will be held on the evening of January 3 at 7.30 at the Clara M. Shattuck School building, Main street. Reports will be heard and election of officers will take place for the ensuing year.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Dow and children from Keene, N. H., and Mr. and Mrs. Frederic Morse from Stoneham were guests over the holiday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Will Dow, Hollis street.

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene McCarthy and family visited at the home of his relatives at West Ayer over Christmas day.

Mr. and Mrs. John Frossard spent the holidays with their daughter, Mrs. Helen Nodding, and family at Reading.

Chester Card went to Chelsea on Saturday to pass the day with his aunt, Mrs. Lona Cook. On the preceding day he went to see his brother, Leroy, at Worcester, and found him in excellent condition of health, better than for years, and very contented.

Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary. Delightful weather conditions prevailed on Wednesday, December 29, the date of the fiftieth wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. George S. Carter, and the brightness within the pleasant abode, vied with the brightness of the mid-winter sunshine, and gained supremacy.

As was fitting, the decorations were golden, from the magnificent bouquet of yellow "Ward" roses, sent to Mrs. Carter and placed as the center of ornament, to the yellow candles in their shining brass candlesticks, and general decorations of all the rooms. A touch of Christmas-tide was also given by the evergreen wreaths hanging at each window, and the grouping of miniature pines in the living-room. There were also golden gifts, of color and other articles, with a fine set of china from the family, and golden wedding cards from absent friends, also gifts of confectionery and fruit. Messages were received, golden in thought and expression, one especially noted, coming from a nephew of Mrs. Carter, Rev. Boynton Merrill, from Hudson, Conn., who on the same day will also be golden to the united couple, as nothing occurred to mar the day's pleasure.

Mr. and Mrs. Carter are both Pepperell people. Mrs. Carter being formerly Miss Ella Boynton, daughter of the late David Boynton of Oak Hill, and the groom, George S. Carter, a Boynton homestead still standing, Rev. Horace Parker officiating. Of those wedding guests present also on this 50th anniversary were: Mrs. Anna Boynton Merrill, Mr. and Mrs. John L. Boynton, Miss Clara M. Shattuck, Elbert G. Chapman, Erbert Williams and the two brothers of Mr. Carter, Elmer Boynton, from Watertown and Adelbert Boynton, of this town.

About seventy guests were present at the reception from two to five and 7.45 to 9 on Wednesday. Rev. and Mrs. Drawbridge, present during the afternoon, sang the duet, "Whispering Hope," and other music was enjoyed by the victrola.

The two daughters, Mrs. Katherine (Carter) Smith from Franklin and Miss Gertrude Carter, residing at home, assisted in receiving, and served refreshments of ice cream, assorted cake, wedding cake and coffee to the guests. The young ladies also served supper at 8 o'clock, and Mrs. Carter, the immediate family, the guests being Mr. and Mrs. Otis Merrill, Mr. and Mrs. Adelbert Boynton, Elmer Boynton and Luther Boynton. The table was decorated with yellow and the place cards were of the same color, a pretty effect being given by the yellow candles in the glass chandeliers.

The sons of Mr. and Mrs. Carter, Arthur, and Dr. Raymond Carter, with his wife and child, were present during the day. The small grandson, Boynton Carter, in his "grandpa's wedding hat," indeed was considered the prize entertainer for all. Other relatives were Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Swallow from Groton and L. W. Smith from Franklin.

An original poem, modestly left among the wedding presents, and not discovered until too late to be read, was the gift of a friend of Mr. Carter. Notable among the guests was the niece of Mrs. Carter, Miss M. Adele Boynton, slender and young, and the only member who could wear the wedding gown of ancient style, with bonnet.

For a short time following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Carter resided on Elm street in the Sumner Carter house, known later as the Lakin place. The couple afterward removed to their present home, built by Mrs. Carter's grandfather, Luther Williams, at the end of Park street, where Mr. Carter, a carpenter and builder, has made many improvements. And here, their many friends hope to find them, to celebrate with them the diamond wedding, twenty-five years from now.

Death. The death of Mrs. Harriet M. (Cappelle) Hale occurred on Wednesday, December 29, at the advanced age of 87 years. She was the widow of the late Charles Hale, who was formerly a well-known mill teamster. They resided for years in the large house nearly opposite the old shoe factory, which was burned at the time of the conflagration in 1891. After that time Mr. and Mrs. Hale removed to one of the brick houses on Foster street, where his death occurred eighteen years ago. Since that time Mrs. Hale has resided there alone until failing eyesight and poor health made it unsafe, and during the week following Thanksgiving, when she suffered an illness, she consented to go to the farm to be cared for. Since that time she has failed rapidly.

Mrs. Hale was the last member of her immediate family. A daughter died in infancy, and she leaves only nieces. Two of these reside in Leominster, Mrs. Orenut and Mrs. Rand, and the other one, Mrs. J. A. Saunders of this town and Mrs. Minnie Bray of Tacoma, Wash.

Services were held on Thursday afternoon, Rev. B. W. Rust, officiating, and burial was in the family lot in Walton cemetery.

Christmas Tree Festivities. At the Methodist vestry on Thursday evening of last week children and their parents gathered in godly numbers to enjoy their annual Christmas tree, always a source of delight to the little ones. A very handsome tree was finely decorated and filled to overflowing with the abundance of gifts, and everyone present of the church school was remembered, and the candy bags and toys were sent out to those who could not be present.

The evening's program was opened by a recitation by Ruel Rust, "Grandpa's Christmas Tree." This was followed with a companion reading, "Educating grandma." Helen Prescott recited "Is Santa married?"; Aethra Winship rendered a piano solo; Hazel Wilson gave a recitation, "Beastie's Christmas hints"; and Aethra Winship gave the reading, "Mrs. Bascom's home-made mince." Miss Eva Shephardson and Ralph Bussey an instrumental duet, piano and larynet; Arlen Tanner recited "Buff Perkins' toboggan slide," and Phyllis Soule concluded the program in fitting manner by reciting "Christmas eve."

At the close of these numbers a few remarks were made by the pastor, who said that since some mishap had evidently befallen Santa Claus, who did not arrive as expected, they would have to get along without him, and with the assistance of the superintendent

of the school the presents were taken from the laden tree and distributed. At the finish of the distribution many of the youngest children went to their homes, but some of the older ones remained for games and a pleasant hour.

The committee in charge of the Christmas tree arrangements were Mrs. A. N. Prescott, chairman, with Mrs. Ralph Buck and Miss Gertrude Cherry.

Chimney Fires. Three chimney fires was the record of less than a week. Commencing on Wednesday evening of last week, a special one was seen at the residence of Mrs. J. A. Donnelly, in the part now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. William Boyd, about nine o'clock. The family were unaware of any trouble until notified by Harry Cullinan, passing by, and finding a torch of flame four feet or more issuing from the chimney, took no time in notifying the department. The chemicals were quickly on their way, in charge of Driver Lakin and a few of the firemen and were effectually used before any great damage had resulted, but the call was none too quickly given, as the second call was for a chimney fire at the Drinan house on Lowell street, on Saturday, not much damage resulting here either. The third alarm given about six o'clock, on Monday evening, was for a peculiar blaze in the double tenement house now owned by the Pepperell Card and Paper Co., which occupies the next lot, north of the factory. An odor of burning wood had been noticed by the Cullinan family, occupying one-half the house, but it was only when search was instituted in the cellar, that a burning timber, passing near the chimney, was discovered to be on fire. Harry Cullinan, who was thus called into action in a second fire, did good work with a few pails of water, before the extinguishers could be brought from the engine house, and probably saved the situation to some extent. The fire had gained quite a good headway, and in a few moments would have been beyond the extinguishers. As it was, a large hole was burned in the kitchen floor, and the wood work around the chimney was badly scorched, while the wooden support was completely burned off. It is called a narrow escape from another conflagration, too near the Pepperell Card shop for safety.

LITTLETON News Items. Warren M. Nixon has purchased E. L. Smith's milk route and takes possession January 1.

A son, the third, was born to Mr. and Mrs. John Hartwell of Somerville Christmas morning. Mrs. Hartwell was formerly Miss Natalie Sleeper.

Miss Edna Hartwell is home this week-end from her duties in the Somerville library.

Under the auspices of the Woman's club Booth Tarkington and Julian Street play, "The Country Cousin," will be presented at the town hall, Thursday evening, January 6, by Miss Grace Sage, the clever impersonator, whose first appearance before a Littleton audience produced such a magic effect a year or two ago and created an urgent demand for her return. To those who heard her no arguments of persuasion are necessary. Special admission fee to high school pupils is offered. We bespeak for this eminent artist a crowded house.

The King's Daughters are reminded of the all-day meeting with Mrs. Fred Hosmer next week.

The United Workers will hold their January meeting with Mrs. C. K. Houghton next Wednesday afternoon. "Future Defenders" S. S. extension societies will be the subject, and Miss Marion Flagg, leader.

Dr. and Mrs. Adams and little daughter were with friends in Salem, N. H., over Christmas.

C. W. Perry has returned to his home in Hillsboro, N. H., after a few weeks spent with his daughter, Mrs. F. C. Hartwell.

Warren Hartwell has been home from Tufts college this week and has had as a guest, David Snow, of Arlington, who is also a Tufts senior.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Hartwell spent Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hartwell of Somerville.

The members of the F. C. Hartwell family were together Christmas day at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Smith in Arlington.

Dancing Party. The public exhibition of the dancing classes was held in the town hall Wednesday afternoon and evening. The little children's party began at two o'clock in the afternoon. Dancing, accompanied at the piano by Miss Mahon, games, and refreshments of ice cream and cake, constituted the attractions. The little people with radiant faces and clothed in dainty dress made merry as they looked upon the hall, which was attractively decorated with small hemlock trees and other evergreens by Miss Edith Ames and assistants, John Eldredge and Katherine Manning won the prize dance.

At the evening exhibition parents of the pupils were admitted free. The children were presented to the mothers, Mrs. T. J. Manning, Mrs. C. V. Flagg, Mrs. H. Yapp and Mrs. E. H. Priest.

An orchestra from Watertown furnished music for the evening. The minuet was danced by Katherine Manning and Warren Hutchinson, Mrs. Mahon accompanying. Katherine Manning also gave a pleasing recitation. The public exhibition was enjoyed generally dancing the latter part of the evening.

The children were privileged to buy ice cream during the intermission, for for which their parents contributed the cake.

At the evening dance there was a large attendance of spectators and dancers, nearly coming from Ayer, Harvard, Concord, Westminster and other towns. The classes have had an unusually favorable season, as the weather has not been exceedingly stormy or cold, and no contagious disease has interfered with the lessons. Instruction has been all that could be desired, and progress in dancing has consequently been very good.

Mrs. Sarah Dix of Westboro spent Thursday at Willowbrook.

Mrs. Marion Dana of Walthamfield, Vt., visited Mr. and Mrs. William Cooper on Friday.

Mrs. Esther P. Bailey of East Boston spent Christmas with relatives in the Harbor.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Dudley Bagley announce the engagement of their daughter, Miss Esther Brooks Bagley, to Cornelius P. Keefe.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hagar spent Christmas with Dr. and Mrs. Petterson at West Roxbury.

Mr. and Mrs. Adney Gray and family were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Shattuck of Pepperell on Christmas.

Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Proctor and family, Mrs. Helen Warner and family, Mr. and Mrs. N. G. Proctor and Irving Baker were Christmas guests of Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Proctor of Ayer.

Mrs. Clara Jones Pond of Lynn and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Lewis of Doverchester were holiday guests at Seven Pines.

George B. Cummings of Toledo, formerly a resident of the Cape, a qualified instructor in machine shop practice, has been engaged by the board of education to give factory workers out of employment a chance to fit themselves for better jobs when they return to work.

Mrs. Adney Gray, assisted by her daughter, Miss Myrtle Gray, entertained the As You Like It club on Tuesday. A Dr. Grenfell program, consisting of readings and extracts from lectures, was presented by Miss Lillian Warner, lecturer. The program also included musical numbers by Miss Gray, after which refreshments were served. The next meeting, a "white elephant party," will be held at Seven Pines, Mrs. George Jones, hostess, Mrs. Helen Warner, lecturer.

HOLLIS, N. H. News Items. Mrs. Lewis Rideout came home from the hospital last week Friday, where she has been for some weeks.

Miss Fitch of Concord has been visiting her sister, Mrs. Lester Hayden. Horace Merrill is home from Pinkerton Academy.

Miss Nellie Denault is at home. John Sawyer was a week-end guest at Bert Brown's.

In the report of the meeting of the W. R. C. the presentation of an orange knife to the retiring president, Mrs. Flora Hardy, was omitted.

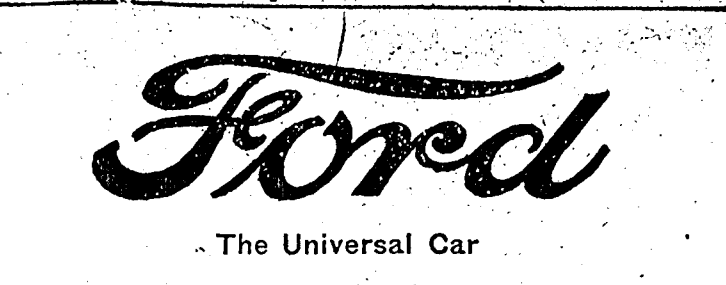
Miss Abby Emerson Flagg is in town for the week.

Annual Meeting. There were a good number in attendance at the annual church meeting held in Grange hall Thursday. The hour before dinner was spent in social intercourse. A beautiful dinner was served under the supervision of Mr. and Mrs. George Hill. After dinner the meeting was called to order by the pastor, who acted as moderator. The clerk, Miss Lucinda Read, read the report of the church for the year. Reports were also given of the Sunday school, the Ladies' Reading and Characteristic society, and the W. C. T. U., showing all in good standing. The treasurer's report of the church showed a small deficit. That, it is hoped, will soon be wiped out. The report of the pastor on the year's work was most encouraging. This showed the apportionment in benevolences practically met to amend the constitution so that a deacon might be re-elected and Edson Hurd was re-elected to fill that office for four years. Miss Stratton was re-elected treasurer. Miss Lucinda Read, clerk, and member of the standing committee. Voted to observe the week of prayer the week before Easter. The pastor gave as the watchword for the year, "Let the spirit of Christ dwell in you richly."

The annual meeting of the society will be held next Tuesday afternoon at two o'clock. A good attendance is hoped for.

H. W. C. About twenty of the Girl Scouts were guests of the Woman's club on Wednesday afternoon. They met at the home of their captain, Mrs. Flora Hardy, and marched to the ladies' parlour, where they were received by Mrs. Flagg, the president of the club. Captain Hardy gave a short talk on the forming of the troop here and their work, also their pledge which was given by Scouts Eaton and Hannah Burton. In a guessing contest that followed Mildred Lund took first prize, getting all of the numbers, 20 of them correct. Hazel Lovejoy took second with 19 correct answers. At the close of the meeting the girls assembled and gave the scout "yell." During the business meeting it was voted to give \$5 to the T. B. drive. A lunch of cakes, wafers, cocoa and candies was served by the hostesses, Mrs. Frank Bell, Mrs. Daniel Emerson, Mrs. Jason Reed, Mrs. William Connor and Mrs. Harry D. Verder. The next club meeting will be with Mrs. Anna Bell instead of Mrs. William Worcester.

Clean gift picture frames with the water in which onions have been boiled. Rusty steel ornaments, brasses and the like may be cleaned by rubbing well with sweet oil, enough of the oil being allowed to remain on the article to "soak in" for some time.



The Price of Ford Cars and Tractors is given below to enable the reader to see the price F. O. B. Detroit and determine the charges that go to make up the total or delivered price of car:

Table with columns: F. O. B. Detroit, Freight, War Tax, Gas & Oil, Delivered Price. Rows include Chassis, Runabout, Touring, Coupe, Sedan, Truck-Solid, Truck-Pneumatic, and Tractor.

There is no war tax on Tractors. Demountable rims and tire carrier on touring and runabout is \$25 extra. Demountables are furnished on Coupes and Sedans at above figures.

Authorized to sell Ford Cars in the territory bounded as follows: On the NORTH, boundary line Canada and U. S.; EAST, Atlantic Ocean; SOUTH, Gulf of Mexico and Greaser line; WEST, Pacific Ocean. If you live anywhere in this territory we will be pleased to take your order and deliver your car and give you the best in after service. If you have not placed your order as yet, please do so and avoid the spring rush, as cars will be delivered in rotation according to order date.

Further. We are prepared to take care of your repairs at any time at the Regular Ford Prices approved by the Ford Motor Co. We do all work at our PARK ST. GARAGE, where we are equipped with Robany Rebatting and Burning in Machine. We also CHARGE and REBUILD BATTERIES. 20 years' experience in electric installation enables us to rebuild and repair your Generators and Motors and take care of your electrical troubles. We also CARRY a full line of Goodyear Tires and Tubes. For Oil and Transmission Lubricant we carry only one line—Bayerson's, bought direct from refinery in Erie, Penn. A pure Pennsylvania product. None better. At attractive prices in barrel lots.

For Radiators we are local distributors for the CURRAN RADIATOR, guaranteed if frozen and thawed repeatedly not to leak. These Radiators are equipped with a thermostatic system and guaranteed against over heating and overcooling of motor, holds one-half more water than your regular radiator and will help pay for itself in saving of oil and gas and wear and tear of motor.

WEED TIRE CHAINS 10% less than new price. Buy while the supply lasts at this Bargain. Bring us your old chains for repairs, as we have a machine for that special purpose.

A full line of necessary supplies and accessories. We have the following

- Used Cars For Sale. 1 1916 Ford Roadster, good condition \$175. 1 1915 Ford Touring Usable Car \$150. 1 1916 Ford Truck \$175. 1 1916 Ford Touring \$200. 1 1917 Ford Touring \$235. 1 1917 Ford Touring, Gray & Davis Starter, Lights, etc. \$275. 1 1918 Buick Six Roadster \$750. 1 Ford Guaranteed 2-ton Truck Chassis \$800. 1 1915 Metz, good tires and motor, in running order \$100.

If you require anything we don't advertise ask us for it. We remain at your service.

FORD SALES & SERVICE. K. M. MacLENNAN, Proprietor. Park Street, Ayer. Tel. 336. T. HENRY DONAHUE, Salesman. Watch for next week's announcement.

"THE MIRACLE MAN" A photo play with an amazing soul. All that is sorrowful, all that allures in the act of living, pictured in vivid scenes that thrill, startle or inspire, shown at THE COMMUNITY CHURCH, Pepperell, Mass. Friday Evening, January 7, 1921. A picture you cannot afford to miss. Usual price elsewhere \$1.00. Our price to all 25c.

ITEMS OF INTEREST. A pinch of salt put into a kettle of potatoes improves the taste. To prevent lamps from smoking, dip the wicks in strong, hot vinegar and dry well before putting on the lamps. To remove ink from linen, dip the spotted part in pure melted tallow, wash out the tallow and the ink will come with it. This is known to be un-failing. To mend tin—Scrape the tin about the hole free from grease and rust, rub on a piece of resin until it powder lies about the hole; over it lay a piece of solder, and hold on it a hot poker until the solder melts. Equal parts of ammonia and spirits of turpentine will take paint out of clothing no matter how dry or hard it is.

Engraving Cards. ENGRAVED FROM PLATES. ENGRAVED WEDDING INVITATIONS and ANNOUNCEMENTS. Send for STYLE CARD and PRICE LIST. Plate and 50 Cards \$3.00. Plate and 100 Cards \$5.50. Call at TURNER'S PUBLIC SPIRIT OFFICE. And see our line of samples.