

PEPPERELL

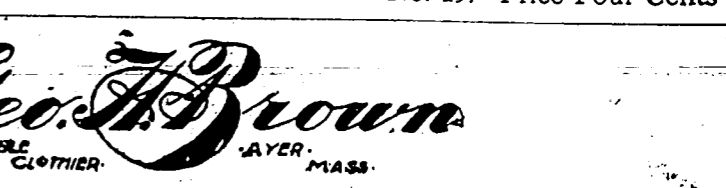
News Items. The Neighborhood club, which developed out of the college extension class of last year, composed of the women in the western part of the town, are still holding their meetings. Although the residences of Mrs. Burghin, Miss Smith, Miss Alden, Mrs. Wetherbee and Miss Shattuck are closed, the meetings, being with relatives and friends in different cities, yet a sufficient number keep up the interest. A pleasant gathering of the club met with Mrs. Lawrence Morgan last week, and on Monday of this week with Mrs. Chester Mills. The afternoons are passed in sewing for relief work and discussion of food problems from a practical standpoint. Arthur Ripley has taken the place of John Deane as watchman of the Champion-International shop, alternating with the night watchman, Jerry Flynn. Joseph Mahoney returned to Middleboro last week after a stay of some time at the home of his brother, Amos Mahoney. Clarence Holmes, at the head of the carpentering department at the state sanatorium, was also a guest here of Mr. and Mrs. Mahoney. Earle Nutting is confined to his home with the prevailing gripe cold and throat trouble. Charles H. Clute was in town from Boston last Saturday on business. Mrs. George DuFaw has returned from Malden and is again assisting at Mr. DuFaw's pharmacy, although not fully recovered from her rheumatic attack. Miss Jessie Flynn has resumed her duties as teacher in West Bridgewater. Miss Florence also returned to her school in Irving after the holidays, but was obliged to return home, having trouble with her teeth and a facial abscess. She expects to be able to resume her school work next week. Orchardists are reporting much damage to their young apple orchards, many of the trees being blasted and split on the north side by the recent hard froze. At a meeting of Acoma Rebekah lodge held on Tuesday evening the following election of officers resulted: Mrs. Louise Lunt, n. s.; Mrs. Jennie Hazen, v. g.; Mrs. Florence L. Fiske, rec. sec.; Miss Anna Sartelle, fin. sec.; Mrs. Effie Robbins, treas.; Miss Lydia Walte, trustee 3 years; representatives to the assembly meeting to be held in Boston in May, Mrs. Mary Heath Blood, Mrs. Susie W. Dorr and Miss Lydia Walte. The installation of the newly-elected officers and elective officers will probably take place in two weeks. Contrary to predictions at the time of the fall meet of the New England Fox Hunters' club, the winter meet is being held this week in Bedford, the same as usual. Tuesday was a successful day, eight foxes being secured, in one of the lucky drives the names

of H. W. Hutchinson, E. L. Tarbell and John Kerin, of this town, are given. The annual banquet of the club was held at Bedford Inn on Tuesday evening, with fifty hunters present. Three young culprits had a narrow escape from a visit to the district court in Ayer and perhaps a longer visit to the reform school last week. The boys, of about a dozen years of age and under, first stole a ride with a woman driving toward her home in the western part of the town, and then stole her satchel containing quite a sum of money. Upon discovering her loss the police were notified, who lost no time in discovering one of the offenders, who had been in similar affairs before, and through him the others were made known. Before the boys were apprehended they had made good use of their time and with the "movies" a trip to Nashua and similar smaller expenditures they had disposed of about forty dollars. After they were made to confess they then burned the satchel so as to destroy the evidence against them. Considering the age of the boys and the fact that the loss was made good by the parents, the one losing the money decided to carry the case no farther, thus letting the boys off easy. They should have learned a lesson, however. Mrs. Mary Jordan closed her house this week until the severe weather abated and will visit with relatives here and out of town. Her son, H. F. Jordan, will remain in town, and Mrs. Albert Deware, who occupied the upper apartment of Mrs. Jordan's house, will visit friends and possibly go to Maine to visit relatives later. The annual meeting of the stockholders of the First National Bank of Ayer was held on Tuesday afternoon. The following re-elections took place: A. A. Shattuck, pres.; C. H. Miller, v. p.; H. F. Tarbell, cashier; A. A. Shattuck, C. H. Miller, H. F. Tarbell, A. P. Wright, I. J. Rowell, T. F. Graham, directors. Arthur Tower returned to New York on Monday to resume his medical course at Columbia university. Mrs. Anna Buel returned to her home in Bangor, Me., last week Friday. Mrs. Burton Humphrey and son came from Medford on Wednesday, her goods coming by air truck, being nine hours making the trip. The roads were all right for auto travel as far as Littleton, they reported, but after that continual snowing was necessary. Mrs. Humphrey has taken the upper tenement of the Willett house on High street and was the guest of Mrs. William Jewett, Pleasant street, until the tenement can be made ready. The Girl Scouts who gave such a pleasing collection of scout, patriotic and camp songs at the recent supper of the Unitarian society, have announced their willingness to assist any organization. The Nashua River Paper Company's plant in town is nearly shut down for

lack of fuel. Only the gun cotton department is running on coal furnished by the government. Several cars of coal are in transit and work is promised as soon as they arrive. Warren Blood has been quite ill with the prevailing epidemic of gripe and sore throat and under the care of a physician. Miss Ada Whitney returned home Tuesday from Nashua, N. H., where she has been visiting relatives since Christmas. Mrs. Frank Farley is improving slowly from her illness, lasting since Thanksgiving. Improvements have been made in the heating arrangements at the high school building during this long vacation which it is hoped will make it easier to keep warm rooms when school opens again. Miss Georgianna Maynard was in town over Sunday and on Wednesday accompanied by Mrs. Maynard, spent the day at Lowell. The firm by whom she is employed at Littleton, Conn., Houghton & Co., are now rushing work on government webbing. Members of the office force, of which Miss Maynard is a part, as well as other employees, were given a thrift stamp for a holiday gift. The high school basketball team was defeated by the Milford high school team in Milford, N. H., Friday evening of last week, the score being 42 to 27. There was a large crowd in attendance to cheer Capt. Cahill's boys to victory and some excellent plays were pulled off during the game. The Pepperell line-up was: Harney G. Winch, rg.; Horan C., Driscoll lf., Lewis rf.; Milford, Connolly cf., Caccidisi c., Cahill c., Jewett tr., Ascalido lg. A request is being made in many of the surrounding towns for contributions of women's kid gloves, which it is said make a fine lining for some of the soldiers' garments. This might be a suggestion for some definite work for some of our girls' clubs in town, or the Community Service club. The name of Frederic E. Wilson, of this town, is mentioned among the 543 national army selectees who are to have opportunity to win commissioned officers' berths at the training school which opened at Camp Devens this week, which they intend to follow the lead of the Plattsburg training camp. The men selected will have equal chance with 200 or more college men. The annual holiday celebration arranged each year by the W. C. T. U. for those who are cared for at the town farm will be held on Wednesday afternoon, January 16. The committee appointed by the new president, Mrs. A. F. Parker, are Mrs. N. W. Appleton, Mrs. H. N. Tower, Mrs. M. M. Pond, and in making their arrangements they solicit gifts from any interested person for any of the three men or two women now at the farm. Refreshments will be also provided as usual, and there will be music and an entertainment and a social hour. Mrs. L. A. Shattuck recently entertained her sister, Miss Myrtle Gray, of Townsend. Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Soule have received two letters recently from their son, Ray Soule, in France. The letters were dated a week apart, but were received here nearly the same time. He speaks of all in his company being well, although the frequent rain and the atmosphere generally is trying to anyone with throat trouble. He gives a description of the fine New Year's dinner, consisting of turkey with potato and vegetables and oranges. He says they have been kept busy in machine gun practice which runs on from six in the morning until eight at night, and that they expect to be in active training until February 1. His company have been also given in horse-

back riding, and although unused to the exercise Mr. Soule made a successful attempt and rode ten miles. He spoke of their passing by fine chateaus of stone and marble, with chapels and fine stables, all deserted and devoid of all furniture. He expected to be very busy in training for the next two months. Miss Gladys Johnson, who passed her holiday vacation at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Merritt H. Johnson, Oak Hill, returned to Boston last week to resume her duties at the Miss McIntock school. Announcement is made of the birth of a daughter, Charlotte Louise, to Mr. and Mrs. Edward Bartlett, Hartford, Conn., on January 7. A cablegram received last week by relatives of Mrs. William Appleton, who recently sailed for France in the interests of the American Association for French wounded, states that she arrived safely at Paris and was met by her son, who has been in the service there. Relatives of Ray Willoughby in town received a communication last Saturday from "Somewhere in France" in which he says "I arrived safely and find that it is raining and not much colder than here. I am at the Y. M. C. A. rooms and have no room. People here seem to be very nice to us, but we smile at the wooden shoes of the people here. The weather is comfortable. I have no socks, you knit me will be fine later. I think. Will write. With love and best wishes to all. Ray." In explanation of his statement about the weather it must be recalled that the water was in Florida and Pennsylvania just previous to sailing, and only had a few days in Massachusetts weather at Thanksgiving. Ice harvesting is in full swing, the slightly warmer weather of this week being auspicious. S. M. Nokes commences his season's work on the latter part of last week and filling his houses there with ice four inches thick and upward. W. E. Shaw pond last week for the Burkinshaw and several nearby farmers with sixteen-inch ice. At the small pond on Brookline street, Mr. Shattuck cut a quantity of foot ice for church and neighbors in that section. No need of artificial ice or any shortage next summer for anyone in this part of the country. Miss Katharine Thayer has returned to her school duties in North Brookfield, having passed her holiday vacation with her mother, Mrs. J. L. Thayer, in New York. The meeting of the D. A. R. to be held with Mrs. N. B. Lewis on Monday afternoon, was postponed on account of the weather and will be held on January 14. The annual meeting of the Oak Hill society was held at the hall on Boylston street last week Thursday. Supper was served to the members, and the annual election took place, resulting in the re-election of Robert Blood, pres.; Melvin E. Gaskill, vice pres.; Carl Lawrence, sec.; Eugene E. Everett, treas. Trustees elected were Mrs. Rupert Blood and Ben W. Parker, auditor; Miss Lucy Blood. Miss Florence Holmes, of Worcester, was a guest at the home of Mrs. E. B. Soule on Wednesday evening. The Misses Doris and Helen Hartwell have resumed their school work in the evening at the school on Broadway, N. H., in their respective classes. Henry Messer has gone to work on the Boston and Maine railroad, commencing Wednesday. Charles Messer, is taking his place for a short time as teamster for J. J. B. At the D. A. R. tea party held at Blakemere last month the business being Mrs. Appleton, Mrs. Allison of Ayer and Miss Jordan, although the attendance was small, the program carried out was an excellent one. A most interesting paper was prepared and read by Mrs. Allison on her travels in Florida, where she has passed many winters, and Mr. Hartwell his fine phonograph, furnished excellent music. Mrs. M. R. Stratton returned to her home in Jamaica Plain last week after a visit with her daughter, Mrs. Charles Stinson, and family. Her little granddaughter, Irene, accompanied her for a visit. Announcement has been made to relatives and friends of the birth of a son, Everett Clyde, to Mr. and Mrs. Edward Ham, in Lynn, January 8. Mrs. Ham was formerly Miss Alice Deware, of Pepperell. At a foreclosure sale of the mill lately owned by the Acme Paper Company's plant in town was held at the home of Mrs. H. F. Parker, one of the former owners. The annual meeting of the Ladies' Aid society, with election of officers, will be held with Mrs. Jerry Annis on Wednesday evening, January 16, at three o'clock. It is hoped that the ladies interested will make an effort to attend this meeting as reports for the year will be given and other business transacted. The service on Sunday afternoon at the South street schoolhouse was conducted by Rev. W. H. Beers of the Methodist church. Several attended and the service was held at an interesting. It is expected that the service on Sunday will be in charge of the students and master from the Groton School. Miss Margaret Anderson resumed work in drawing at two of the town schools where she instructs this week. The other two schools opening next week. Mrs. M. A. Cuthbertson, from Fitchburg, has been staying at the home of her son on Pleasant street, recently. The second of the meetings in the series of those held in the interests of the Farm Bureau Extension service in town will be held in the vestry of the Congregational church on Thursday evening, January 17, at eight o'clock. John H. Abbott, agent for Middlesex county for the extension of community service, will address the men on "Soil fertility," and Miss A. G. Halbower, home demonstration agent for this county, will talk to the women in the smaller vestry on the subject "Feeding the family under present conditions." Each lady will be asked to bring some "conservation food," especially in the line of bread, and be ready to talk the rule and discuss the same. Although the plan is to hold the meetings separately, it is interesting to note that Mr. Abbott's subject are free to attend that meeting, and the gentlemen will be welcome at Miss Halbower's address. All persons interested in the extension of community service, or who are benefited by these meetings, or benefit others, are invited to attend. A report that the Champion-International plant in town had been leased by the government and would be converted into a munition shop has been current this week. There seems to be no official confirmation of the report, but those in position to know will neither deny or deny the report, which rather tends to strengthen it. Property owners and wage-earners would be only too glad to see the shop in operation again. Mrs. Amy E. Shattuck, past master of Fitchburg Grange, and a former lecturer of Prescott Grange, assisted by Miss Florence Kemp, lecturer of Prescott Grange, installed the officers of Groton Grange on Tuesday evening. Mrs. Lottie Shepley, the newly

installed secretary of Prescott Grange, also attended. Gertrude L. Tarbell, district deputy president, and suite of the Groton lodge, Tuesday evening, January 15, to install the officers of Middlesex Rebekah lodge. Messages have been received by Mr. and Mrs. Harry Lakin, who with his wife have arrived at St. Petersburg, Fla. after a pleasant trip, stopping at the principal resorts on their way south. They go to Palm Beach and other Florida cities before returning. Church Notes. At the Methodist church on Sunday morning Miss Wood of the Deaconess Home, Boston, will give an address on the deaconess work. At 8:45 the Epworth League will hold their service. The leader will be the pastor, Rev. W. H. Beers, and the subject "Enlarge the place of the tent." At 10:00 there will follow the regular school and preaching service. Rev. D. H. Child will preach at the service in which the Congregational and Unitarian churches will unite at the Congregational church next Sunday morning, January 14. His topic will be "What is the message of preaching?" A number of the church will attend Sunday school at noon. Forward club meeting at six o'clock in charge of Gertrude Wood. Subject, "Seeking Things Worthwhile." The service of the Congregational church will be held Thursday, January 17, with reports and election of officers. The roll call usually comes two weeks later. The Ayer Missionary meeting is put over two weeks. A new service that the gift of the Forward club was displayed by the Congregational society last Sunday. It contains the names of the last two churches added to the church roll of honor being for Ward E. Gray, who has entered the school for military aeronautics at Princeton, N. J., and for Arthur A. Tower, who has enlisted in the medical corps and is waiting to be called. The quarterly meeting of the Federation of churches was held in the Congregational church last Sunday morning, with a large attendance. Rev. George H. Guttenor of Boston preached a strong sermon on "Making good," which was followed with the closest attention. The three pastors administered communion after the sermon. A business meeting of the church federation was held at the Methodist vestry on Tuesday evening. Robert M. Maywood of Boston, representing the Antislavery society, gave a practical talk upon "No license and how to secure it." A citizens' no license committee has been formed, which will doubtless be heard from before long. There is a strong feeling in town that Pepperell should get into



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no license column this year and... It was proved at the entertainment given at the Congregational vestry last Friday evening that the writer, Joseph Lincoln, has no monopoly on Cape Cod stories. A. H. Wardle of Ayer, superintendent of the Christian Federation building, told eight or nine good ones last week Friday evening at the entertainment given under the auspices of the Forward club. Most of the stories had a heartier laugh than they have had before for many a day. His stories were founded on personal experience during his service as Y. M. C. A. secretary down on the cape. Soles by Master John Wardle, boy soprano in one of the Malden churches, added to the enjoyment of the evening. E. V. S. C. Meeting. The all-day meeting of the East Village Social club, which ushered in the year's work, was an auspicious one. Wednesday proved one of the brightest of winter days, and about a dozen ladies and seven children enjoyed the hospitality of the hostess, Mrs. John Pierce, at a beautiful dinner served at her home. Mrs. J. B. Martin, president during the afternoon. The most interesting part of the day was Mrs. William Shattuck of Brookline, N. H., a visitor with her daughter, Mrs. M. E. Gray, who gave a most interesting and large, the eight-month-old adopted daughter of Mrs. and Mrs. Matthews Lane, who made the acquaintance of the club in the clothing store, shaking hands with each one and saying "Hello." The program of the afternoon was unusually pleasing, consisting of readings by Mrs. Maud Parker and several short appropriate selections read by Mrs. Harmon, Mrs. Charles Chapman, Miss Jordan, Mrs. Mary, Mrs. Maywood, Mrs. Appleton and Mrs. Alice Thurman. Several choruses were sung by the children, accompanied by proper songs, and there was also singing by the club. Great interest was shown in the reading of a letter from Mrs. Robert Wright of the sympathy shown during her recent bereavement. Quite a lot of work was accomplished during the day for the Social Aid society and altogether the day was voted a great success. Another all-day meeting was planned by the club to be held in two weeks with Mrs. Maud Parker. This is to be a quilling party. Unitarian Supper. The supper announced by the committee of the Ladies' circle of the Unitarian society for Thursday evening of last week was bravely carried out notwithstanding the loss of their own room and furnishings. The Congregational society kindly offered the use of their vestry and all necessary articles and the supper proved more of a success than usual, although the severe cold might have kept many at home. The tables were laid for 140 and some were obliged to be seated, the supper of plain, substantial food meeting with approval. The committee, Mrs. Annie Wiley, Mrs. H. F. Hobart, Miss Helen Wiley and Miss Bortha Colson. They were assisted by Mrs. Greene and many waiters. The supper was called "patriotic" and the decorations were in keeping with the name. Each table had a centerpiece of evergreen with small flags, and the stage was adorned with bouquets of evergreen and the national colors. The decorations reflected credit on the committee. Miss Helen Wiley, Mrs. M. Robbins and Mrs. Louise Lawrence. Invitations were issued to the members of the first department in recognition of their constant efforts at the time of the recent fire at the Unitarian church. Three tables were reserved for them and many responded. At eight o'clock an entertainment was given which proved highly interesting. A group of about twenty Girl Scouts, under the coaching of Miss Mary Wood, rendered several songs very creditably. "America, My Country" was sung by them as an opening chorus; Betty Hutchinson and Glenn Green sang "Joan of Arc," all the girls joining in the chorus; the Camp Devens song, "The whole world is calling you," was sung by Helen Varsano as solo, with a solo chorus. The Girl Scouts sang a selection to the tune of "The Star Spangled Banner," "The Star Spangled Banner." The literary part of the program included a reading by Mrs. Frank V. Wright and selections from the experiences of Mary A. Livermore as a lecturer by Miss Audrey Burkinshaw, which were both interesting and humorous. Special mention should be made of little Eleanor Greenough, the nine-year-old reader and impersonator, who has given such a safe and effective series of addresses this winter. Her first selection was of patriotic nature. A little girl's wish in which the successful securing of a small article is displayed to advantage. She responded to an encore with "The menagerie's diet," specially chosen for the young portion of her audience. In another selection, "The freckle-faced girl," the little reader showed much skill and adaptation for her varied subjects, but it remained for her final encore, "Mrs. McGlarry on her final hour," by Mrs. McGlarry on her final hour. "Mrs. McGlarry on her final hour," given in fine Irish dialect, to "bring down the house." At the conclusion everyone was laughing and the reported applause called the little miss out to make her bow and asked to be excused. She was easily the star of the evening's entertainment, and all will wish to hear her again. New Advertisements. LOST—A Lady's Open Face Gold Watch on road between Ayer and Middleboro, Wednesday afternoon. Inscription inside of back of case, "Annie M. Frazer, Haverhill, Mass. ADAMC P. BRYANT, Haverhill, Mass.

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WESTFORD

Center. The entertainment committee of the home guard, Fred W. Hartford, chairman, are planning a military dance for January 25. Poole's orchestra, seven pieces, of Boston, will be the attraction for the music, and it is hoped members of the Groton and Concord companies will be guests of the evening.

Walter L. Cutler has recently been in town, visiting his children, one who is with Mr. and Mrs. Williams, at Parkville; two with Mrs. Julian Whitney, and one with Mrs. Alice Lambert.

Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Watson are entertaining as a guest at their home the former's uncle, A. H. Bangert, of Newbern, N. C. Mr. Bangert has been mayor of his home city for four years, but freedom from office this year has given him opportunity for a trip from home, which included Canada and various other places, including a stop with his Westford kinsman.

During the vacation season Mrs. J. Herbert Fletcher gave a very pretty whist party for her son John, Thursday afternoon of last week. There were four tables for the party, and the young people enjoyed a very pleasant afternoon and none more so than the hospitable and genial young host. Delicious and refreshing refreshments were served by Mrs. Fletcher, assisted by Miss Eva E. Fletcher.

The members of the children's dancing class for this season are to have what is expected as a series of social afternoon dancing parties, the first being planned for Thursday afternoon, January 17. Different groups of matrons will be in charge of the afternoon dances, and the same pianist, who played for the dancing lessons, will be in attendance. In line with the spirit of fuel conservation these gatherings are being planned for the Thursday afternoon, that the Grange meets the same evening, requiring less effort to heat the hall.

A wedding took place at the Congregational parsonage Wednesday afternoon when Rev. Howard A. Lincoln united in marriage Arthur Elias Whitney, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Julian Whitney, and Miss Elizabeth Elizabeth Perkins, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Olsen, the latter a sister of the groom, attended the bridal couple. The bride wore white silk with a red and blue sash and carried a bouquet of pink and white flowers. Refreshments were served, and a wedding cake had a place of honor. The young people will live in the house recently occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Perkins in the town of Groton.

The ice storm earlier in the week made hard work for the electric car, stopping its operation. The car went off the track, requiring a force of men to get it back again, and much hard work has been put in clearing the icy rails.

Three little boy babies made their advent into the world on Friday, the last week of December. A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Harry Whitney on Saturday. Mr. and Mrs. Sydney W. Wright were born to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Perkins, Jr. Mr. Perkins is in the army and is located at Camp Gordon, Ga.

Letting out the fire at the William E. Frost school during the vacation may have conserved some fuel, but not plumbing bills. All the water pipes were frozen and extensive repairs will have to be made to the heating plant before school sessions can be resumed. Frozen pipes caused some trouble at the academy, but were thawed out in time for reopening of school on Monday.

The New Year services at the Congregational church last Sunday were of special interest. The pastor's morning subject was "A loss of 6.15 threshold." The next subject was "Becoming a Christian." and at the evening service at seven o'clock Mr. Lincoln's subject was "Asking for greater things." A communion service will be held on the first Sunday in February, when a number of people will be received into fellowship.

An entertaining evening is being planned for next week Saturday evening at the Unitarian church, when Abiel J. Abbot will give one of his enjoyable travel talks. There will be appropriate music and refreshments will be served.

Pleasant word has been received from the Wood's sisters spending the winter in Jackson, Fla. The girls write that they are well and are pleasantly located.

There will be no men's ball this season. The committee of the Edward M. Abbot company reported that the season seemed the best for this season.

The J. V. Fletcher library will be closed on Sundays until further notice. This is done for the purpose of saving fuel.

The John P. Wrights have moved for the winter to the Bright's place. The fuel problem was more easily solved by this change.

George T. Day remains ill at his home and a trained nurse is in attendance.

Charles E. Hildreth has been transferred from Camp Devens to San Antonio, Texas, where he has been promoted to the aviation department of the officers' training camp. He exchanged his position with the late Mr. Mrs. Hildreth, after a short stay with her home people in Hubbardston.

Mrs. Hildreth will be much missed in the Red Cross and French relief work with which she has been so actively identified.

Tadnuck Club. The meeting of the Tadnuck club which was to have been held on Monday afternoon at the Congregational church, was necessarily cancelled. Word came from the speaker and Mrs. Roberts for the afternoon, that all cars were off schedule and that it was impossible to get to Westford for the afternoon. The ever useful telephone was brought into requisition and the members notified in season.

The next meeting, which is to be held on January 21 at the town hall, is the annual guest night, with Mrs. John P. Wright as hostess. The Mendelson quartet will sing and an excellent reader has been secured. Guest tickets are being distributed by Miss

May Day, corresponding secretary. Each member is entitled to one guest ticket, their own membership ticket serving for themselves. Guest tickets are non-transferable and additional tickets can be procured for a small fee. Members are asked to get their tickets without delay so that the hostess may know how many to plan for.

Red Cross. The Red Cross held a fluently attended meeting on Wednesday afternoon at the library, both the sewing room and the surgical dressings rooms being well filled with workers—nearly thirty-five in all.

Mrs. S. Watson, the treasurer, gave the following report: From April 7 to January 1, received 176 members at \$1 each, amounting to \$176; 40 percent retained, \$70.40; balance retained, \$105.60; all donations, etc., amounted to \$2415.72; expenditures amounted to \$1659.31, leaving a balance of \$756.41 on January 1; since January 1 expenditures have been \$235.25, leaving a balance of \$493.16; adding to this, donations, etc., of \$7.22, leaves a balance on hand of \$493.38.

Packed and sent to Red Cross headquarters in Lowell this week is the following splendid consignment: 92 sweaters, 42 helmets, 10 mufflers, 14 caps, 35 pairs wristers, 75 pairs socks, 10 hospital shirts, 30 wash suits, 20 ambulance pillows, 3600 gauze dressings. This represents the work of the entire town, and is a splendid showing of work. The chairman of our local branch appreciates the work of all who have co-operated in this work.

Most appreciative mention should be made of the recent amount of \$33.50 received from Forge Village, the result of the cantata given on December 19, under the direction of the four teachers of the Cameron school and Miss Raynes, musical supervisor.

About Town. The annual parish meeting of the Unitarian church will be held this week Saturday evening in the vestry at eight o'clock.

The house of Arthur Brisson, directly north of North Westford, Tyngsboro line, was destroyed by fire last week Friday. The building was a 2 1/2 story structure and was valued at \$2000. About eighty bushes of potatoes and several other plants were also destroyed. The fire caught near the chimney and roof and indicates a defective chimney.

The postponed installation of the officers of Westford Grange will be held on next week Thursday evening. Mrs. Alice Colburn, of Draught, chaplain of Middlesex-North Pomona Grange, will be the installing officer.

Dr. Varney, the beloved physician of North Chelmsford and other towns, has received a cable that his son, John Varney, is safe in England. Young Varney is a graduate of Dartmouth college, and has been in the army since he volunteered for Y. M. C. A. work in Russia, but owing to recent political upheavals he may not be sent there.

Three boys were born on Friday, January 5, to Mr. and Mrs. Harry Whitney (Sadie McMaster); a son to Mr. and Mrs. Sidney W. Wright, and a son to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Perkins, Jr. Mr. Perkins is at Camp Gordon, Ga., and his wife, Mrs. Perkins was Miss Whitney before her marriage.

January 4 was the fourth birthday of George Taylor Howard, grandson of Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Taylor.

On last week Friday the engine at the Brookside mills became partially unmanageable, owing to needed repairs, closing down the mills until Monday.

The departed Brigham Young, a former of the Mormon church at Salt Lake City, has thirty-seven grandsons and great-grandsons enlisted for liberty and democracy in the United States government.

Extract from Address. The following is from Gov. McCall's address to the recently assembled legislature should be printed in tract form and posted on every farm in New England:

"At the time of the civil war the yield from the farm was almost great enough to feed the people of New England. Her industries were kept in motion almost wholly by her water power, and the wood from her forests provided fuel for the homes and for the operation of the railroads. Only a small amount of coal was brought from New England. But today we rely for much the larger portion of the food we consume upon far distant parts of the country. We require more than 200,000 tons of coal each year, which must be brought to us over long railroad hauls, or after a long voyage upon the sea. The jurisdiction of the commonwealth is not broad enough to give us mastery over the supply of fuel and food, and we are greatly at the mercy of conditions which we cannot control.

"This is a clear statement of facts in regard to New England dependency. This, together with the fact of the serious shortage of food in England, France and Italy, the allowance of which will be regulated by the government by April 1. Such is the food situation of the Allies—serious enough to alarm Washington, and the food situation is much worse in Germany, but we will let them do their own worrying.

"The appeal of last year, both by the nation and state, to the farmers to make a patriotic haste to hustle more food from the ground, is more imperative this year. How many of us carried a lame back last year in a patriotic haste to get more food and are incapacitated this year? How many of us got frightened out of our patriotism for fear we should ever produce a bumper crop? How many of us have dodged behind 'can't get any help' and therefore excused themselves down to a semi-do-nothing as an individual farmer?

"At the time Massachusetts raised nearly 100 percent of its food, but today Massachusetts raises only 15 percent of her food, while our land is less than half productive by any conservative estimate. An easy-going contentment to simply own land and have it plowed and raised in the west and shipped to our thriftlessness was all very quieting while corn was so cheap in the west that it was burned for fuel, and our essential needs had better fall upon the west than upon the east. Farmers are wanted who farm more than making speeches that don't say anything or hit anything or relieve anything.

GOES TO EUROPE. Rev. Vincent Ravi Booth, pastor of a prominent Congregational church in Cambridge, has been granted a

leave of absence for six months by his church so that he may join the American Expeditionary forces in France. He will work under the Red Triangles in France, and then will go to Italy for similar work. Mr. Booth is particularly fitted for the work in Italy, as well as in France. He is the son of a man who was a great worker as an Italian pastor in Italy. His mother was the daughter of a Scotch minister.

At the beginning of this war Mr. Ravi, as he was known, changed his name to that of his mother, Booth. The European laws are such that a naturalized American has a dual citizenship and in time of war the country of his father can claim him and this country can offer him no protection even though he is an American. The legislature granted him permission to use the name of Booth, which was a good American name.

Mr. Booth was highly educated in this country and for a time was the pastor of the M. E. church in West Chelmsford. He married the late Rev. and Mrs. Samuel Virgin, so well known in Congregational circles in New York City. Booth has four children, three daughters and one son, Vincent Ravi Booth, Jr. They make their summer home at the beautiful Virgin estate and will come home to school in the fall. Mr. Booth sailed on January 3 from New York city on the Steamer Rochambeau.

Forge Village. The many friends of Mrs. Hannah Parsons, formerly of this village, will regret to hear that she is seriously ill with pneumonia in Riverside, California. Mr. and Mrs. Parsons left their home in Vancouver, Wash., early in the fall to spend the winter in Southern California. They had several pleasant trips, visiting Long Beach, Los Angeles and San Diego, and were at the home of relatives in Riverside when Mrs. Parsons became ill. It is hoped that the fine climate and mild air will aid in her speedy restoration to health and that later she will be able to make her long-anticipated trip to the East.

The combing, carding and scouring departments of the Abbot Worsted Mills are running three nights a week until nine o'clock. Practically all of the departments where men are employed are running overtime. This is due to rush orders on government work.

The Forge service unit will meet Thursday evening. Surgical dressings are to be made and it is hoped that a large number will be present. A supply of materials, consisting chiefly of gauze for the dressings, has been received from the Red Cross headquarters.

The Girl Scouts will hold their next meeting Thursday evening at St. Andrew's mission with Mrs. Jonathan Harwood of Ayer in charge. Mrs. Fisher and her coming last Thursday to the Girl Scouts was a pleasant surprise to her many friends.

John Sullivan fell on the sidewalk Sunday near the postoffice and severely sprained his ankle.

Miss Emma Miller is very ill with pneumonia at her home here.

Miss Daly of North Chelmsford is substitute teacher in place of Miss Eva L. Fyne at Groton school.

The Daniel Gage Ice Co. of Lowell is cutting ice on Forge pond. This ice is reported to be twenty-nine inches thick. Several of the men were on strike Tuesday for an increase in wages.

Mrs. Albert E. Jones and two children of Worcester spent Christmas day at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Bingham in North Chelmsford.

A pleasant surprise party was held last Saturday night at the home of Mr. and Mrs. James Kelly. The occasion was the seventeenth birthday of their son, John Kelly.

A silver watch by John Galleslager in behalf of the friends assembled. During the evening a supper and dancing were enjoyed until a late hour. Those who contributed to the success of the evening were Misses Annie Kerr, Rose Dare and Annie Keane, Mrs. Thomas May, and William Kelly. Miss Rose Dare and Mrs. Thomas May served the refreshments.

Mrs. Margaret Wilson is confined to her home by illness.

Albert Collins of Salem, N. H., has been a recent guest of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Miles Collins.

Grantville. The members of the Cameron Circle, C. P. A., held their regular meeting in Healy's hall Tuesday evening with a large number in attendance. Much business was transacted and several applicants were admitted to membership.

Well, the back bone of the cold weather appears to be broken and it is needless to say that it is a great relief. The cold has been great and has lessened and some of the men have already begun to follow the slogan of "cut a cord of wood." Judging from the conditions it looks as though they would need several cords before spring.

The members of the Ladies' Aid society of the M. E. church met with Mrs. J. Ellsworth York on Thursday afternoon. The Ladies' Aid are now planning for a sale and entertainment that will be held on two evenings, the latter part of the month.

Many members of the Holy Name society of St. Catherine's church attended the union services that were held in the Sacred Heart church in Lowell on last Sunday night. The trip was made by special electric car that left Forge Village at 6:30 p. m.

Lewis P. Palmer, the well known stone dealer, is now spending the winter months with his daughter and son, Mr. and Mrs. George Snyder, in the "Red" at Westford, formerly the home of George Palmer of this village.

Charles Day of Tampa, Fla., has been a recent guest of his mother, Mrs. Charlotte Day, and Dr. and Mrs. W. H. Sherman.

The public schools were reopened here on last Monday morning, after the customary Christmas and New Year's vacation.

The members of Court Westford, H. C. A., held their regular meeting Thursday night.

New Advertisements

GOOD OPPORTUNITY To get piano at less than half value, returned to us to our district agent. In perfect condition, mahogany upright, as known under the name of the "Lion" brand. Price, \$150.00. Conditions of purchase will be made to suit customer. Address, 2-13

BATES-MITCHELL CO., Care of Turner's Public Spirit, Ayer.

Help Wanted MEN, WOMEN AND GIRLS To work in our webbing mills. Good pay to be made. Apply to D. H. WOODRUFF, 1m19

CONANT, HOUGHTON CO., Inc. 1000 Comm. Mass.

A Leaking Faucet. When the faucets in the bathroom or kitchen leak or do not allow the water to flow freely they cost a few cents each. To put on the washer, turn off the water, the rod is usually under the sink or in the basement, and unscrew the faucet; take off the worn-out washer and slip on a new one and turn your water on again and presto! the work is done and no repair bill to pay.

TWEEDS FOR SCHOOL FROCKS

Are Among the Newest and Also the Most Practical Materials for Girls' Suits.

A charming tweed suit for a school girl is cut on new and becoming lines. In a soft, woolly tweed in a double checked design. It is in black and white, yet the pattern is woven so skillfully that it gives a gray effect that is inconspicuous and splendid to conceal dirt. The skirt is straight and plain, and the loose coat is slightly high waisted, with belt and straps of the same material. It has hip pockets and the ever-becoming flat collar and revers. With this purple shade, hat in velours in a soft purple shade, simply adorned with a band of black ribbon. Tweeds are the newest and most practical wear for girls.

CONTROL PEACH LEAF CURL

Caused by Fungous Disease, Which Produces Reddish Colored Distortion—Spray in Winter.

The curling of the leaves of peach trees is often caused by a fungus disease called leaf curl. This fungus attacks the tissue of the leaf, produces a reddish colored distortion and destroys the leaf as a starch-producing organ. Because of the loss of this foliage the tree is depleted in vitality and the setting of buds for next year's crop greatly reduced.

The fungus becomes active very early in spring, even before the middle of March when the spring opens early and warm. It attacks the swelling bud and gets into the tissues before the leaf is unfolded. Therefore

Dark shades are to be worn this season—the grays, navys, and browns, and the tete-a-tete with dark greens are in vogue.

Handmade Flowers on Hats

Newest Trimming Consists of Calla Lilies, Orchids and Clematis in Varied Colorings.

Quite the newest and most charming thing to do with your hat is to trim it with flowers that are handmade. The shops are showing beautiful things made of chenille and fine nettes. For instance, there are calla lilies, orchids, clematis and tiger lilies, as well as butterflies in varied and brilliant colorings. Many shades of chenille are used to make the butterfly look as if it were poised upon the gown.

The bride is included in the new trimming vogue. Her wreath of new trimming vogue. Her wreath of new trimming vogue. Her wreath of new trimming vogue.

Nimble fingers can make most attractive flowers out of hand-tinted ribbons. One sees morning glories, poppies, pansies, sweet peas, etc., all of the tinted ribbon.

ZOUAVES WILL BE POPULAR

Idea Applied to Both Skirt and Jacket in Collection of Spring Models—From Paris.

Possibly the most salient feature of the collection of models for spring brought over to New York from Paris is the prominence of the zouave idea. This does not apply only to the skirt, but for the elongated jacket is a feature of the zouave dress, as is also the bound-in hipline, and these features are all repeated and played upon in this collection.

While it may not seem that there is anything startlingly new in a dropped waistline, the manner in which the hips are bound, the jacket and the showing of the blouse section under the jacket is distinctive. It produces really another silhouette which, although narrow, is not straight and binds in around the hips.

ORDER FRUIT TREES EARLY

Nurserymen Always Give Such Customers Best Stock They Have—Better Service Assured.

Much will be gained by making out the order for fruit trees and sending it in early. Nurserymen always appreciate early orders and give such customers the best stock they have to offer. They then have plenty of time to enter such orders and one may depend upon better service than when the order is sent in late when there is a rush.

Trees are not dug till they become dormant after the first frost. Digging and labeling trees and getting ready to pack and ship make the nurseryman a very busy man. He will take care of your order any time, but he is in a better position to serve you if you send the order early. Besides, late in the season nurserymen are likely to sell out of some standard varieties and not be able to fill orders sent in very late. But early orders have the preference.

ANNUAL SPRAYING FOR SCALE

Use of Combined Contact Insecticide is Preferred—Apply During Dormant Season.

Since annual spraying for scale is necessary the use of a combined contact insecticide is preferred. The best among these are lime-sulphur and scalecide, a miscible oil. Spraying at any time during the dormant season will give results for both scale and the leaf curl, but it is conceded that early spring is best for both purposes.

It is very essential to spray thoroughly to get good results as any bud left uncovered will be likely to develop curl leaf if the season is at all favorable to the development of the fungus.

PREVENT SPREAD OF BLIGHT

Infected Branches Must Be Carefully Destroyed and Instruments Should Be Sterilized.

Blight in fruit trees can only be cured by cutting out all infected branches. These must be carefully destroyed to prevent further spread. Furthermore, the instruments should be sterilized after each cut in a solution of corrosive sublimate in water, 1 to 1,000, as an additional precaution against infection. Paint cuts with white lead and linseed oil to protect against decay.

History of the Louvre.

The Louvre was originally a royal residence. Napoleon turned it into a museum and deposited in it the finest collection of paintings, statues and art treasures known in the world. Many of those brought from Italy have been restored to their rightful possessors. The magnificent buildings of the new Louvre, begun by Napoleon I and completed by Napoleon III, were inaugurated by Napoleon III in 1877.

A cut lemon rubbed on fishy knives and forks takes away the smell at once.



Horticultural Advice

CONTROL PEACH LEAF CURL

Caused by Fungous Disease, Which Produces Reddish Colored Distortion—Spray in Winter.



Badly Pruned Peach Tree.

spraying after the disease is noticed is practically of no value because the spray cannot get at the pores of the fungus. Spraying must be done when these spots are dormant or in their winter stage. Therefore the spraying should be done before the middle of March in ordinary seasons or earlier in seasons which are advanced.

There are a number of fungicides which will keep this trouble in check. The standard remedy used to be copper sulphate at the strength of two pounds to 50 gallons of water. This proved very efficient, but it was difficult to tell whether all parts of the tree were covered or not. Bordeaux mixture, made of four pounds of copper sulphate and five pounds of lime, also does good work and is better than copper sulphate because it leaves a mark by which one can tell whether the entire tree has been covered.

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A cut lemon rubbed on fishy knives and forks takes away the smell at once.

Jewelry Watches Diamonds RINGS BROOCHES HAIR GOODS BOSTON Winter Street Homer's AYER W. Main St.

Rayo Lamps THE STUDY HOUR Abraham Lincoln learned to read by the fitful flare of pine knots in the log cabin fireplace. It was a gruelling trial for his eyes, and an indication of his indomitable will to succeed. Our young folks don't have to study by a flickering fireplace light. They have the Rayo Lamp that makes hours of study into hours of comfort. RAYO LAMPS give a soft, mellow light that does not irritate the eyes. You light a Rayo without removing either chimney or shade. Easy to re-wick and keep clean. Use So-Co-Kerosene for best results. STANDARD OIL CO. OF NEW YORK PRINCIPAL OFFICES NEW YORK BUFFALO ALBANY BOSTON

Silverwear Diamonds Pendants Brooches Rings Bracelets Scarf Pins Cuff Links Military Wrist Watches Gentlemen's Sets of All Kinds

John H. Sanderson WATCHMAKER and JEWELER 2 PLEASANT ST. Rear of Fletcher Bros. Store AYER, MASS.

Dr. F. R. McGrail SHIRLEY GASH MARKET Formerly of Peppercorn, with Dr. R. H. Wylie - Dentist Barry Block, Ayer 7w15

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex ss. Probate Court. To the heirs-at-law, next of kin, and all other persons interested in the estate of MARTHA REBECCA PRESCOTT late of Chicago in the County of Cook and State of Illinois, deceased, who died testate, a petition has been presented to said Court, by LOUIS J. STONE executor of the last will and testament of said deceased, and of the probate thereof in said State of Illinois, duly authenticated, representing that at the time of her death, said deceased had estate in said County of Middlesex, deceased, which said County of Middlesex, deceased, which the copy of said will may be filed and recorded in the Registry of Probate of said County of Middlesex, and letters testamentary thereon granted to ELIOTT S. RICE and EDWINA PRESIDENT, and the said executors therein named without requiring sureties on their bond, and in case after being duly cited for the purpose they neglect to accept the same or neglect for twenty days after the probate of said will, then that letters of administration with the will annexed be issued to said petitioner. You are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court, to be held at Cambridge, in said County of Middlesex, on the seventh day of February, A. D. 1918, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, to show cause, if any you have, why the same should not be granted. And said petitioner is hereby directed to give public notice thereof by publishing this citation once in each week, for three successive weeks, in Turner's Public Spirit, a newspaper published in Ayer, the first publication to be thirty days, at least, before said Court. Witness, Charles J. McIntire, Esquire, First Justice of said Court, this twenty-seventh day of December in the year one thousand nine hundred and seventeen. F. M. ESTY, Registrar.

Engraved Cards Business and Social Wedding Stationery Card Showings STYLES and PRICES Willingly Furnished 50 Engraved Cards in Script, \$1.35 Public Spirit Office, Ayer.

CUTFLOWERS, PLANTS, FLORAL DESIGNS, ETC. HARDY ORNAMENTAL TREES, SHRUBS AND VINES

Poultry Wanted H. Huebner Florist Will Pay the Highest Prices in the Market for Good Poultry Telephone 51-2 Peppercorn DAVID SAFERSTAN 33 Greenhouse near Groton School.

ONE DOLLAR AND FIFTY CENTS PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

GEORGE H. A. TURNER, Publisher

Subscribers are urged to keep their subscriptions paid in advance.

The daily laborer of the Bee, Awake my soul to industry; Who can observe the careful Ant, And not provide for future want?

Saturday, January 12, 1918.

AYER

News Items. William M. Proft, who has been home on a furlough from his duties on the U. S. S. Vermont, left last week Friday for Yorktown, Va., to resume his position.

Last week Friday evening a car which it is claimed by the police to be owned by George P. Corbett, of New Bedford and J. F. Virtuo, of Ayer, and driven by Martin Brady, a sixteen-year-old boy of South Groveland, crashed into a tree on West Main street, a short distance east of the intersection of that thoroughfare and Union street.

A daughter weighing seven pounds was born to Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Cole at the Clinton hospital last week Friday morning. Mother and child are doing nicely.

Oliver P. Robbins, a frequent visitor at the home of his aunt, Mrs. W. H. Landry, at the Willows, and now with his wife, Mrs. E. M. Landry, has joined the aviation corps in that section, being one of three accepted out of forty-eight candidates.

Miss Charlotte Sanderson, daughter of Judge and Mrs. Sanderson, assisted at a party given by Rev. John P. Dillingham to introduce their daughter, Miss Pauline Dillingham, a member of this season's Sewing circle, to eighty guests at the theatre, Boston, last Saturday afternoon.

Mrs. Alice L. Bull, of Boston, is visiting her sister, Mrs. John P. Turner, for several days. Mrs. Turner, her sister, who is with the Riker-Jaynes Liggett Company, Boston, was here over the last week-end with Mrs. Turner.

Last Sunday was an interesting day at the Baptist church. It being the first Sunday in the new year the pastor took for his text the words of Paul, "This is the day which is behind, and things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before."

The quartet which gave a very pleasing concert in the church on Thursday evening. Some of the selections which deserve special mention are "When the boys come home," sung by Mrs. Dudley, assisted by other members of the quartet, and a group of songs sung to the accompaniment of harjo and mandolin.

The registrars of voters will be in session in the selectmen's room, town house, on Saturday, January 17, from seven to nine p. m., and on Sunday, January 20, from twelve noon till ten p. m., continuously, for the purpose of registering voters who wish to vote at the annual meeting, which falls on Monday, February 4.

In as much as both the school physician and the board of health are jointly engaged in the same work of protecting the health of children both in school and out of school, and have for this work the services of the public health nurse in common, they have combined their efforts in the town, so that both school and board of health records may be brought together to form one complete record of children of school age.

A regular communication of Caleb Butler lodge of Masons will be held on Monday evening at seven o'clock sharp. Work—Entered Apprentice degree.

Mrs. Annie M. Fisher has returned to her home in Chazy, N. Y., after a holiday visit in Ayer with her son and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Fisher.

The W. C. T. U. held a very interesting meeting at the White Ribbon Home, East Main street, last week Friday afternoon. After the business session was over a short entertainment of readings and singing was given by the union, followed by an address by Dr. Luntz and other speakers.

At the meeting of the Unitarian Girls' club on Wednesday evening the following officers were chosen for the ensuing year: Mrs. S. G. Croton, president; Mrs. Lillian Sanderson, treasurer; Mrs. Wylie, custodian.

Married in Ayer on January 9, at the White Ribbon Home, East Main street, by Rev. J. W. Thomas, Arthur D. Cole, a soldier at Camp Devens, and Winona Tacey, of Lunenburg.

Representative Frank A. Torrey, of Groton, filed a bill in the house of representatives Monday for an increase in the salary of the justice of the first district court of Northern Middlesex.

The work of these mechanics has been postponed.

The adjourned parish meeting of the Unitarian church will be held on Thursday evening, January 17, at eight o'clock at the Federation House on West Main street.

William C. Jackson, who is at work in a factory in Connecticut, and whose family have been visiting in Connecticut, returns to town on January 28 and will occupy their residence on Washington street which has been let to an officer's family while they have been away. Mr. Jackson expects to go back and forth to his work in Connecticut daily.

Ayer council, C. conferred the first degree on three candidates at a special meeting held last Sunday afternoon. For other Ayer matter see the opposite page.

Clipping. The following, under the caption "War-time church union," appeared recently in the editorial column of the Boston Herald. "If the churches of the nation would not help it to win a war for righteousness, to whom should we look for a good example? Not by words can the victory be achieved; only by deeds. Sermons that ring true to duty will inspire and encourage, but far more than can be accomplished by the preacher in the pulpit, the work has to be done by the people in the pew. Churches that now hang out service flags or put up rolls of honor in the vestibule, are doing a good thing, which is most essential, the contribution of their young manhood to the cause. There are other necessary contributions, and the churches are not backward with either money or handiwork. Still there is something more to do, something not in the way of giving but of womanhood in the way of manhood and womanhood in the churches can share."

Where a small town or a city district has two, three or more protestant churches, the united congregations of which could be seated in one of the buildings, why should there not be a community of assembly and service during the war for the sake of economy in these times of men and money? This is a question which has seriously engaged the attention of the leaders in the Unitarian denomination, and the directors of its national organization have now asked the churches to give careful consideration to the possibility of a union of the churches for the winter or for the duration of the war. Mention of the winter suggests at once the saving of fuel which may be effected in the interest of the whole country by the heating of buildings in places where several have been heated hitherto for public worship. That we should all be as sparing as possible in the use of coal and wood is necessary. In this the churches can greatly help.

It seems reasonable to believe that the united services of the churches would reduce their expenses without impairing their efficiency. Indeed, the efficiency might be increased. The same large number of clerical men would be set free for direct war service. To many of them this freedom would be exceedingly welcome. The union of the churches for the winter is given them by the law. Their preference is for equality, allowing them to take their places as men and women, where duty and danger go together. For this reason alone the most of the young ministers would be glad if the federation plan were carried out by their church managers and members for the duration of the war. And would it not be spiritually beneficial, enabling the various denominations to see better how much of "pure religion and undefiled" they hold in common, and how vastly more vital and precious it is than the points of theology and polity on which they differ, as far as practicable, for the perfecting of that national unity and universal helpfulness which the defence of freedom requires.

Federation Notes. The union services on Sunday in our auditorium were particularly well attended, and enjoyed by all.

The cross upon our building indicates that the motive which dominates all of our work, social, physical and religious, is Christian religion in this day and age. We interpret to mean not merely a single act of devotion, but a symmetrical building up of the whole man. Therefore, we conclude that a bath, a game of bowling and even the gift of shelter to a stranger at night when but for that shelter he would walk the streets, are proper means of religious service. All these are pleasing to the one in whose name we work.

Our social secretary, Mrs. Gilson, has been able to find sweaters and helmets for several boys about to go across. We can use more.

Our deaconess, Miss Miggins, plans to put in some of her time in visiting the base hospital. She is also a registered nurse as well as a deaconess.

We thank Miss Dodge's Sunday school class for the gift of a quilt; Mrs. J. B. Lewis of Pepperell for a clock cover; Mrs. Parks of Ayer for a fine army blanket, and Mrs. Mary Nutting of Brooklyn for twenty-five fine books of fiction. Mr. J. J. Webb of Ayer for a coffee percolator. It is fine to have friends like these!

Lieut. and Mrs. Bartlett arrived last Saturday at Mrs. M. L. Savage's, Washington street, and have the apartments there for the winter.

Officers Installed. About 150 were present at the installation of officers of Caleb Butler lodge of Masons on Monday evening. An excellent supper was served at seven o'clock, prepared by Mrs. E. H. Bigelow. The officers were installed by Mr. Bertrand H. Perkins, assisted by Frank S. Pierce, as marshal. After the installation a fine entertainment was given by the Weber male quartet, ten members of the choir, and the Wilcox of Boston, reader, who entertained the Masons and their guests with a number of excellent selections. A number of soldiers from the camp were guests of the lodge. The following is a list of the new officers: Ellis B. Harlow, m.; Kimball W. Martin, s.w.; Earl C. Merriman, Shirley, j.w.; E. A. Richardson, treasurer; E. Bigelow, sec.; Warren L. Preble, chap.; Philip R. Andrew, marshal; Herbert H. Proctor, s.d.; William C. Jackson, l.d.; Timothy Cleary, s.a.; Theophilus G. Smith, Jr., Groton, j.c.; Frank E. Cash, l.s.; William B. Robinson, organist; Eli W. Carley, tyler.

The "Burling" train that leaves Ayer at 3:00 p. m. for Greenville, discontinued.

Train leaving Ayer at 12:22 p. m. for Montreal, discontinued.

Train leaving Ayer at 8:14 for Fitchburg and Keene, N. H., will leave at 9:27.

Train leaving Ayer at 6:48 p. m. for Boston, will leave at 8:40 p. m.

The train that arrives at Ayer from Groton Sunday morning will be discontinued.

Train leaving Ayer at 3:22 p. m. for Boston, discontinued, and will be moved by train No. 4 leaving about an hour later.

The Boston and Maine railroad has been called upon to transport during last year, 5500 carloads of miscellaneous freight for the Ayer cantonment. It is estimated that approximately more than 100,000 soldiers have been run during the past year.

Unique Entertainment. In offering Miss Marion Wilson in her unique and clever costume character studies, the S. A. S. A. P. and Red Cross societies present an artistic and interesting entertainment. The program is a series of character studies, and the costumes are of a most original and artistic nature. The program is a series of character studies, and the costumes are of a most original and artistic nature.

Clipping. The following is taken from the Electrical Record of January, 1918: "Byas & Clark, 81, Ayer, Mass., have been awarded the contract for the electrical work in remodeling the old Globe Hotel which will be known as 'Hotel Devens.' This contractor is installing the wiring and furnishing fixtures. When the remodeling job is completed at a total cost of \$25,000, this hotel will be one of the finest of its kind in the city. The firm is doing the electrical work in rebuilding a restaurant which recently was destroyed by fire, due to the explosion of a kerosene lamp. Electrical apparatus is being installed throughout to eliminate the hazard of gasoline and kerosene cooking appliances."

Alliance. The Alliance is planning to hold a military whist in Hardy's hall on January 13. The social afternoon for this month will, accordingly, be postponed to Thursday, January 24, and will be held at the home of Mrs. Benjamin Tapp, with Mrs. Tapp, Mrs. Robert Murphy and Mrs. Stella Furnsworth as hostesses.

A large number of members and guests enjoyed an interesting meeting at the home of Mrs. Albert M. Phelps on Thursday evening, January 10. Mrs. Phelps acted as hostess. During the business session which opened as usual with "America" and the Lord's prayer, by the Alliance, and a reading of "America, the beautiful," by the president, the following men of the Unitarian church now in the service, Capt. H. B. Priest, George and Fred Barrows, Theodore Clark, Victor Filibrown, William Gray, Roger Lawrence and Harry McQuesten. After a short intermission an enjoyable program was given of piano solos by Miss Pollard of Harvard, vocal solo by Mrs. Sanders, and a recitation by Mr. Conrad. Mr. Conrad was always welcome on Ayer programs. Prof. Pollard's playing was followed by a recitation of pleasure by his many friends in the audience. At the close of the meeting dainty refreshments were served by the hostesses.

K. P. Installation. The officers of Harbinger lodge, K. P., were installed Monday evening by Frank L. Paine, of Arlington, deputy grand chancellor, and his suite, all of the University of Chicago. The installation was composed of John W. Dryden, acting grand vice chancellor; Scott Sanborn, acting grand prelate; Clarence Atkinson, acting grand keeper of records and seal; Hester K. H. acting grand inler guard; William Clark, acting master at arms. The installation was attended by members and their families. The following were present: Frank E. Harmon, e.c.; George E. Milson, v.c.; L. B. Tuttle, prel.; John M. Wallace, m.w.; Walter C. Winslow, m.c.; John C. Davenport, m.e.; Marj Pentak, m.a.; Charles H. Harris, o.g.; John C. Davenport, was presented a past chancellor's jewel by Deputy Paine, the gift coming from the lodge.

The work of installation was done in a first-class manner and was greatly appreciated. After the installation the gifts coming from the lodge, grand chancellor, took charge of the meeting and called upon the installing officers for remarks. Others who spoke were George E. Milson, Walter C. Winslow and others.

There was an excellent entertainment before the installation exercises. The contributors to this feature were Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Priest, who gave several readings and the playlet, "For he's a jolly good fellow"; Miss Annie Tuttle and Mrs. Nellie Furnald, in vocal and piano selections. Mrs. and Mrs. Fairchild gave their usual fine entertainment and responded to several queries. A feature that was greatly enjoyed was the singing and playing of Little Floy Furnald, only ten years of age, who surprised all by her remarkable work. She had never seen a piano until she came here to live four months ago. Since that time she has learned to play the piano without any instruction whatever.

She is giving with her mother, Mrs. Nellie Furnald, at the home of L. B. Tuttle, Mr. Tuttle being Mrs. Furnald's uncle.

A fine buffet lunch, served in the banquet room, brought to a close a very pleasant occasion. Several soldiers were present from Camp Devens, one being a member of the Knights of Pythias, Private Cook, of Tennessee.

District Court. Alfred H. Dexter, of South Boston, was found guilty last Saturday morning of a violation of the motor vehicle law, which requires lights to be burning on automobiles from one half hour before sunset until half an hour before sunrise on the following day. He was fined five dollars and costs. A complaint against Dexter specified that no rear light was burning on his machine during the above period. In accordance with the usual custom in cases when the defendant is not represented by counsel, the court asked Dexter if he cared to say anything in his own behalf regarding the issue on trial. Dexter made an earnest appeal in which he stated that he had lighted the lamp on his machine, but in going over the rough road it was extinguished at the time he was in view of the testimony submitted. Judge Atwood failed to be moved by the appeal and imposed the above fine.

Marion Brady, of South Groveland, and George P. Corbett, of New Bedford, were arraigned on complaints for operating an automobile without license. The complaint against Brady was not pressed as he was but sixteen years of age, there being in the juvenile class of offenders. He was allowed to depart on condition that he go to his home, which he promised to do. Corbett, however, was found guilty and was ordered to pay a fine of ten dollars. According to Brady's story he was permitted to run the car by Corbett, who had charge of it. Max Norcross, of Worcester, was found guilty of a like offense and was ordered to contribute five dollars.

John Sahalla, of Fitchburg, was found guilty of drunkenness and of an indecent speech and behavior on a passenger train coming from Boston. The fact that he had no previous court record and that he has a wife and several small children to support, inclined the court to be lenient with him. He was placed on probation for three months.

Fred Weshire of Shirley was arraigned Tuesday morning on complaints for cruelty to animals and for drunkenness. By request of Chief of Police Riley of Shirley the case was continued till this Saturday morning.

John S. Martin of Ayer was found guilty of evading fare on passenger conduct on a Lowell and Fitchburg electric car. On the first named complaint he was fined five dollars and on the other complaint ten dollars.

First Unitarian Parish, Federated and St. Andrew's churches—Federation House, West Main street. 10:45—Morning service. Music, anthem, "Hear, O Lord," Watson, quartet; response, "Lovest thou me?" Lambert; Mrs. W. E. Beckford, Harold True Shattuck, organist; Preacher, Rev. Rollin S. Tuttle; subject, "Excelsior." Union session, of church schools at twelve.

7:00—Evening service. Special music choir, Federated church, organist, Charles A. Normand, soloist, Rev. Angus Dun; subject, "Pharisaism."

The union services last Sunday were marked by large congregations and a spontaneous spirit of cooperation among the people of the several christian churches. Not a small part of the success of the venture is due to the simplicity of the plan of cooperation. The ministers have charge of the service and preach in turn. The organists serve in turn. Likewise the musicians from the churches in town. Regular contributors use the envelopes of their respective churches. The program is divided into two equal parts. The hymns of the Congregational church, which contains nearly all the majestic and well-loved hymns of the historic christian church, is used. The churches have contributed the various accessories used in the service. The decorations, cross, vases and alms basins are from the several churches, the pulpit and bible are from the Methodist church. The ministers have planned to make the morning services as a rule, and the evening services will be informal and will include a large use of hymns.

Ordered to Vacate. The official notice of the United States government to the owners of Woods Village that they would have to vacate their homes before January 1, came as a distinct shock to the inhabitants. The reason advanced for this action was that the houses were within the path of the Camp Devens rifle range. During the past week the army has struck the houses in the village, one of the houses of Frank Kemp, striking his daughter, Mrs. Kemp.

There have been rumors that the land embraced in the limits of the village would be taken some time ago, but such action was not taken the inhabitants of the village were not disturbed by the removal from their homes. The government, through the Camp Devens officials, were content to wait until the summer of 1917, when the village was to be vacated. The government has now decided to vacate the village before the summer of 1917.

The taking of the village by the government means the passing of one of the oldest settlements in this part of the country. Its industrial history dates from the year 1814, when Joseph Hecroet a wheelwright shop there. This business continued for three years when the shop was sold to Joseph Estabrook by the owner. Mr. Estabrook continued in the business until 1825, when it passed into the possession of Andrew Shattuck. After five years the business was assumed by Harvey Woods and brothers, who greatly improved and enlarged the facilities. Later, the business passed into the possession of Moses Woods, and from him to Henry Brown and others. Mr. W. W. Wing later assumed control of the business.

These men manufactured carriages of all descriptions. They also made harnesses and some kinds of upholstery for several years. A feature that annually made at this establishment 500 railroad carts, and in the time of the Mexican war and during the war of 1861, the military baggage wagons and ambulances were also manufactured here, and the proprietors enjoyed a well earned reputation for their fidelity as business operators. The entire plant, equipment and boarding house were destroyed by fire in 1871, which was supposed to be the deed of an incendiary. In honor of the Woods brothers the present town named Woods Village, which name it bears to this day.

In the year 1856 Alvin White and William White purchased the estate of the late Peter Pace, located on Mulpus brook, and connected with which was a saw mill. Later they added a basket factory. By the use of modern machinery they were able to add 20,000 baskets per year.

In 1861 Alvin White disposed of his interest in the estate to his brother and purchased another higher up the river, which was greatly enlarged and improved. William White and Edwin White continued the business at the old stand, making an average of 12,000 baskets per annum. In addition they conducted a saw mill for making staves and shingles. Several years ago the property passed into the possession of L. W. Phelps, the present owner. The Woods brothers mentioned in this article are well-known former residents of Ayer. Harvey Woods, one of the brothers, conducted a grocery store for many years in what was formerly known as Woods' block on Main street. Moses Woods conducted the saw mill shop on Colburn street for many years. After his retirement the business passed into other hands. A few years ago the basketmill shop was torn down after being unused for several years.



MONDAY, JANUARY 14 WILL BE SEEN AT W.M. S. HART Page Hall Theatre, Ayer IN ONE OF HIS BEST PICTURES "THE NARROW TRAIL" An unusual interest is attached to "THE NARROW TRAIL," written by the famous interpreter of the Wild West, WILLIAM S. HART, who built it around a series of narratives told him by a friend of the early pioneer days. During a trip out West William Hart was met by Richard Wainwright, who knew William Hart's father well, and had given "Bill his first lesson in horsemanship. Wainwright was a dashing cowpuncher in those days and was the boy's ideal and model. It was from this meeting with its stories of the early days, that "The Narrow Trail" was evolved. Hart, on his return to the coast, spent his hard-earned vacation in jotting down these narratives and weaving into them a wealth of dramatic fiction. There is in the picture much that is of historical value as a record of the time, which, although recent, has become almost a dream of the past. And there is much of the real William S. Hart in it.

MATINEE EVERY DAY AT 3 O'CLOCK Saturdays and Holidays at 2 o'clock TWO PERFORMANCES EVERY EVENING—6 and 8 o'clock Each Monday the management will endeavor to show one of the foremost stars appearing in Paramount and Arcraft pictures, the finest productions in the world, including Mary Pickford, Douglas Fairbanks, Geraldine Farrar, Marguerite Clark, Julian Eltinge and William S. Hart. Coming—Monday, January 14—GERALDINE FARRAR in "The Woman God Forgot"

P. Donlon & Co. Cash Discount Store. Now that the time for giving is over, women are beginning to think of something for themselves. January is one of the best months of the year in our CORSET DEPARTMENT. We have just received the new Spring Models in the R. & G. Royal Worcester and Her Majesty Corsets at the following prices: R. & G. \$1, \$1.25, \$1.50, \$2, \$2.50. Royal Worcester \$1, \$1.50, \$2, \$2.50. Her Majesty \$1, \$1.25, \$1.50. Pink Models \$1, \$1.50, \$2, \$2.50. BRASSIERES. Hamburg Trimmed and Plain Models; also Tailored Models. 50c. and 59c.

P. Donlon & Co. H.H. Proctor. NEVER BEFORE HAVE WE HAD SUCH A STOCK OF GOODS. Union Cash Market Ayer, Mass. Sleds \$1.50 to \$1.50. Skates \$1.00 to \$5.00. Cello Hot Water Bottles \$2.00-\$3.00. Razors \$2.00 to \$3.00. Razor Straps \$2.50 to \$2.00. Safety Razors \$1.00 to \$7.50. Thermos Bottles \$1.50 to \$3.00. Thermos Lunch Sets \$3.00-\$3.25. Flash Lights \$5c. to \$3.50. Three Coin Banks \$1.50. U. S. Shell Banks \$1.25. Coffee Percolators \$1.50 to \$6.50. Pocket Knives \$5c. to \$2.50. Casseroles \$1.50 to \$3.00. Parker Fountain Pens \$1.50 to \$6.00. Alarm Clocks \$1.50 to \$3.00. Food Choppers \$1.75-\$2.95. Sod Irons \$1.85. Sterno Stoves \$5c.-\$1.25. SHREDDED WHIT 13c. pkg. CORNFLAKES 10c. pkg. HORSE FOR SALE CHEAP FOR CASH. I. G. Dwinell DRUG STORE AYER. Fine Groceries and Hardware. Depot Square Ayer, Mass.

LITTLETON

News Items. Capt. Jonathan H. Harwood, who has been transferred to Camp Devens now and serves there in the same capacity. Mrs. Harwood is engaged in Girl Scout work.

Much damage is reported as having resulted last week from the extreme cold that nipped the vegetables and fruit stored in some cellars. More would have been done had not great precautions been taken.

A lively blaze was discovered belching forth from a chimney in James McNeill's house on Tahattawan road last week.

Mrs. Emma K. Lemley goes to Washington, D. C. for the remaining winter months.

Miss Eleanor Hill is visiting relatives in Portland, Me.

Miss Jennie Sawyer, local telegraph operator, is temporarily filling the same office at Westminster, takes Miss Sawyer's place in Littleton.

Mrs. Edwin N. Robinson is suffering from a severe cold, requiring medical treatment, and remaining in bed for several days.

Robert Wood is very sick with a genuine case of the grippe.

Mrs. P. S. Whitcomb recently entertained her daughters and their families—Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Rowland, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Rowland, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Rowland, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Rowland.

The surgical dressings workers, of Newtown met with Mrs. A. R. Rowland, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Rowland, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Rowland.

The annual meetings of the Congregational church, of Newtown, and the dinner are planned for Saturday, January 19.

The Woman's Missionary society of the Baptist church will be held on Wednesday afternoon, January 19.

Miss Sarah Priest has been staying in the home of Mrs. A. R. Rowland, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Rowland.

Mrs. Maud Caulkins, who underwent an operation at the Lowell General hospital, is reported convalescent.

A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Robert McGray, of Pingreeville, Monday, January 7, at the Clinton hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Woodbury, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Kimball, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Flagg and his sister, Miss Flagg, attended the installation of officers at Caleb Cutler, leader of Masons in Ayer, Monday evening and heard an exceedingly entertaining program by the Weber quartet of Boston and a very talented reader, Miss Dorothy Wilcox, of Boston.

All schools but the seventh and eighth grades opened on Monday, and those grades began the winter term on Tuesday.

The regular sewing meeting of the Alliance will be held with Mrs. W. H. Davis on Friday, January 13, when Mrs. Gilson, parish assistant and community worker in Ayer, will speak on her activities in Ayer. A large attendance is urged.

H. J. Riemick has installed a telephone at his residence on Taylor street—3-12.

Mrs. A. M. Parker and Miss Julia S. Conant have combined their housekeeping at the home of the latter for the winter months.

BROOKLINE, N. H.

News Items. Mrs. L. S. Powers is at home after a sojourn in Boston. Lewie People has been visiting with friends in Winchendon, Mass.

Mrs. Charles Dunbar visited her daughter, Mrs. Charles Pingree, of Fitchburg, last week Wednesday.

The little son of Mrs. Edward Mosher has been ill with scarlet fever.

Ruth Andrews has been spending her vacation at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Andrews.

Milo Porter is employed in Townsend, making his home with Mr. and Mrs. George Keegan.

Mrs. O. D. Henderson spent a day last week with her daughter, Mrs. Clarence Morse, of Fitchburg.

Mrs. Elorlus C. Fessenden visited in Pepperell on last week Wednesday.

Miss Esther Farnsworth has returned to her school duties at the Perkins Institute, Misses Jessie and Frances to their school in Merrimack, Mass.

Andrew Marshall has come to Sutherland, Mass., to work at the ship yard.

Work on the new home of Mr. and Mrs. Hadley and Mr. Larson, at Mr. Hadley's house on Mill street with Mr. Gould, of Cambridge, installed as cook.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Powers returned home from Fitchburg.

Edward Kelley, with his wife and son Arthur, began their home life at the parsonage on last week Friday.

On account of the extremely cold weather Mrs. Kelley has had to move her household goods here but members of the parish have made the house very home-like for her.

Much interest has been manifested by the families who have been invited by the church to attend the trial of the fire department held its monthly meeting last Saturday evening.

William Hall spent Sunday and Monday at home.

The Ladies Aid of the Congregational church held their annual meeting at the church parlor on Monday afternoon.

All schools opened this week. Miss Marshall, of Provincetown, and Miss Aho, of New Ipswich, have returned to their schools. They make their home with Mrs. William Hall.

A collection for the suffering Armenians was taken in the Sunday school on January 8. With the collection and generous contributions from outside friends, ten dollars was obtained.

WOULD NOT ACCEPT HUNDRED

Forty Pounds' Compensation for Damages on Railroad, All Old Covenanters Would Have. One of the first railways laid in North Britain connected the ancient city of Perth with Aberdeen. In Chambers Journal there is a pleasant picture of a staunch old covenanter at Whithorn who was subjected to a loss that called for compensation from the railway company.

DAY OF DETAILS

It is "Little Things" That Make or Mar the Toilet. Original and Striking Designs Shown by Paris Dressmakers Are Not Difficult to Copy. This is indeed the "day of little things" in matters of dress. It is in the details of the toilet that success, or complete want of success, lies.

ONE'S INABILITY TO SLEEP

Insomnia May Be Overcome by Forgetting About It and Avoiding Unnecessary Excitement. If you don't sleep well don't worry about it. Your lack of sleep isn't going to kill you or drive you insane. That is the substance of the advice given by a doctor writing in the American Magazine.

USE TURNOVER COLLAR MUCH

Extends to the Waistline in Many Street Dresses—Trimness and Simplicity Noticeable. Loose panels or plaited panels, in varied lengths, predominate in street dresses, and there is a preponderance of the turnover collar extending to the waistline.

FASHION'S FANCIES

Detachable tunics—a new note. Plaids and stripes for sports wear. Bags to match the new fall hat! Dull wood brown—a new color arrival. The great hats of ceremony are as towering as a Chinese pagoda.

Origin of "Bankrupt"

Few words have so remarkable a history as "bankrupt." The money changers of Italy had benches or stalls in the bourse or exchange in former times. At these they conducted their ordinary business.

Edward's Diplomacy

Edward had been told repeatedly not to say he did not like food which was passed to him at the table. He was invited to a neighbor's to dinner and was offered cherry pie, which he did not care for. He tactfully said, "Well, I'm just crazy for cherry pie, but won't you just save it for supper?"

Fish which contain few bones may be cooked into fillets by dividing the flesh from the backbone in long, wide strips, and then removing any smaller bones. Sides supply the best fillets.

THE DEAD PAST

By CECILLE LANGDON. (Copyright, 1915, Western Newspaper Union.)

"I am glad you have found a friend at your new place of work, Roland," said Mrs. Vincent. "He's a good friend, too," replied Roland Vincent. "It was awful strange and awkward the first day or two, for you see, I knew nobody among my fellow workers, and it isn't much like school, I thought they would say I wouldn't do when I blundered and made mistakes half a dozen times. Then my new friend, who has charge of the stock room, spoke to me and told me to see him at the lunch hour."



The Blouse Coatee.

de sole, with a beautiful gilet, or waistcoat, of putty-colored canvas cloth embroidered in royal blue and rust-red wools. The straight lines which run across the waistcoat are royal blue, in the thick soft wool which we used to call "double-berlin, and the wool is attached to the canvas cloth after the manner of soutache or braid. Then the little ronds are worked in rust-red wool in a simple crewel stitch.

FRUITS NEED GOOD DRAINAGE

Even More Important for Orchard Than for Other Farm Crops—Look After Outlets. Fruit farm drainage is even more important than draining for farm crops, as fruit plants, shrubs, vines and trees will not thrive in wet soil.

SLOPING LAND FOR ORCHARD

To Be Preferred for Fruit Trees, Other Things Being Equal—Has Better Drainage. As a rule, it is doubtless safe to assume that a site having a moderate slope in some direction is to be preferred for orchard purposes, other things being equal, to one that is level.

VALUE OF BEES RECOGNIZED

Many Fruits Do Not Produce and Distribute Pollen on Their Own Stigmas—Bees Help. Fruit growers recognize the value of bees for distributing pollen. There are many fruits that do not produce and distribute pollen on their own stigmas. Some, owing to cool, damp weather, may not be self-fertile unless bees or other agencies help.

Record Floods in China

The Celestial kingdom has been the scene of some of the most terrible floods on record, observes London Tit-Bits. In 1801 the Yellow river overflowed and destroyed nearly 2,000 villages and towns and 5,000,000 people. Two years later there were great inundations in Mongolia, caused by typhoons, resulting in a death roll of 6,000.

ORCHARD GLEANINGS

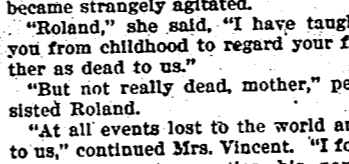
PROTECT ALL SMALL FRUITS

Mulching is Recommended to Pull Them Through Drying Blasts of Winter-Weather. Small fruits should be protected from the drying blasts of the winter winds if they are to come through the winter in good shape for bearing an abundant crop next season.

HOW TO GROW STRAWBERRIES

Success of Crop Depends on Clean Cultivation—Allowing Weeds to Grow is Mistake. Cultivation is the secret of success in strawberry growing. It should be thorough and clean. A frequent mistake made by many growers is allowing the bed to grow up in weeds after the berries are harvested.

Perfect Strawberry Flowers (1 and 2) and Imperfect Flower (3)



Perfect Strawberry Flowers (1 and 2) and Imperfect Flower (3).

past spring should not be allowed to form runners or new plants, as it is very necessary that the growth be concentrated in the parent plant for a maximum crop next spring.

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H. J. Webb

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Wish to call your attention to their stock of

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When purchasing groceries at this store you can depend upon prompt and courteous service, honest weight, dependable goods. Our experience in the business makes it easy for us to please you.

Thomas F. Mullin

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Fitchburg, Mass.

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HONEST WORK AT HONEST PRICES

There are two highly important points for a man to consider before having his car overhauled.

The first point is to assure himself that the men who are going to work on his car are mechanics expert enough to locate and properly repair all the parts that need attention.

The second point is to convince himself that he can trust the shop to give him an honest accounting of the amount of work that was actually done on the car.

We gladly welcome an investigation on both of these points. We have the facilities, the workmen and the business methods that will more than satisfy all who investigate.

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Maple Street

Tel. 157-2

AYER, MASS.



BEDTIME

Wind the clock—turn the Perfection Oil Heater out—and don't forget the cat!

No matter how long the evening or how cold the weather, the Perfection keeps you warm and comfortable right up to bedtime.

Then in the morning, light it again to drive out chill from bedroom, bath or dining room. The Perfection is light. You can carry it where you choose.

A Perfection Heater is economical—much cheaper to use than coal even when coal is cheap. Gives clean, odorless, portable heat.

Used in more than 3,000,000 homes.

Re-wicking is now easy with the new No. 500 Perfection Heater Wick. Comes trimmed and burned off, all ready to use.

So-Co-ny Kerosene gives best results.

STANDARD OIL CO. OF NEW YORK

New York Buffalo Albany Boston



TO PROTECT MUSKRAT

Most Valuable Fur Animal in the United States.

Whether It Shall Be Protected or Destroyed Depends on Its Behavior—Sometimes It Does Considerable Damage.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Whether the muskrat, the most valuable fur animal in the United States, shall be protected or destroyed depends upon its behavior. In some circumstances this animal becomes detrimental and is responsible for considerable damage to growing crops, irrigation ditches, milldams, etc. Where the animal is not troublesome, biologists of the U. S. department of agriculture suggest that it be protected and trapped for fur. Everywhere the animal has become somewhat of a pest, its numbers often may be kept down by trapping, while the sale of pelts makes such activities profitable. Often crops may be protected by the erection of wire-mesh fences between them and the marsh or pond where the animals live. Such fences should reach at least six inches beneath the surface of the ground to prevent the muskrat burrowing under.

Where the animals prove troublesome by causing breaks in embankments, dams, and in the sides of irrigation ditches, probably the most practical remedy is to employ a trapper and hunter to patrol the property both night and day. In narrow waterways barrel traps have proved efficient in catching large numbers of these animals.

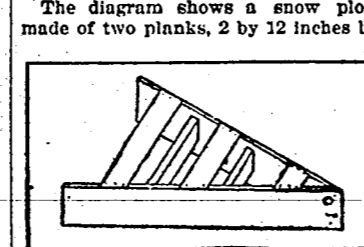
By erecting more permanent works, owners of embankments, dams, etc., may guard against injuries to their property by muskrats. A more general use of coherite, for example, has greatly minimized such troubles. The more liberal use of gravel or coarse sand for the surface of embankments has been found effective, since the animals will not burrow in soil that fills the hole as fast as they open it.

Destruction of muskrats, where this is desirable, as well as their protection, which is in most cases advisable, is discussed in a recent Farmers' Bulletin, No. 869, of the United States department of agriculture. Copies of the bulletin may be had free as long as the supply lasts by application to the United States department of agriculture, Washington.

MAKE PATHS THROUGH SNOW

Little Difficulty Experienced if Farmer Will Take Time to Construct Little Plow.

There is little difficulty making paths through the snow around the house and barns if the farmer is equipped with a snow plow. In an hour a path can be made as long as a horse can walk in that time, writes C. E. Brashear, Missouri College of Agriculture. A home-made plow can be built with very little trouble. It consists of two 12-inch planks nailed together in a V shape, with suitable braces between.



The diagram shows a snow plow made of two planks, 2 by 12 inches by 6 feet long. These are beveled and nailed together at one end, and two braces made of 2 by 6-inch stuff are nailed between them. Boards are nailed over the top to help brace and to furnish a place for the driver to ride. A hole is bored through the sides where they join and a single-tree fastened on. One horse pulls the plow without difficulty.

CLEANLINESS IS GREAT HELP

Sanitary Surroundings as Essential for Animals as Proper Nourishment for Them.

Proper nourishment and clean surroundings are helpful in combating animal diseases. Feeding balanced rations will take care of the nourishment factor. The University of Missouri college of agriculture regards clean and sanitary surroundings as essential as proper nourishment. Drainage of quarters, ventilation, keeping sheds and stalls free from manure, dust and other rubbish, a liberal use of lime and other disinfectants and eternal war on parasites will reduce the veterinary bill to the minimum.

SAVE EVERYTHING ON FARMS

Whole Nation Cannot Afford to Wastefully Waste—Everybody Must Learn to Conserve.

Remember that the question is not whether you personally may feel that you can afford to waste food, the point is that the nation cannot afford to have any food wasted by anybody.

Feeding Also a Factor. It is not breeding alone that is going to determine the future usefulness of the cow, but it must be supported by liberal feeding, daily care and careful observation.

As the World Moves. "Love makes the world go-round," quoted the Farlor Philosopher. "Yes, but marriage generally squares things," added the Mere Man.—Town Topics.

Velvet-Making. Velvet was developed and originated from fur in China. Thence velvet-making was introduced into India, and in the fourteenth century into Italy, where that sort of fabric especially appeared, and where the art of velvet-making reached its height.

MAJORITY OF US ARE BORES

Many People Give Preference to Discussion of One's Affairs Rather Than to Other Fellow's.

The Irish World gives the first test of a bore, presumably for readers to try on themselves, in these words: Do you monopolize the conversation wherever you go with breathless accounts of your own affairs? If let alone long enough the majority of us do. Our own affairs are so much more interesting than the other person's. It takes some wisdom and considerable culture to subordinate the self.

Under this definition, the baby is sometimes a bore, but we forgive him for we know that he has neither the wisdom nor the culture to set his little self to one side. It should not be expected of him.

But there is about the baby none of the subtlety of the old, practiced bore who deftly turns the conversation to his own exploits and affairs. Baby simply takes of the muffer from his personal self. The entire household's attention turns at once to his affairs. He monopolizes the conversation with his breathless account of his hunger or of his connection with the open safety pin—and that is all there is to it.

The growing child frankly finds himself the most interesting person in the world, and we forgive him to some extent and attempt to show him that he must conceal his personal liking for himself. Some of us may recall the story of the little boy who had been a delighted listener while his mother (a real bore) told the neighbors of his cute little manners and ways. When she branched off to some other subject, the little boy listened a while in manifest uneasiness till the conversation lagged and he restlessly said: "Then he broke in with his perfectly natural request: 'Say, ma, let's talk some more about me.'"

LAUGHED TO SEE GOLD TEETH

Tartars Indulged in Peculiar Antics to Induce Artist to Display His Decorated Grinders.

The artist who accompanied George Kennan through Russia tells an amusing story about an encounter with a party of Tartars, who seemed very curious about the artist's pictures. As the Tartars were armed to the teeth, the artist thought it best to be amiable and smiled a broad and propitiatory smile upon the party. Whereupon the entire party smiled broadly in return and showed great interest in him. He smiled again, more broadly still; whereupon the Tartars came around in front of him and began to go through the most extraordinary antics, laughing still.

The artist gathered somehow that he was expected to laugh, too, and proceeded to gratify their evident wish. The more he laughed the more they laughed, and several big Tartars came around in front of him and lay down on the ground, rolling and tumbling. The artist laughed until his jaws almost cracked. The thing which became a little alarming, and calling for his factotum and interpreter, the artist bade him and out of the head man of the Tartar party what these extraordinary antics were all about.

"His excellency," said the Tartar, in explanation, "smiled upon us, and showed us something which we never saw before—teeth made partly of gold. And as the men of my tribe saw that his golden teeth were only to be seen when he laughed, they took all possible ways to make him laugh, and when they rolled on the ground before him, it was only the better to see into his mouth and behold the golden teeth."

Capturing Gorillas.

It is said that no gorilla has ever been captured alive after he is full grown. Gorillas fear nothing. Even when mortally wounded they show an agility, strength and ferocity which is astonishing. A traveler stated that it would take 150 men to hold down a gorilla with any degree of safety. On the other hand, all other apes are easy to capture. The usual method is for a trapper to seat himself where he is certain to be observed by these creatures and pretend to drink from a bottle of creole spirits. When he is sure that he has been observed, he leaves the bottle and goes away. The moment his back is turned the monkeys rush to appease their curiosity concerning the contents of the bottle. They like the taste of the spirits and quarrel among themselves for it till the bottle has been emptied. They are soon overcome by the intoxicant, and the trapper returns and gathers them up.

Our Other Selves.

The old Hebrew sage declared, "Wisdom cometh from the opportunity of leisure." It does not mean that a wise man must belong to what we call the leisure classes. It means that if one has only a little free time at his disposal, he must use that time for the refreshment of his hidden selves, says S. M. Crothers in the Atlantic. If he cannot have a sabbath rest of twenty-four hours, he must learn to sanctify little sabbaths, in them he shall do no manner of work. It is not enough that the self that works and receives wages shall be recognized and protected; the world must be made safe for our other selves. Does not the Declaration of Independence say that every man has an inalienable right to the pursuit of happiness?

Largest Poisonous Reptile.

The "Suruenu," known as the bush-master, is the largest poisonous reptile in the world, and is fortunately rare and found only in the depths of the jungle and swamps, where man rarely penetrates. It attains a length of twelve to fifteen feet; the color of its body is rose, or rather yellowish pink, with brown patterns and dots of purple. Its bite is almost always fatal. Its fangs are an inch long and as much as ten ounces of venom have been extracted.

SHIRLEY

News Items.

Raymond Sheppard, nephew of Mrs. George Greenleaf, and brother of Asa Sheppard, has been with the British army expeditionary force, and is now located at Windsor barracks, Windsor, Nova Scotia. He is well-known in the vicinity, where he has worked for a long time. He was a member of the Congregational Sunday school and would be glad to assist in the American army, but was unsuccessful. He is only nineteen years of age, but has the true patriot's spirit, and says he won't be contented until he gets to France, and gets a whack at the Kaiser.

The Woman's Council of National Defense, through its local chairman, has asked Shirley women to organize classes for the study of the vital questions of the war—why we are at war and what winning or losing it will mean to this country and to civilization. Such classes will do much to counteract the anti-war propaganda of alien enemies and peace-at-any-price friends; propaganda which discredits the cause of the victor and may make all sacrifices vain. Any further information may be obtained by telephoning Shirley 21-11.

Station Agent Kelly lost a pocket-book containing \$100 last Saturday morning. He is offering a reward for its return. It was found and returned to him by Frank Glendon, one of the teamsters at the Sunnison Cordage Works.

Harry Colyer, who has been working in Boston, has returned to work for the President; Suspendor Co., and is boarding at the home of Albe Annis.

Mrs. C. R. White will hold her regular classes in Odd Fellows' hall on Friday evening, January 25.

Mrs. M. J. Johnson, of Boston, spent a few days the first of the week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Knowles.

Mr. and Mrs. George Farmer, whose house has been leased by the government, has rented the Frank Farnsworth house.

Dr. Thomas E. Lilly is a candidate for the office of selectman and his nomination papers have been filed for the two-years' unexpired term of Conrad Fuller.

The Altruistic club met at the public library Thursday afternoon, January 3. The president, Mrs. Amy C. Wheeler, called the meeting to order at 7.30. All business was attended to and several motions of importance were discussed. The club voted to send fifteen dollars to the Clinton hospital fund. The program for the afternoon was in the hands of the director, Miss Minette Zoover, secretary of the Girls' Service club, entertained the ladies in a very pleasing manner with readings. Meeting adjourned to meet again on January 17.

The Service club held their regular business meeting on Monday evening. Officers were elected and other matters of importance were also transacted.

Donald Gallagher, houseman at the Charles W. Marshall home, Center road, was taken to the Clinton hospital a few days at the home of the family. He was operated upon for appendicitis, and the operation was successful. Mr. Gallagher was much liked at the Marshall home.

Leonard Hooper, of the Depot Brigade, Camp Devens, has been transferred to the Signal Corps at Little Silver, N. J., and left for that place on Wednesday morning.

Mrs. H. D. Corley, of Cambridge, is in town for a few days.

Mrs. R. White will hold her dancing class on Saturday afternoon at 1.30.

Rev. H. D. Corley will preach at the Congregational church at 10.45 Sunday morning on "The missing measurements as to where they will meet on a clock, 'The prudential motive.'"

Mary A. Livermore Rebekah lodge will install the officers-elect at a special meeting on Wednesday evening, January 23, at eight o'clock. At Nellie Garland, d. d. p., and suite, of Leominster, will be the installing officers.

The Service club held a whist party at their rooms on Tuesday evening. About fifty were present. The first prize, a box of stationery, was won by E. H. Block, Camp Devens; second prize, box of correspondence cards, by F. Steinhilber, and the trophy was handed to G. T. Chew, and consisted of a jewel case containing a cube of sugar.

Dr. Warren E. Bryan has moved his family to Leominster.

Death.

Charles Henry Tewksbury passed away suddenly at his home on Center road, Tuesday noon, of apoplexy. His death came as a shock to his family and the community at large. Tuesday morning he delivered his milk to his customers as usual, returning to his home about 11.30. A telephone call for him at his home caused his wife to go to the barn to inform him and she found him unconscious, leaning against the barn wall. A hurry call summoned a doctor to the scene and every effort was done to revive him, but all to no avail, as he passed away an hour later.

Mr. Tewksbury has been selectman of this town for the past two years, having been elected for a three-year term last February. He was born in Stewartstown, N. H., February 5, 1853, and at the time of his death his age was 62 years, 11 months and 6 days.

For many years he was the proprietor of a hardware and general store in Stewartstown. He was the son of Henry and Sally (Flanders) and was an only child.

The deceased moved to Shirley five years ago and became a valuable addition to the town. He was a quiet, conservative man, with all the necessary essentials in character that make an ideal man for a community. He leaves behind him two daughters, Mrs. Percival Gale and Miss Lena Tewksbury.

The funeral was held on Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the home of Rev. G. H. Woodman, of West Boylston, a former pastor of the Congregational church here, officiating. The remains were taken Thursday morning to the home of Mrs. H. H. Forbush in the family lot. There were many beautiful floral tributes.

Roll Call and Supper.

The annual roll call and supper of the Congregational church was held in the church vestry on Wednesday evening, about sixty members being present. Supper was served at seven o'clock, followed by a business session. The pastor, Rev. Douglas H. Corley, was chosen moderator. The members then responded to their names at roll call. Many were absent. The report of the church clerk, treasurer, Sunday school superintendent, parish committee and ladies' circle, which were read and accepted, showed the church to be in a flourishing condition.

The ladies' circle report showed that thirty dollars had been given to foreign missions and twenty-five dollars to the Woman's Board of Missions for the jubilee fund. This was given as a memorial to Mrs. Maria D. H. Woodman. The ladies' circle have also paid the organist, paid for miscellaneous objects and remembered the weak and shut-ins in a nourishing condition.

The church clerk's report showed that the total number of members on January 1, 1917 was 94; January 1, 1918, 108; and as of January 1, 1918, 11 during the year; added by letter 3, on confession 8; adults baptized 8, children 11.

The following officers were elected

for the ensuing year: Miss Mary A. Park, clerk and treasurer; Walter Knowles, Sunday school superintendent; Miss Alice F. Howe, assistant superintendent; Lewis W. Parsons, church organist; George Hooper, Herbert Kitchened, Kenneth Loomley, Raymond Cheshbrough, officers.

It was voted to unite with the Universalist church for the next three months to conserve coal. This means that on Sunday the Universalist people will attend the Congregational church, and the Sunday following the Congregational people will attend the Universalist church, in other words, each church will be open only every other Sunday. The pastor then gave a brief address, outlining the work for the year.

The ladies who served as a committee for the supper were Mrs. Nellie W. Holbrook, chairman, Misses Alice F. Howe, Martha A. Hunter, Bessie Laddman, Leona Lee and Mrs. Alice L. Wren.

Center. Miss Mildred Evans left last Saturday for Dedham, where she has accepted a position as school teacher. The knitting circle met last Saturday evening at the home of Mrs. G. L. Snow.

At the meeting of the Grange last week George Hewes was elected lecturer and Edward Farnsworth was elected chaplain. A short program of readings and music was given, and Arthur G. Dunn read a report of the recent State Grange convention at Bradford and Lawrence Bergquist.

The service at Trinity chapel last Sunday afternoon was omitted on account of heating difficulties.

Major Sullivan and family, who have been occupying Charles' school teacher's summer home on Center road for several weeks past, have moved to Boston.

A very pleasant social dance was held in the town hall last Saturday evening. A good crowd of people attended. Another dance, under the same management, is to be held in the town hall on this week Saturday evening.

Miss Martha Freeman, who has been assisting W. E. Barnard's school for several months, has taken position in Ayer. Her place at Mr. Barnard's has been taken by her sister, Miss Vangelina Freeman.

Lea, Col. Powell and family have returned to C. E. Goswami's summer home on Center road after an absence of several weeks.

The community sing on Sunday evening was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Bradford.

The Center primary and grammar schools opened again on Monday after a vacation of two weeks.

Forrest B. Wing, who entered the transport service in France last summer, has received his discharge from the French army, the United States having taken over the service, and arrived home last week. He has been in Ayer a few days at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Howard M. Longley. Philip E. Wood, a former resident of the Center, who went across with Mr. Wing, has also been discharged and is at present in California.

On account of the rifle range which is situated at Woodsville, the greater part of the residents of Woodsville have been notified to leave before February 1. It is understood that all who live on the south side of the state road must go, but several of the families on the north side have not been notified as yet. This order was issued suddenly and unexpectedly, and as yet only one or two of the eight families affected have made any definite arrangements as to where they will move. The report also is that the Woodsville section of the state road will be closed to all traffic between eight in the morning and four in the afternoon on the days when the rifle range is in use.

New Advertisements.

FOR SALE—A nice Black, two-seated sleigh, high spring, back and cushions; pole and shafts. Price \$25, worth \$50. P. H. PORTER, Leominster, Mass.

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE IN TOWNSEND, MASSACHUSETTS

By virtue of a power-of-sale contained in a certain Mortgage Deed given by ORION A. BURGESS, of Townsend, in the County of Middlesex, in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to HATTIE E. THAYER, of Ayer, in said county, dated January 12, 1914, and recorded with Middlesex South District Deeds, book 3863, page 14, will be sold at public auction upon the premises below described on Monday, the fourth day of February, 1918, at two o'clock in the afternoon, all and singular the premises conveyed by said Mortgage Deed and therein described as follows:

"A certain tract of land with the buildings thereon, situated in the Northernly part of said Townsend on the Easterly side of the old road leading from the house of William S. Dudley to the house formerly of William Smith, and bounded as follows:

"Beginning at the North-west corner of the premises at the end of said old wall, it being a corner of land of Alexander Reed; thence running Easterly by said Reed's land about fourteen (14) rods to a stone wall; thence Southerly by said wall about nineteen (19) rods to a corner; thence turning at right angles, North and running Easterly by said Reed's land about twenty (20) rods to an angle; thence on Easterly by said Reed's land about twelve (12) rods to a corner near a spring; thence Southerly by said Reed's land about twelve rods to an angle; thence on Easterly by said Reed's land about thirty (30) rods to a corner; thence Easterly by said Reed's land about twenty (20) rods to a stone wall at a corner of land of U. S. Adams; it also being a corner of land owned by B. & A. D. Fossenden Co., formerly known as the Austin Property; all the above described lines run at the fence row stands; thence Southerly by land of the said B. & A. D. Fossenden Co., about thirty-nine (39) rods to a stone wall at a corner; thence South-westerly by said Dudley's land about twenty (20) rods to a corner; thence North-westerly and Northwesterly by the above-said road to the place of beginning."

Terms: A deposit of Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) will be required at time of sale. The premises will be sold subject to any unpaid taxes. Other terms made known at time and place of sale.

S. P. PENNINGTON.

Assignee of said Mortgage.

Townsend, Mass., Jan. 10, 1918.

FRANK T. SWEET, C. E.

Surveying

Batter Boards

Civil Engineering

Office with HERBERT J. WEBB

Main Street Ayer, Mass.

Registration of Voters



The Board of Registrars of Voters will be in session in the Selectmen's Room, Town Hall Building, for the purpose of registering voters and correcting the list of voters.

Thursday, January 17, 1918, from 7.00 to 9.00 P. M.

Saturday, January 26, 1918, from 12 M. to 10 P. M.

Registration will close at 10 P. M., Saturday, January 26, and no names will be added to the voting list after that date until after the next election, except the names of voters examined as to their qualifications between the preceding 30th day of April and the close of registering, or to correct a clerical error or mistake.

Persons wishing to register should bring a tax bill or a notice from the Collector of Taxes to show that they have been assessed for the year 1917.

Naturalized citizens wishing to register must show their certificate of naturalization.

PETER B. MURPHY, FRANK J. MALONEY, LOUIS H. CUSHING, GUY B. REMICK, Registrars of Voters.

Stationery

CORRESPONDENCE CARDS

BOXED PAPER

ENVELOPES

We also have

Pads, Tablets, Blank Books, Receipt, Note and Bill Books, Memorandums, Ledgers, Grocer and Time Books in paper and board covers.

See Our

GILBERT PUZZLES.

Ayer Variety Store

Harry Bldg. Tel. Con. Ayer, Mass.

DENTISTRY

Did you know that to brush the teeth twice a day and consult your dentist twice a year, that oral hygiene would be a nuisance. Clean teeth = delay.

Dr. C. A. Fox, Dentist

Harry Bldg. Tel. Con. Ayer, Mass.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Middlesex, ss. Probate Court. To the heirs-at-law, next of kin and all other persons interested in the estate of CHARLES H. GERRISH late of Grafton 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 FRANK LAWRENCE BLOOD, who prays that letters testamentary 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, on the fourth day of January, A. D. 1918, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, to show cause, if any you have, why the same should not be granted.

And said petitioner is hereby directed to give public notice thereof, by publishing this citation once in each week, for three successive weeks, in Turner's Public Spirit, a newspaper published in Ayer, the last publication to be on day, at least, before said Court, and by mailing postpaid, or delivering a copy of this citation to all known persons interested in the estate, seven days at least before said Court, in the year one thousand nine hundred and seventeen.

Witness, Charles J. McIntire, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this twenty-sixth day of December in the year one thousand nine hundred and seventeen.

F. M. ESTY, Registrar.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Middlesex, ss. Probate Court. To the heirs-at-law, next of kin and all other persons interested in the estate of MARY BARRETT late of Ayer, 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 RICHARD E. BARRETT, who prays that letters testamentary 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, on the fourth day of January, A. D. 1918, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, to show cause, if any you have, why the same should not be granted.

And said petitioner is hereby directed to give public notice thereof, by publishing this citation once in each week, for three successive weeks, in Turner's Public Spirit, a newspaper published in Ayer, the last publication to be on day, at least, before said Court, and by mailing postpaid, or delivering a copy of this citation to all known persons interested in the estate, seven days at least before said Court, in the year one thousand nine hundred and seventeen.

Witness, Charles J. McIntire, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this twenty-sixth day of December

ONE DOLLAR AND FIFTY CENTS PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

This Paper is Sold by W. A. Drumayne, East Peppereil, Edward L. Harkins, Postoffice, Shirley Brockelman Bros., Shirley, E. P. Talster, Groton, C. W. Hildreth, Littleton, C. R. P. Co., Main Street, Ayer

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

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

Saturday, January 12, 1918.

PEPPERELL

News Items.

At the auction sale of the cottage house belonging to the estate of the late Frank H. Behrens, cottage street, last week, the purchaser was Miss Ethel Kemp, grand-niece of Miss Lizzie Kemp, who formerly occupied the house.

Following his holiday vacation at Christmas with his home in a message from Ensign Gerald A. Shuttuck was received from Philadelphia, stating that he had been ill and confined to his room at the hotel for several days. The sudden change of temperatures, with the fatigue of a hard mid-winter journey, added to a slight touch of indigestion, all combined to produce the illness. Late messages speak of his improvement, and that he was to report for duty on Saturday.

The Peppereil Card & Paper Company shipped about twenty tons of paper to Ayer by express on Thursday, having a special car set in, and will make another large shipment on Saturday, the freights being low now and certain.

At a recent meeting of Beacon lodge, I. O. O. F., the following officers were elected: E. Foye Brown, n. g.; Charles W. Card, v. g.; Gardner Willey, rec. sec.; Lincoln W. Brown, sec.; D. Gilman, treas.; Louis P. Shattuck, trustee 3 years.

About Town.

Mrs. Arthur A. Kemp watched the old year out and the new year in at his mother's home in North Groton. Mrs. Clara Kemp, a very pleasant evening was spent with her and her family.

The campaign drive for Red Cross members in this town has resulted in the enrollment of 30 names. The official returns from Washington show the result of the drive as 16,000,000 new members, making the entire membership of the United States \$2,000,000. The local branch, in spite of the extreme cold, continues its Wednesday and Saturday afternoon meetings at the home of Mrs. E. B. Heald on Main street from two to five o'clock.

As the annual meeting of the District Nurse association is near at hand, will those who have not yet paid their dues please do so. The selection of the new officers for the year is the town report, the same as last year. The call for money has been many, but the district nurse should be supported as her work is much needed.

The next meeting of the Woman's club will be held on Tuesday afternoon, January 15, in Saunders' banquet hall. The lecture will be by Mrs. Miller, of Ellerslie, on "The Army and Harmony in buying clothes."

For other Peppereil matter see first page.

LITTLETON

News Items.

J. A. Wright is engaged in cutting ice twenty and twenty-one inches in thickness on Long pond by H. W. Knights and several other Littleton business men.

Mr. and Mrs. Warren Fletcher are spending the winter with their son Elmer and family.

Dr. and Mrs. J. D. Christie have been much with her mother in Forge Village this week, the latter having had an illness requiring much attention.

Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Remick have entertained her sister from Newton this last week.

Arthur Gardner of Nashua, N. H., spent Sunday with his grandparents, Mrs. Hartwell, Whitcomb, and family.

Miss Sarah Priest visited Groton relatives two days recently.

Gladys Jewett has been sick with German measles and is now convalescent.

A. Eugene Robbins was passing through King street Monday, where two other soldiers speeding in their automobile. He turned from the rut and gave them a good share of the road, but they did not heed his warning and the result was a collision which greatly crippled Mr. Robbins' car. He has made repairs and is again out on his usual rounds.

Rev. John W. Ballentyne of Stafford Springs, Conn., is expected to occupy the pulpit at the Congregational church Sunday morning.

Mrs. Willard O. Gibson is recovering from a very severe cold.

Miss Gladys M. Whitney of Littleton and Arthur Whitney of Westford were united in marriage Wednesday afternoon, January 9, by Rev. Howard A. Lincoln at the Congregational church in Westford. The bride wore a gown of white georgette over white satin, with a tulle veil and carried a bouquet of bride's roses.

Mr. and Mrs. Whitney will have their future home in Westford. The bride was pleasantly surprised recently by a kitchen shower given by her friends at the common among the residents of a beautiful silver bowl and pitcher from her grandparents at the wedding party.

The community sing has been suspended for a short time, but the plan for meeting has been organized. The fuel crisis is responsible for the interruption. Meantime the singing is still alive and we look for an early resumption of this brief service.

Mrs. G. Edward Prouty has consented to sing in the Woman's club quartet, taking the second soprano, and rehearsals are already progressing well. The concert will be at the meeting of the club next Monday. Miss Olive Flax is the accompanist.

In the absence of the primary teacher, Miss Rowe, who with Miss C. Wall, missed the school on Monday morning. Mrs. Elmer A. Flagg taught the first day of this week.

society will serve the dinner at the local meeting this year, Monday, February 11.

Blmer W. Fletcher was present this week at a few of the festivities of the N. E. Fox Hunters' association, which held their annual meeting at Bedford.

Harry Wright, who is with the 16th field artillery, has been transferred from Fort Slocum to Fort Green, Charlotte, North Carolina. He writes that it is very cold there, and that the weather recently has been the coldest known in the place for thirty years.

Henry Works has recently been transferred from Panama to the Joseph E. Johnson military post, Jacksonville, Fla. He is in the quartermaster's corps.

Mrs. W. E. Conant has visited this week with her son Ralph's family in Newton.

Dodge, assistant wireless operator on the Ontario, has been home on a vacation for more than three weeks. He is to be transferred to another ship and will not be at any time to be seen at the office.

Don't forget to have your old kid gloves, newspapers, magazines and articles for the rummage sale ready.

The library was closed again this week on account of the ice, but the library will be open Saturday afternoon and evening at the usual hours, and again on Monday afternoon and evening. No promise is made yet for Wednesday until a better supply of fuel can be secured, but the library will be open every Friday, and it is possible that patrons are urged to make full use of the library on those days.

"Back Log Sunday" every member at church is the slogan in the Unitarian society, which will be observed on Sunday as rally day. Members of the Back Log club are asked to attend the morning service and to bring their families, and the invitation is to attend the evening service in music, service and sermon are being prepared for the day, and a service flag presented by the younger people of the society will be unfurled at the evening service.

The fuel administrator has advised the local fuel committee this week that the fuel situation is becoming more serious every day and that there is a possibility of a shortage of fuel in the use of coal, especially in order to bridge over until spring.

Schools, churches and public gatherings generally must act accordingly. The fuel committee of Littleton requests the names of those citizens who are entirely without fuel at the present time. Everything will be done for them that is possible.

The Grange has been obliged to postpone the motion picture entertainment scheduled for next Wednesday evening at the hall, not available on account of coal shortage. It is hoped that the meeting will be held in Oda Fellows' room, and so the following program will be substituted: Roll call, "What can we do for the Grange in 1918?"; piano solo, Ruth Wesley; vocal solo, Florence Hunt; essay, "The Grange," by Mrs. Prouty; Mrs. Susie Smith; household helps, Mrs. R. T. Barrow; current events, Leonard Roberts.

Mrs. John H. Kimball attended the funeral of a friend in West Ridge on Thursday.

The high school seniors held a reception in honor of their teacher, Mr. Fred C. Hartwell on Wednesday evening. There were fourteen present including the three teachers and the class, in addition to the hostesses, Miss Thordike who were certainly very important factors of the success. Games and refreshments and a jolly social time were enjoyed by all.

Mrs. Thordike with a pretty gold pin, which was gratefully received. Other classes in token of their appreciation presented gifts to their teacher. Mr. Hartwell gave a book, the sophomores a box of candy and the freshmen a picture.

Miss Thordike has been enjoying her stay among us. She carries the bit of news that she has been elected to her new field of activities in the Framingham High school, where she enters upon her teaching next Monday. At the time of leaving her successor has not been selected.

Yes, it is a new idea that the aeroplane is a safe means of transportation in safe hands, yet it is an idea that we must firmly get into the popular mind. The average citizen is still frightened at the prospect of leaving the ground and having no support except the air itself. Yet at the speed which we expect an aeroplane to maintain—no 100 or 150 miles an hour—there is no danger of transportation that is so safe. The obstructions that cause accidents with trains and automobiles do not exist for flying craft.

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STARTING OVER.

Youth is marching to the front. Old age and middle age remain behind to make up the home guard. Ruthlessness has called the "comers" in business and professional life. Eyes that have grown tired from watching the drab scenery along the weary road of failure are brightening. Steps that have been halting and uncertain have regained the spring of youth. Many men are starting life all over again at the age of sixty or fifty or forty, and in the absence of youth they are not to be denied. The grim reality of the existence of war is shot through with its strips of silver. Everywhere, the land over, the men who were not swift enough for the pace of youth are "coming back." And what an inspiring sight it is to see the elderly man step back into the ranks, head up, chest out, dressed in the garments of anticipated success, says Sioux City Journal. In some instances, as a father who has been regarded with some suspicion by sons and daughters, he is now regarded as one who for all his life has been misjudged and who, given the opportunity, has power to lead all men. It is given to sons and daughters to forget the economic facts in this new judgment.

"It may some day well be said that tungsten made democracy possible," says a report. Tungsten is used as a lining for big guns of nickel steel, which without it would be ruined after 200 shots, for these guns must stand a temperature of 5,000 to 6,000 degrees Fahrenheit. Molybdenum is also used, but it is scarcer than tungsten. High-speed steel is a tungsten alloy; without tungsten the manufacture of steel devices requiring cutting would be a slow affair. Germany produced most of the world's tungsten before the war, and in 1915 Great Britain found herself crippled because her tools were wearing out through lack of tungsten. The hunt for tungsten that resulted gave Britain control of two-thirds of the world's supply. America is now producing about 7,000 tons a year.

Despite the frenzy which war must bring, despite the strain and worry, the gropings after efficiency and the need for it, the people of the great democracies are thinking today as never before of what true efficiency is, how best it may be achieved, how best preserved, says Cleveland Plain Dealer. And there seems general agreement that Germany is wrong. It may take decades to decide, or centuries, but just now, outside the lines of East and West and South which Hindenburg defends, the world believes the Anglo-Saxon and his allies have the right of it. The state was made to serve the man; never the man to serve the state.

The safety of all depends upon the government's acting wisely and promptly in dealing with those who are abusing the freedom of speech and of the press instead of exercising this priceless right of freedom; and above all, people who are truly Christians will never be found hampering their government in any way treating it disrespectfully, says Signs of the Times. On the contrary, they will stand for law and order and seek to lend a helping hand wherever they can consistently do so.

Secretary Baker gives the percentage of killed in action or by wounds in the British expeditionary forces as 7 per cent only. This ought to make comforting statistics for the home folks or soldier boys leave behind them, for it gives everyone of the boys a big chance of being among the returning. Besides America's entrance into it is going to shorten the war.

Discussions of idle wealth have often caused economists to raise the question of whether a man's money is his own to spend as he chooses. In time of war the negative side of the proposition comes forward with great strength. The American dollar is frankly meeting its more serious responsibilities.

A chrysanthemum has been given General Pershing's name, and presently there will be a lot of little Pershing Smiths and Pershing Browns running around, and Pershing cigars will appear, and motor boats will have the general's name painted on them, whether he likes it or not.

The statement of a director of the Wisconsin Hide Dealers' association that farmers are getting less for their hides than before the war will make the public wonder whether it isn't exploited by some of the people in the shoe trade.

The fighting ability of Americans is about equal to that of the Roumanians, says a German military authority in attempting to ease the minds of the people. More insolence to be punished.

All artistic objections to The Star-Spangled Banner as outside of the pale of true art have suddenly vanished.

For an infant republic Russia is having more than its share of colic.

Scientific Foresight. "How did the boy get his motor cycle?" "He seized the cycle-logical moment to ask for it."

Moss is Valuable. "Moss" is the popular name for several kinds of small flowerless plants which flourish in damp places. In mountainous and wet districts tracts of moss are of great service in retaining the water and preventing sudden floods.

Less Than a Glass of Water. Fog, mist and clouds are composed of tiny drops of water, hundreds and thousands and millions of them, so small that they will float in the air. If you should get up early some morning, especially if you live near the river, you might find the houses, trees and the people on the streets lost in a thick fog, yet a block of this fog, 12 feet long, 12 feet wide and 12 feet high would contain less than 1-7 of a glass of water, divided into 60,000,000,000 drops.

Miraculous Virtue. Gaze thou in the face of thy brother, in those eyes where plays the lambent fire of kindness, or in those where rages the lurid conflagration of anger; feel how thy own so quiet soul is straightway involuntarily kindled with the like, and 'ye blaze and reverberate on each other, till it is all one limitless, confident flame (of embracing love, or of deadly grasping hate); and then say what miraculous virtue goes out of man into man.—Carlyle.

Starting the Clock. If a clock refuses to run after being wound owing to the need of cleaning, try this: Roll a bit of cloth, the size of a button, in the oil, and roll it with coal oil. Place the roll in the bottom of the clock, well out of the way of the pendulum. After the fumes of the oil have had time to do their work—say from ten to twelve hours—wind and start the clock, and if nothing is broken it will run.

Ruse to Get Auto Ride. Willie's father does not own an auto, but a good friend of the family has a seven-passenger car. One Sunday afternoon the little one became restless and was wishing some one would come and take her for a ride. Finally he said: "Daddy, call up the Johnsons and ask them if they wouldn't like to take a walk with us—and daddy, tell them to be sure and bring their auto."

Arabs Love Turkish Delight. The confection known as "Turkish delight" is the most important used by the Arabs of Arabia, reports United States Consul Addison E. Southard of Aden. This is made from sugar and American almonds with flavoring and sometimes almonds or the kernels of ground nuts. Turkish delight often makes up the bulk of the Arab's breakfast, and it is eaten often at other times.

To Detect Coloring Matter. To ascertain whether artificial coloring matter has been added to tea, place a small quantity of tea on a piece of white paper, and rub with an ordinary table knife until the leaves become a fine powder. Now brush the paper with a bristle brush and if any Prussian blue has been used for coloring purposes there will be little streaks of this all-over-the-paper.

Keep Grapes Fresh for Months. Grapes can be kept fresh for several months by inserting their stems through the corks of glass bottles, filling these with water, pressing the corks firmly in, sealing them if necessary with paraffin and inverting the bottles on wooden racks in a cool, dark cellar. The bunches should hang free, their stems sticking up into the water.

In the Embryo. Gertrude strutted about like a peacock with her aunt's hat and veil on. Billy, her cousin, poked fun at her. "Oh, take off the veil, they're only for ladies," he said. Gertrude lost no time in saying: "Well, I'm the beginning of a lady, ain't I?"

Wind and Trees. The existence of tall plants and trees depends largely on the wind force. A tree with square trunk and branches would offer so much resistance to the wind that it would be continually having its branches snapped.

Why They Are Called "Posters." Posters took their name from the fact that in former times the footways of London were separated from the drives by a line of posts, on which advertisements were displayed.

Dumb Dogs. There are three kinds of dogs that have no voices and can not bark—the Egyptian shepherd dog, the Australian dog and the lion-headed dog of Tibet.

Taking a Joke. Learning to take a joke is much like learning to take medicine; it can be done, but it is not pleasant.

The Quarrel. Where one will not, two cannot quarrel.

Facial Failure. "Your friend isn't much stuck on her looks?" "She—'Say, she wouldn't dare shoot her own husband.'"—Judge.

Hint to Young Men. Young men can aid in the conservation of coal and electric current by terminating their calls at a patriotic hour. Besides, every girl needs a certain amount of sleep.—Pittsburgh Gazette-Times.

PUDDLES, A CAT FISHERMAN

Emulated Skill of His Master, and Enjoyed Diving in and Fetching Out the Dogfish.

The English naturalist, Francis Buckland, once told a story of a fisherman of Portsmouth, England, whose cat, Puddles, emulated in his peculiar way the fishing skill of his master. Quoting the fisherman, Mr. Buckland said: "He was the wonderfullest water cat as ever come out of Portsmouth harbor, was Puddles. He used to go out a-bahin' with me every night. Cold nights he would sit in my lap while I was a-fishin' and poke his head out every now and then, or else I would wrap him up in the sail and make him lie quiet. He'd lay down on me when I was asleep, and if anyone come he'd swim a good one, and have the face of 'em if they went to touch me. And he'd never touch a fish, not even a little teeny pout, if I didn't give it to him. I was obligated to take him out a-fishin', or else he'd stand and yell and murr till I went back and fetched him by the poll and shied him into the boat, and then he was quite happy. When it was fine he used to stick up at the bow of the boat and sit a-watchin' the dogfish. They used to come alongside by the thousands at a time, and when they was thick all about he'd dive in and fetch 'em out, jammed in his mouth, just as if they was a parcel of rats. He looked terrible wild about the head when he come up out of the water with the fish in his teeth. I learnt him the water myself. One day, when he was a kitten, I took him down to the sea to wash him and I brush the fleas out of him, and in a week he could swim after a feather or a cork.—Youth's Companion.

Games of Siamese Kiddies. Girls Play Keeping House, With Dried Clay Dolls—Boys Jump Rope and Roll Marbles.

When the Siamese folks get up in the morning they do not get up in the washstand to wash their faces, for the simple reason that Siamese houses can boast no such article of furniture, says an exchange.

So our little Siamese friend just runs down to the foot of the ladder—for the house is built on posts—to a large jar of water with a coconut shell dipper. There she washes her face by throwing the water over her hands and rubbing them over her face. She needs no towel, for the water is left to dry. She does not brush her teeth; for they are stained black by chewing the betel nut. Her hair does not require combing, for it is all shaved except a little tuft on the top of the head, and that is tied in a little knot and not very often combed. After breakfast is over, the children go off and find some pleasant place in which to play. The girls play at keeping house and make dishes of clay dried in the sun. Little images of clay washed with lime are their only dolls.

The boys of Siam are very fond of pitching coins, and spend much of their time in this game. They play leap-frog and very often jump the rope. Now that so many foreigners are in Siam, they have learned to play marbles, too.

As the streets in Siam are almost all rivers and canals, the Siamese boys and girls early learn to row, and paddle their little boats almost as soon as they learn to swim, which they do when they are only four or five years old.

Old Lady's Find. Breathless with excitement during the cold weather, the old lady appeared at the window of the lost property office.

"I found something in the train," she said. "What is it, ma'am?" inquired the clerk.

"I don't know; it's a box with handles at each end. It may be a bomb, an infernal machine. Fetch a policeman."

"Let me see it, ma'am," asked the clerk.

"Certainly not; it may be a jewel case. It is made of metal and it's very heavy. Send for the stationmaster," she said.

"No, I will not. Trying to cheat an old woman out of her reward. Send for the stationmaster and a policeman."

These two worthies having arrived, the old lady showed her find to the expectant crowd.

"Now," she said, "what is it?" "That!" roared the stationmaster. "That thing? Why, it's a foot-warmer."

Naming Alaska. The name Alaska is an English corruption of perversion of Alayaska, as it was called by the aboriginal inhabitants of the Alaskan islands, lying to the westward, observes a geographical magazine. When the Russians first came to one of the Alutian islands, they were told that a vast country lay to the eastward, and that its name was Alayaska. The Aleuts called their own island Nagun Alayaska, meaning the land lying near Alayaska. By a process of Russification and Anglicization Alayaska became Unalaska, and Nagun-Alayaska became Unalaska. The original Alutian word Alayaska meant "the great country," as the inhabitants of scattered islands would naturally consider a vast continental region of varied resources and beautiful scenery as Alayaska or Alaska has since proved to be.

Floods in Brazil. The native inhabitants of Brazil have lately been suffering from the disastrous effects of the flooding of the Amazon, whose relentless waters have submerged the countryside for hundreds of miles around. At regular intervals this mighty river overflows its banks, and a famous traveler estimated that no fewer than 5,000,000 natives have lost their lives during the last five centuries through these terrible floods.

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Jan. 12 Saturday Sale Jan. 12

At Fitchburg's Big Market

ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY TO BUY PORK AT REMARKABLY LOW FIGURES. A SAVING TO YOU OF MORE THAN ONE-THIRD. Whole Lots of Pork... 20c. lb. Small Roasts... 21c. 23c. lb. Fresh Hams... 27c. lb. Roasts cut from these Hams... 30c. 35c. lb. Fresh Liver... 12 1/2c. lb. Smoked Hams... 27c. lb. Pieces of Ham... 28c. 30c. lb.

BEEF. Boneless Roasts... 26c. lb. Rib Roasts... 30c. lb. Sirloin Roasts... 35c. lb. Pot Roasts... 24c. lb. Beef Sausage... 23c. lb. Tomato Sausage... 30c. lb. LAMB. Legs of Lamb... 20c. lb. Hindquarters... 28c. lb. Forequarters... 26c. lb. Pieces for Stew... 24c. lb. Roasts... 29c. lb. VEAL. Whole Legs... 25c. lb. Roasts from Leg... 20c. 22c. lb. Stew Veal... 25c. lb. Veal for Stew... 22c. lb. Beef Suet... 16c. lb. Chickens... 38c. 40c. lb. Fowl... 35c. lb.

SPECIAL TRADES IN OTHER DEPARTMENTS. Cake of White Cloud Toilet Soap with every pound of White House Coffee... 35c. lb. Our 60c. Golden Leaf Tea... 27c. 1/2 lb. 35c. lb.

UNITED STATES FOOD ADMINISTRATION, License No. G. 23,853. BROCKELMAN BROS. FITCHBURG MARKET. 420 Main Street Telephone 2080 FITCHBURG, MASS.

HARVARD

News Items. A son was born on Tuesday in Boston to Mr. and Mrs. P. H. Babcock, of Hillsdale farm.

A daughter has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Robert McGray at the Clinton hospital.

Ruth Shores slipped on the ice this week and fell, breaking a bone in her wrist, which will inconvenience her for