

TURNER'S PUBLIC SPIRIT.

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AYER

News Items.
The Ladies' Aid of the Baptist church will serve a supper in the vestry Wednesday, February 13, from six to eight.
The Ladies' Benevolent society of the Federated church will meet with Mrs. Holden C. Harlow on Tuesday afternoon at 7:30 o'clock. Members are invited to bring German-made knitting. A full attendance is desired.
The Unitarian church school held a party last week Friday afternoon at the Federation House. The children spent the time partly in bowling. Supper was served at six o'clock and the party closed at seven.
A regular communication of Caleb Butler Lodge will be held on Monday evening, February 11. Work—Follow Crafts degree. A special communication will be held Friday evening, February 16. Work—Master Mason degree. Lunch.
The Ayer Electric Light Company has made a request of its customers who use power to cut off ten hours each week of use of same from Tuesday morning until Saturday noon to help them out in fuel conservation. If it had not been for the North Adams steam plant of the Massachusetts Lighting Companies helping out the Connecticut Transmission Company this winter when their fuel was low they would not have given the Ayer Electric Light Company as much current as they are now getting, which has been a great benefit to its consumers and now they ask them to help out as much as they can.
Frisella Osgood and Richard Turner have been entertaining the German messes this past week.
Mrs. Claude U. Gilson will dance the Ayer Branch Alliance new dance day afternoon at the hall of the White Ribbon House, East Main street, upon her return from a recent visit to her home in Ayer. Headwaiters, Frank S. Pierce, Mrs. E. H. Blagow, Mrs. S. H. Proctor and Mrs. George H. Turner.
Cook Bennett, Sunday school teacher, is taking a special course of instruction in the military school of Ayer and who expects to return home very soon, has just been appointed an instructor in the school and his stay there will be indefinite.
The man from Painted Post, featuring the famous screen actor, Douglas Fairbanks, the leader for Monday at Pago hall theatre. This play, unlike previous Fairbanks pictures, in that it affords him an opportunity to display actual histrionic talent in addition to his own typical style of acting. In contrast to the many humorous situations of the Fairbanks variety, are scenes of deep dramatic interest in which the versatile Douglas proves his ability as an actor. Supporting the star is an excellent cast including several leading screen favorites.

Never before has such a notable collection of cowboys appeared in a motion picture. All cowboys in this picture are winners of championships in roping, riding, shooting and other western sports. In addition to these experts are seven of the most fiery bucking bronchos used in the recent frontier meet in Cheyenne, Wyo.
The Unitarian Alliance and Girls' club will hold their annual dinner in Hardy's hall on February 22.
Ovilia Glon, of Ayer, was arrested by Patrolman Aldrich in Lowell on Tuesday night for failure to answer a summons to appear in the police court in that city to answer a charge of operating an automobile without a license. The alleged offense occurred last November. Glon furnished bail of \$100 for his appearance before the Lowell court.
A social dance under the auspices of the St. Mary's Parish association was held in the town hall on Wednesday evening with a large attendance. The concert was given by the members from Camp Devens and the 201st Ammunition Train band. The band also played for dancing. Refreshments were served. The concert program consisted of piano selections, Private John Heffernan, 401st Telephone Battalion; war songs, band, comedy and monologue, Private Ed. McSweeney, 401st Telephone Battalion; quartet, 304th Infantry; song and dance, Sergt. Daniel Creeden, Battery 301st Field Artillery; solo, Private William Gustafson; piano selections, Private George Hall, Co. A, 304th Infantry.
Charles Bruce, of Worcester, a former resident of Ayer, was in town Monday.
The selectmen have re-appointed the following police officers: Chief Beatty, James I. Mills, Albert S. Blood, Frederick T. Auld, James P. Donahue, T. J. Piron, Lyman J. Taylor, John M. Wallace, David H. Young, William Wall and Thomas C. Burritt.
Married in Ayer on February 1, by Rev. J. W. Thomas, Clyde C. Tarbut, of Crumpton, Md., a soldier, and Helen V. Dunlap, of Wilmington, Del.
The intense cold of the first of the week, together with the drifting snow, practically paralyzed all kinds of traffic. The morning train from Greenville due here at 7:45 in the morning did not reach Ayer until 1:15 in the afternoon. The snow drifted so bad that a plow was sent from here to Greenville to open the road. Trains on the main line were from an hour to seven and eight hours late. Conditions on the Worcester, Nashua and Portland division were very bad, the trains being away off schedule. The Leominster branch of the Fitchburg and Leominster street railway was blocked Monday and Tuesday by huge drifts, the snow freezing as it fell. An hour-bound passenger train leaving here for Boston on Tuesday at twelve o'clock did not arrive in Boston until three hours later. The usual time for

this train between Ayer and the Hub is one hour.
Fire on the roof of George L. Osgood's house on Pleasant street last Saturday noon caused a damage of about \$400. The cause of the fire is thought to be burning soot falling on the roof from a chimney leading from the fire-place.
The pastor will preach on Sunday morning at the Baptist church at 10:45 on "The wisdom of a serpent," at twelve; "Sunday school at twelve; Praise meeting at 6:30 in the evening by young people's chorus and congregation. Preaching at 6:45 by Evangelist Alfred Boutwell, who will take for his subject "The shamed Christ." B. Y. P. U. meeting at 7:30 o'clock on Tuesday evening. Week-night prayer meeting on Thursday evening at 7:30.
Capt. Robert Bonner, who has been in charge of the leasing of property for camp purposes for the government, with headquarters at Camp Devens, expects to be called elsewhere for duty and is arranging his affairs with that object in view. He has been ordered to report to Washington for conference with the war department.
We received a postal card this week from Daniel H. Felch, a former Ayer boy, who has lived in Washington for many years. He is now living in Spokane in that state. Mr. Felch says that they have beautiful spring weather in Washington now. He makes local news and is now living in touch with affairs in the vicinity of Camp Devens for he fears that some of the Kaiser's U-boats may have sunk some of the warships docked in Shaboken navy yard.
The fire department was called out just before seven o'clock Tuesday morning for a chimney fire at the home of Charles E. Craig on Fletcher street. The fire was out when the department arrived. There was no damage. The firemen suffered much from the cold, the temperature being 23° below zero with a strong wind which made conditions much worse.
Edward A. Bachus, state deputy fish and game commissioner, asks the assistance of the public in furnishing food for winter birds, especially the pheasants. Anyone who desires to aid our feathered friends may obtain food from him, furnished by the state, for this purpose. Scraps of food of any kind may be given the birds. The unprecedented severity of the weather this winter with the heavy snow has affected the birds as never before, and unless something is done to feed them they will perish.
The B. Y. P. U. social given by the young people of the Baptist church on last week Friday evening was much enjoyed by all present.
The Ladies' Aid of the Baptist church are planning for another supper soon.
The Sons of Veterans will celebrate Lincoln's birthday on Thursday evening, February 14, at eight o'clock in Hardy's hall. The G. A. R. and W. R. C. are invited.
Town Meeting Notes.
The afternoon session, when the articles in the warrant were disposed of, was the largest attended of any meeting in the history of the town. The day being a holiday, proclaimed by the national fuel committee, releasing as it did many from their usual occupations, tended to increase the attendance. Many were obliged to stand during the entire session as every seat that could be procured was in use.
The returns were very much delayed, the delay being due almost entirely to the fact that many names written in on the ballot, as candidates failed to take out papers. This was true of minor of-

fers. As every vote, no matter how insignificant, must be accounted for it will be seen that the task of tabulating was a very tedious one in spite of the strenuous work of our much over-worked and faithful town clerk, Guy B. Camick. Including the printed list of candidates, the names written in on the ballot there were ninety-three candidates voted for on the entire ballot. It has been suggested, and the suggestion is a very good one, to have the minor officers appointed by the selectmen in the future, instead of repeating these somewhat farcical conditions in the future. When the officers referred to are not regarded of sufficient importance to justify the filing of nomination papers, it is nonsensical to continue the present practice.
The Boston press was severely censured for their unjust attacks on the town of Ayer since the establishment of the military camp. John M. Maloney says that the attack on the Boston press which has slandered the town during the past six months, many of the statements appearing in such papers being ridiculous, untrue and highly glibly pronounced in the opinion of the town to people outside the town who were not conversant with the facts. Mr. Maloney was followed by H. G. B. B. in a similar reply. Sentative and senator, who with his old-time vigor scathingly denounced such papers and the reporters who wrote such stories and loud applause that followed these remarks proved in an unmistakable manner the feeling of the crowded hall.
After the meeting had adjourned some reporters of the metropolitan press who attended the meeting took exception to the remarks and they were soon surrounded by a decidedly hostile gathering of voters who plainly showed their indignation. Excitement high for several minutes and trouble seemed imminent. Chief Beatty appeared on the scene and quieted the angry critics. At that time the citizens subsided. The reporters, however, plainly realized the feeling of the townspeople in regard to the attitude of the press which they represent.
The so-called "uplifters" from outside Ayer, who are trying to raise the moral tone of the town, were the subjects of bitter criticism as it was plain to see that they were not given credit for the admirable way that it handled the stupendous problems of handling matters incident to raising the \$500,000 for the camp, as well as the still greater problems in connection with the addition of the great number of camp followers, whose reputation is the main factor in a large number of local and state police officers and public safety police have been directed toward their illicit activities.
The soldiers, almost without exception, are in the opinion of their conduct has been above reproach where it is considered that their numbers have reached the great total of approximately 25,000, many having been transferred to other camps and for overseas service. A very unfortunate impression has gained currency that the soldiers are not fully conversant with the town of Ayer, is a bad place. The fact is that the town is as clean and progressive as any town. Those unacquainted with the town are laboring under the entirely false impression if they believe such stories. The undesirable citizens who flock here for mercenary ends are the ones who are responsible for the town's bad, wherein the blame is true.
The total amount raised and appropriated was \$46,390. Last year the town raised \$47,390 for town expenses. When the state committee raised and appropriated money for the support of schools George H. Brown, chairman of the school committee, stated he would be obliged to ask more this year than last because of the additional cost of fuel. The amount granted was \$12,000, which was \$1,200 more than that provided in 1917, when the amount for this purpose was \$10,800. The sum of \$100, however, was cut off last year's appropriation for school incidentals, which makes the net increase for both purposes \$1,100.
A laugh was caused during the debate on the fire department appropriation when the chief engineer offered John M. Maloney, a position as a permanent fireman at \$1,000 per year. Mr. Maloney came back with the rejoinder that if his law business fell off he would consider the matter.
Walter C. Winslow made a big hit when he took a decidedly strong line at the social uplifters, who are trying to reform Ayer.
The Fall River Globe printed a fine editorial paragraph Tuesday morning, praising Ayer for the fine vote on the license question.
Great enthusiasm prevailed when Edward A. Richards called attention to the seven Ayer soldiers who came from Camp Devens in the afternoon to vote. The young men were Martin S. J. Frank and J. Joseph, who were accompanied by their fathers, H. Clark, George M. Barrows and Frank P. Griffin.
The matter of hiring a district or other nurse for the coming year, which came up under Article 12, was the subject of a prolonged debate. Incidentally many people learned for the first time the difference between a district nurse and a public health nurse. The former acts in cases where illness already exist, while the latter acts to prevent disease from being contracted by offering advice to that end, which is to be scheduled after results than in curing disease after it is contracted. It was voted to employ a public health nurse at a salary of \$1000 per year.
The so-called curfew law under Article 15, was quickly rejected by a unanimous vote after "compliments" had been paid to the so-called uplifters from outside the town who are responsible for the insertion of the article in the warrant.
Everything went on very smoothly until the matter of raising money for the fire department came up under Article 6, when the first verbal clash of the afternoon took place. Mr. Brown, chief engineer of the department, started a spirited debate when he asked for an appropriation of \$7,000 for a new fire truck. Mr. Pillsbury explained as the reason for asking for the appropriation was due to the greater fire hazard forced upon the town by the large increase in population and the number of buildings during the past year. To meet these dangers he proposed to have a combination fire truck if the town so voted. So far the department wanted a raise in pay from twenty-five dollars per year, their present salary, to fifty dollars per year because of the great amount of work that has arisen in fighting fires during last year. A proposition was made by Deputy Chief Neal of the state police to the town some time ago in which the state offered a chemical truck to be in charge of four men, to whom the state offered to pay \$1000 per year each for four men to be on continuous service throughout the day and night. So far the department has been unable to procure the necessary men for that amount of money. The matter was finally settled by raising and appropriating \$3500, it being understood that \$500 of that



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Boys' Yarn Toques 65¢ and 75¢
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- MEN'S UNION SUITS—Men's Extra Heavy Fleece-lined and Wool Process Union Suits; \$1.50 value \$1.25 Suit

A. G. Pollard Co.

amount be used in paying the extra twenty-five dollars per year for the men.
Printed statements sent out by the Massachusetts No-license league around the fire of the no-license advocates. In the statement to the people of Ayer the league intimated that there was evidence to the danger of the town going back to the license regime. This reflection as to the attitude of the voters on this question was considered in the course of an insult to their intelligence and to their ability to handle their own affairs without outside help or suggestion. That the voters were fully awake to their duties under the present conditions was emphatically shown in the unprecedented vote against license. In fact the feeling was such that no-license was bound to be voted in spite of all obstacles. Another absurd story gained currency during the several days preceding the town meeting to the effect that German propaganda was being used in favor of license and that large sums of money were sent here by agents of the Central Powers for the purpose of swinking the town for license. The rumor was, of course, without the slightest foundation.
The great interest in the license question was shown in the fact that the Boston and Lowell newspapers and the Associated Press had their reporters on Thursday evening to make it possible for the voters to see the result of the vote on this issue and incidentally to report the meeting itself. Such an array of newspaper writers was never present at a town meeting here before.
The afternoon session which took place at the town meeting was a most interesting one. A delegation of school pupils was also present and they had an equal opportunity to be heard in the hearing.
The vote on the day was the overwhelming majority in favor of no-license. The vote was 478 to 62 in favor of no-license and a majority for no-license was secured. The defeat of license was a most interesting feature of the town's history. The influence upon the voters was of course in the hearing of the speakers and the usual procedure in favor of the cause.
The vote was a decidedly emphatic one. The General Acts of 1918, at the time of the hearing, and to feel that they have the most wonderful country in the world. The children saw Mr. Chapple took his leave.
Every-Member Canvass.
The First Unitarian Parish church held a successful canvass of the parish last Sunday afternoon. The canvassers assembled at the residence of Herbert H. Proctor as their headquarters at 2:30. In spite of the bad weather the teams made their rounds according to the printed notice mailed to every family in the parish. The party of canvassers included W. Edward Murphy, Herbert H. Proctor, Dr. Ralph H. Wallie, Mrs. Robert F. Murphy, Mrs. H. H. Proctor, Mrs. Carl S. Proctor, Miss Harriet Hume and Mrs. Susan M. Barker.
The results showed an increase over the totals of last year. There were several new contributors. A considerable number increased their subscriptions while a small number decreased theirs and four sent the canvassers away empty-handed. The great majority maintained their subscriptions of last year.
Camp Notes.
With the advent of mild weather steps will be taken to improve the spreading of mosquitoes. A rigid inspection of all places where these insects are likely to breed will be made.
The coming of warm weather it is expected that the new district will be used for sewerage disposal instead of the Nashua river, as is now the custom. The beds are situated some distance down the river from the railroad bridge of the Fitchburg division and are about twenty-five acres in extent.
A letter has been attached to the Town Meeting for the present time a period of one month for a visit of an order issued from division headquarters. The order forbids the assembling of a party for raising money from a bank or borrowing from a private individual, giving as security their voucher for their pay before the pay is due.
Since the first recruits came on September 2 to the present time a period of five months, there have been only twenty-nine deaths from all causes, including those resulting from accidents. This extremely small total in that period in a military city of 27,000 is a sufficient answer to the advocates of moving the camp men to a warmer camp to avoid diseases and hardships incident to bad weather, which they claimed would result from continuing the camp here during the winter. The report issued last week show that 400 cases of measles, only have broke out in the camp. There have been 100 cases of scarlet fever, 11 cases of pneumonia, 3 of chicken-pox, 15 of mumps, 11 of diphtheria, 4 of meningitis and 1 of typhoid.

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TOWNSEND

The Townsend Hill Improvement society held their monthly meeting last week Thursday evening at the brick college on the hill. The meeting was in charge of Aaron D. Hinds and the subject was "Poultry." A general discussion of the subject was carried on by those present, each one presenting their various views and experiences in raising poultry. The following timely subject will be presented at the next monthly meeting of the society, "How the Townsend hill people can conserve and enlarge their food supply for the coming year. A committee has also been chosen to plan a musical program for the evening.

Mrs. A. L. Struthers and Miss Florence Lacey are ill with the mumps. The Townsend Hill Improvement society held their monthly meeting last week Thursday evening at the brick college on the hill. The meeting was in charge of Aaron D. Hinds and the subject was "Poultry." A general discussion of the subject was carried on by those present, each one presenting their various views and experiences in raising poultry. The following timely subject will be presented at the next monthly meeting of the society, "How the Townsend hill people can conserve and enlarge their food supply for the coming year. A committee has also been chosen to plan a musical program for the evening.

The monthly meeting of the Parent-Teacher association will be held in the high school-room on Tuesday evening, February 12. There will be special features on the evening's program suggestive of Lincoln day, a paper by Mrs. William Russell, "Simplicity in school," and an open forum in charge of a president, Albert S. Howard.

Townsend, along with other towns, has been in the grip of the extreme cold and high wind this week. It is reported that the roads have not been as badly drifted this winter as they were last winter. Thanksgiving and New Year's have been sending the light snow here and there, but the roads in the outlying section to become impassable. Mr. Beckerton, who delivers milk from Townsend hill to the town every morning, reached Severance's corner on Tuesday morning when his horse hounded and it took some time to get the animal and wagon free from the drift. The schools were closed and the bitter cold and wind which whirled snow hither and thither drove nearly everyone from the streets. The morning temperature about 24 below zero until one o'clock in the afternoon. Telephones were used whenever possible and only dire necessity sent people out to the streets.

At the regular weekly meeting of the Red Cross auxiliary the women worked mostly on surgical dressings and hospital supplies, as the demand for these have greatly increased. It has been suggested that the branches stop giving out wool for sweaters and mufflers for the present. This does not apply to socks, however, for of these there is a never-ending need of a supply. A notice has been received from each chapter in the district of women who come under the new draft. The local branch will use knitted articles for that purpose.

About thirty young people and neighborhood friends gathered at the home of Mrs. Emma Powell at the Old City last Saturday evening, the occasion being a farewell party given to the three young men in the neighborhood who are leaving for the service soon—Victor Powell, J. Sanford Johnson and William John Stewart, Jr. A pleasant evening was spent in the joyed and refreshments served. During the evening W. John Stewart, in behalf of the friends present and other neighborhood friends, presented two of the young men with military luncheon and wrist watches (Mr. Johnson had previously been presented with one on his birthday anniversary). Each responded with appreciation and thanks for the pleasant surprise. The party was planned by their near friends as a pleasant future memory to these three, possibly when they away, and an occasion they could look back upon probably in less happy days.

In spite of the blustering day there was a good attendance at the Monday club meeting held at the home of Mrs. Eva Shores Worcester on Monday afternoon. Miss Alberta D. Barber gave in her usually pleasing manner two readings, "So was I" and "Erastus Philosophy" followed by an amusing play, "Elizabeth's young man," the parts being well taken by Mrs. Lillian Ross, Mrs. Evelyn Warren, Mrs. Annie Bliss and Mrs. Worcester. A social hour was enjoyed with the serving of refreshments by the hostess.

Charles Henry Woodward of Washington, D. C., a former Townsend resident, was in town this week calling on friends. Mr. Woodward is a member of the Lincoln course on Monday at the Peppercorn hill, near the Peppercorn hill, and attending the Central school when a lad. He, with his brothers, George, Fred and Andrew, walking the distance to and from the "temple of learning" during their school days. Mr. Woodward was a member of the first class in the enterprising high school in the autumn of 1839, taking the Latin course when the late Edward J. Sartelle was principal. He was also a member of the first graduating class in 1839. Many of his former schoolmates regard that his stay in town was not longer, as they would have liked to have met him and talked over old times. Mr. Woodward has been visiting at the home of his half sister, Mrs. Carrie Beales Stuart, at Peppercorn. He has five children and seven grandchildren, one son and son-in-law in the service.

A letter from France. The following letter was recently received by Mrs. L. U. Clement from her nephew, Private Franz W. Miller, dated American-Expeditionary Force, January 6, 1918. Somewhere in France: "Dear Aunt, I received your letter, and I'm not well enough used to that to make use of it. I am well and healthy and will close now with love. Private Franz W. Miller.

burg looks pretty dead with so many of the fellows gone "over." The United States is always on the job as has been proved by her prompt assistance in the Halifax disaster. Have not received your package yet, but mail is coming in today. Glad to hear all the news from home as papers are scarce here except French, and I'm not well enough used to that to make use of it. I am well and healthy and will close now with love. Private Franz W. Miller.

West. News has been received that Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hamilton, former residents and frequent visitors here, have died of the "Spanish" flu. They have both been employed in a manufacturing concern for a number of years, to Worcester, where they will hold a similar position.

W. A. Boutwell, who has been recently appointed chairman of the committee on the sale of thrift stamps for the three towns, is addressing the people in regard to the importance of this method of helping the government and at the same time laying by a sum which will amount to a good nest egg for the future.

Years of sorrow has been on the sick list for the past few weeks, and an attack of lumbago, but is now able to be about again.

Miss Inez Hill spent the week-end with friends in Fitchburg and vicinity. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Carr from Lunenburg were guests of Mr. and Mrs. John Clark on Sunday.

The regular meeting of the Ladies' Baptist Benevolent society, which was to be held with Mrs. Charles Hodgson, Wednesday, has been postponed until further notice on account of the severe weather.

The Ladies' Whist club will hold their regular fortnightly meeting at the home of Mrs. Ivers P. Sherwin on Tuesday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Keefe and little daughter June, from the Harbor, visited Mrs. Keefe's mother, Mrs. William Robbins, Monday.

Tuesday was one of the hardest days of the winter. The cold and driving wind paralyzing business and keeping everyone indoors, where even under the most favorable conditions it was almost impossible to keep warm. The morning papers were reported in short distance from Greenville, not getting through till late in the afternoon, but returned at night with the day's mail only a little over an hour late.

The Ladies' Study club will meet on Monday afternoon with Mrs. Mary Heath at the home of Miss Clara Warren on the topic of the meeting will be "Shakespeare's 'Cymbeline'." Mrs. Heath and all the members are requested to respond at the roll call with a quotation from Shakespeare's plays.

Albert H. Wilson and his sister, Mrs. George Richardson, of the Fitchburg road, received the sad news last week Friday of the sudden death of their father, George H. Wilson, of Mason, N. H.

Two minor accidents were reported at Damon & Richardson's mill last week. Chester Shaw is suffering from a slight injury to his ankle, and Daniel Coffey is at home for a few days with a lame back.

G. M. Frye is on the sick list and under the doctor's care this week. Ashbel Streeter is enjoying a brief visit from his son, Irving Streeter, who is stationed at Fort Revere, Hull, and his two little girls, Edna and Helen.

Miss Florence Hadley, daughter of Mrs. Hadley, who is caring for Mrs. Lewis K. Blair, is on the sick list at the Blair farm.

Twenty-one attended the prayer meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred A. Patch on last week Thursday evening, Henry B. Hathaway carrying a large load from the village.

Another record-breaker in the weather struck on Monday morning, when the mercury stood at from 25° to 40° below in the morning.

Mrs. Fred G. Smith, who has been assisting in caring for Mrs. Clarence Reynolds, has returned to her home in New Boston, N. H.

Miss Alice Seaver was taken violently ill last Sunday afternoon with a sudden attack of bronchial grippe.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Wilson and Mr. and Mrs. George Richardson were called to Mason, N. H., to attend the funeral of George Wilson, father of Mrs. Wilson and Mrs. Richardson, the first of the family in this section to be so known and highly respected in this village and much sympathy is expressed for the family in their sudden bereavement.

On last week Friday afternoon two large loads of Christmas Endeavorers and their friends went on a sleighride to Fitchburg, the first large sleigh driven by Henry B. Hathaway and the second by Monday morning. The parties left the brick store at 4:20 and arrived at the Highland Baptist church in Fitchburg at 9:15, where they enjoyed a bountiful breakfast and a social time. After supper most of the party attended the C. E. rally at the First Baptist church, Fitchburg, and they left for home about ten o'clock, arriving in Townsend at 11:30. The party, at that midnight, and in spite of the fact that it was but 10° above zero when they left, and 20° below on their return, none of the party suffered from frost bites or in any way felt ill effects from the trip.

The Eclipse engine company held their annual meeting and election of officers last Saturday with the following result: Henry B. Hathaway, foreman; Roy Brown, 1st. asst.; Upton, sec. and treas.; Charles T. McDormond, steward; George H. Hathaway, 1st. asst. Mervin Wares, standing com.; Daniel Coffey and Mervin Wares, nozzle-men; L. Whitney, Albert Warren, Joseph LeClair, Amos Jodery, Warren Elliott, and Fred E. Ryan, firemen; Richards and Charles Hodgman, leading hosemen; George Wyman and Abbot Hodgman, suction hosemen.

HARVARD News from. On account of the severe weather on Tuesday evening the Grange meeting was postponed and the degree work and supper will be held on Tuesday evening, February 19.

Rev. Raymond Blakney, a student at the Boston university, preached as a candidate at the Congregational church last Sunday. He will occupy the pulpit again on Sunday, February 17.

Miss Heryl Higelow is home for a few days this week, her work at Simmons college being suspended on account of the shortage of fuel.

On last Saturday a son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Keyes, at a home in New Boston, N. H. We regret to say that on Tuesday the little one died. Mr. and Mrs. Keyes have the sympathy of the townspeople in their loss of their first-born.

Francis Bushman and Beverly Bayne, in "Their compact," a seven-act play of western life; also two other reels, will make their Saturday evening debut at the Grand opera house, the best of the season. Coming February 28, "Old Homestead."

Town Meeting. The annual meeting of the town was held in the town hall, on Monday, and in spite of the weather conditions there was a large attendance, about 150 votes being cast with the following results: Officers for 1918: Moderator, Charles H. Haskell, selectman 2 years, Arthur W. Bryant, overseer of the poor 2 years, George T. Gale, assessor 2 years, George T. Royal, school committee 1 year, Isaac P. Hamer, collector 1 year, Arthur H. Turner, treasurer 1 year, W. A. Farnsworth and William H. Russell, assessors 1 year, George C. Maynard, moderator 1 year, William C. Haskell, auditor 1 year, Benjamin J. Priest, highway surveyor 1 year, John E. Maynard, cemetery committee 2 years, A. A. Hutcherson, park commissioner 3 years, Fred W. Bateman, board of health 3 years, William J. Kerley, Eusebius L. Russell, moderators 1 year, George T. Royal, moderator 1 year, Harriet T. G. Whitney, library trustees 3 years, Patrick Condon, Daniel W. Sheehan, Jr., James L. Whitney, trustees 1 year, Benjamin J. Priest, Herbert A. Thayer, George E. Hardy, fence viewers 1 year; license question, No. 103, Yes 28, No 1.

Under Article 11 it was voted to pay W. P. Dickson \$152 for fire damage to his woodlot on the Littleton road, supposed to have been set by the steam roller.

Art. 2. Voted to raise, as recommended by the selectmen, the sum of \$23,838 for voted town expenses.

Art. 10. Voted to raise \$75 for improvements on the Harvard-Yaver road. Art. 12. Voted to raise \$1000 for further improvements on the Harvard-Yaver road.

Art. 13. S. M. Farnsworth, Fred W. Bryant and Frank O. Ryan appointed a committee to make arrangements for the storage of oil for road use and report at some early meeting.

Art. 14. Voted to raise \$1500 for the purchase of oil for use on the roads.

Art. 15. Voted to release to Clara E. Davis, of Fitchburg, the land, conveyed by J. Q. A. McColester, by deed dated November 14, 1872. Left with Arthur H. Turner to effect the release.

Art. 16. Voted to raise and leave in the hands of the Worcester County Farm Bureau the sum of \$200 for agricultural demonstration work as provided in Chapter 177 of the laws of 1917.

Art. 17. Voted to leave with the highway surveyor the matter of price per day to be paid the labor on town work.

Art. 18. Voted to pass over the matter of abolishing the citizens' caucus.

Art. 19. Voted to increase the salary of the town treasurer by \$50.

Art. 20. Voted to raise the sum of \$500 for the purchase of a road machine for use on the highways of the town.

The ladies of the Congregational church furnished a splendid dinner of beans, coffee, war bread, brown bread and pastry.

Bromfield School. The literary society of Bromfield held its regular meeting on Friday, February 8, at 1:30 p. m. The following program was given: Singing, "The Star Spangled Banner," school essay, "A day at the beach," recitation, "The day I can do to help win the war," Hazel E. Hardy; piano duet, Nancy Jarlow, Lillian E. Taylor; school jottings, Ina M. Wetherbee, Elizabeth C. Cummings.

That the town of Harvard ought to allow the pupils of Bromfield school to play basketball in the town hall—affirmative, Mrs. Watson, Marjorie Walker; negative, Bernice Walker, Percy St. John; singing, "America," school.

On Tuesday, February 5, four of the school barges were unable to make their trips on account of the ice. The literary society will offer a special program Tuesday afternoon, February 12, in observance of the birthday of Abraham Lincoln. The public is invited.

New Advertisements. \$1.00 WILL BE GIVEN to each of several of our subscribers who will deliver copies of the Curtis publications to customers. Only schoolboys—clean, gentlemanly and ambitious—need apply. Write to the publisher, Curtis, for cash profits and many other advantages. Apply to ROGER JOHNSON, High St., Ayer, Mass.

Good Health good appetite, good spirits—mean no discord in the body. To keep the organs in harmony—when there is need—use BEECHAM'S PILLS

Largest Sale of Any Medicine in the World. Sold every-where. In boxes, 10c, 25c.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS. To the heirs at law, next of kin, creditors and all other persons interested in the estate of ELLIZABETH CURTIS, MAN late of Harvard in said County, deceased, intestate.

Whereas a petition has been presented to said Court to grant a letter of administration on the estate of said deceased, and the Court has appointed me, JAMES H. BROWN, of said County of Harvard, in said County of Worcester, without giving a surety on her bond.

You are hereby directed to appear at a Probate Court to be held in Cambridge, in said County of Middlesex, on the twentieth 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.

Witness, William C. Forbes, Esquire, Judge of said Court, this twenty-first day of January, 1918. I, JAMES H. BROWN, one thousand and eighty-eight.

HARVEY H. ATWOOD, Register.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS. Probate Court. To the heirs at law, next of kin, creditors and all other persons interested in the estate of EDWARD A. STACY, late of Townsend in said County, deceased, intestate.

A TRULY VALENTINE!



by Louise Oliver

LUELLA trumped down to the mail box through snow that had drifted as high as her knees. The postman was late. This was her third trip and it was almost dark. There was good reason for the lateness, Luella knew, for it was Valentine's day and more than likely the dozens of pink and blue sentiments he left along his route had caused the delay.

Her own heart was beating hard, not so much with the delicious joy of anticipation—for she hardly expected a valentine from anybody—as with excitement. What if, after all, somebody had thought of her!

As she drew near to the box she stopped for an instant. What if it was getting? Oh, well, she was used to getting things, and life wouldn't be any different than before. She went on down to the box, lifted the lid and peeked in.

"Oh!" Luella's gray eyes widened with wonder. For there in the box lay another, cubical in shape, violet in color and tied with silver cord. "Oh!" she said again, standing on her tiptoes to get a better view.

She touched it cautiously lest it vanish. "It's a mistake. I know. No one in the world would send me something like that." She thought of all the people she knew and made a rapid retrospective of the one stationer's shop in town and its possibilities in the way of sentimental souvenirs.

There was no one she could think of who would send her anything, and nothing that she could remember that would come in a box like that. And Mr. Marks, she knew, had never seen silver string. He used red and white cord that looked like peppermint candy and since paper was so high he had even charged extra for envelopes.

She laid back the lid of the letter box and took the violet box tenderly in both hands as she would have lifted a sick baby. Yes, the name and address were hers. She had received a valentine.

She laid her cheek against its damp cold top, where the snowflakes were already doing their best to obliterate the address. "You darling," she whispered. "You dear." Then she folded it carefully under her shawl and turned back to the house.

"Well," said Miss Mathilda, looking up from the stove where she was frying eggs for their supper, "was he here?"

Luella shut the door, still keeping her treasures out of sight. "Yes," she answered slowly. "Then producing the box, 'He left this.'"

"Hm! Who's it for?" "Me." "Who from?" "I don't know."

"If I catch any of these young sillies hangin' round after you, I'll get rid of them in short order."

"But, auntie, no one is hanging round. And there's no harm in a valentine, is there?" "It depends," said the older woman grimly. "Open it."

Luella laid the box on the white tablecloth beside her own plate and untied the cord with trembling fingers. Inside in a nest of damp tissue paper nestled a gorgeous bunch of double violets. With a little cry of joy she buried her face in the fragrant mass. "Oh Aunt Mathilda, aren't they beautiful?"

"I suppose they're from that young fellow in New York," was the exclamation for the postmark.

"Yes, I thought so—New York!" Luella started and her face went crimson.

"He won't keep up that gratitude business forever!" her aunt went on. "It was all right after he got hurt in his automobile and we nursed him back to life for him to write a couple of times. But I answered both letters and told him as much as to mind his own business. That should have been an end to it. I know this sinful old world and when I was told to take care of you, I promised to do it and I have. The 'don't' he must be away up on the top of society in New York."

Cheap Skates. Gigantic sale of the men's collars. Adv. in New York Evening Mail.

Star for Every State. It is literally true that there is a star in our flag for every state. The law of 1912 that gave the stars their present arrangement provided that the stars, if you start at the upper left-hand corner and read to the six rows from left to right, shall correspond to each state in the order of its ratification of the Constitution.

and you a quiet little mouse of a girl away off here in the country. Why, you two haven't got any more in common than a wren and a settlin' hen. He'll murry some rich girl of his own kind no matter what he says, and he needs indeed. Is there any card or letter or anything?"

"No, auntie!" Luella's lips trembled guiltily as she said it, for when she had buried her face in the flowers, she had noticed a little white card down among the leaves. But her aunt's words hurt fearfully and she was afraid she couldn't stand any more.

"I'll put them in water on the sitting-room table," said Luella, filling a bowl and going into the other room. She slipped out the card and read. "Dear little girl, I love you. Bob."

Her heart hammering so she was afraid her aunt would hear it, and her face aflame with suppressed excitement, she went back and made an attempt to eat her supper.

But as the evening wore on, her aunt's words got in their effect. "He'll marry some rich girl of his own class." It was true, of course. And the card was only a valentine and it didn't mean anything. He was probably sending similar souvenirs with like sentiments to all the girls he knew.

So she went to bed and cried herself to sleep with the card tucked under her pillow, and dreamed that Bob was flying out of sight in a silver airship with violet wings and waving good-by to a crowd of girls, all of whom, when she looked more closely, had her own features.

She was awakened by the snore calling, "Luella, oh, Luella. Do you think you could be ready to make the eight o'clock train? I've been thinking I could get those new curtains made if I had the stuff today. You could be back by noon."

"All right, auntie, I'll go!" Luella began dressing rapidly. The touch of the card had brought back everything and she was glad of a chance to get away.

She ate her breakfast and passed the sitting-room without once glancing in at the violets. Perhaps she was foolish to feel so about a valentine sent in fun, but they recalled her aunt's words too keenly.

She went straight from the station to the store and took the elevator to the fourth floor where she was directed for certain goods. She walked through a department of rich oriental rugs, the colors of which glowed wonderfully in the warm lights from skillfully placed lamps. She felt as if she had rubbed Aladdin's magical lamp and had suddenly been transported to the Orient.

A man came forward to ask if he could be of service and Luella, reluctantly turning her eyes away from the scene, gave a little cry, "Bob!"

"Luella! It was dear of you to come! Did you get my note?" "Yes—but I—I—Will you please tell me where the curtain goods are? Aunt Mathilda sent me in to buy some."

There was a high-backed bench in a secluded corner concealed by palms. He drew her toward it, they can wait, dear, and I can't. Come and sit down and tell me you care enough to marry me, dear! When you save anyone's life, you have to pay the penalty by marrying him, you know."

"Aren't you just grateful?" she stammered. "Perhaps!" he smiled. "And don't you think you ought to marry a society girl?" "I don't know anything about society and don't want to. I want you, that's all."

"Oh, Bob!" cried Luella happily. "Then it was a really true valentine." (Copyright, 1917, by the McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

Memory's Day. St. Valentine's is Memory's day For some of us who hold A bit of satin put away Engraved in tarnished gold. "From one who gives his heart to you And vows forever to be true."

St. Valentine's is Memory's day We watch the rising sun With lips that vainly strive to pray Their love, "Thy will be done." Love was so sweet, so brief its state, And it is hard, so hard, to wait.

St. Valentine's is Memory's day, Yet, like to that above, Is blessing by an earthly way. A long-remembered love, And to be sure the ones that shine Tear-gems above a valentine.

Thought He Was "Kidding." One day a Dublin graver digger working very hard broke his spade. He told his little son for a new one and told him to tell the shopkeeper he would pay him when he was finished. When the boy came back empty-handed, his father asked him why he did not bring the spade. "Because," said the boy, "he chased me away when I told him you would pay him when you came out of the grave."

Sawtooth, China, Peanut Crop. The minor peanut crop—that of the "large foreign" which is cultivated principally in Jaspering district—has been harvested and the yield is claimed to be below the average owing to drought, but is considered as slightly better than the principal crop, which was reported as being 20 to 30 per cent below the average. All crops suffered from the lack of rain.

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MOUNT VERNON DRAWS MANY.

Noted Envoys From Allies and Thousands of Others Pay Visit to Washington's Tomb.

Powerful and states as usual, Mount Vernon today seems happily unconscious of the very existence of war. Yet the war has had its effect on this Mecca of America, for more people have visited it in recent months than in any similar period in its history.

Washington, the center of things military and diplomatic, has since April 1917, opened its gates to 50,000 new residents come to take up the work of a government at war. Thousands of these Americans take the first opportunity to visit the home of the greatest American.

Besides these, envoys from our allies on diplomatic mission to the United States make a point of journeying to Mount Vernon to honor Washington. They travel as guests of the nation, in the president's yacht Mayflower. The Mayflower has already made four trips of this sort. First she carried Balfour and Marshal Joffre, then the Italian mission, then the Belgian and Russian missions together, and lastly the Japanese viscount and his party.

Each time the iron gates of Washington's tomb swung open for these men to place their wreaths on the shrine within, while the diplomat, with the problems of the world on their shoulders, paid tribute to the man who carried similar burdens faithfully and well a century ago.

The record for the largest number of visitors to Mount Vernon in a day was very nearly set at the time of the confederate reunion, when 7,000 of the old soldiers and their friends visited the estate in one day.

TEMPERED BY TRADE WINDS Climate of the Dominican Republic Pleasant and Salubrious, Says Consul Arthur McLean.

There seems to be an impression abroad that the climate of the Dominican Republic is hot, humid, and unhealthy, writes Consul Arthur McLean, Puerto Plata. While the climate of this republic is tropical, it is pleasant and salubrious. Although it is very warm during the middle of the day, the temperature even in summer seldom reaches 90 degrees F., and the nights at all seasons are cool and pleasant. The climate is tempered by the trade winds which blow almost continuously during the day, and at night the land breeze from the mountains is equally refreshing. Owing to the great diversity of its relief the island of Santo Domingo presents a wider range of climate than any other part of the Antilles. The mean annual temperature of the coast towns is about 79 degrees F. It is cooler inland, the temperature varying with the altitudes. In the valley of Constanza, which is about the center of the island, at an elevation of 3,500 feet ice forms in winter occasionally.

The rainfall varies in different sections of the island from 15 to 200 inches per annum. In the southern part of the island there is a marked distinction between the dry and rainy seasons. The dry season is during the months of September to March, while the rainy season extends from April to August. In the northern half of the island it rains more or less all the year, although the heaviest rainfall occurs from November to April.

There have never been any epidemics of cholera and bubonic plague, and it is many years since there has been any yellow fever in the Dominican Republic.

Modern Soldier's Equipment. The equipment of a French infantryman in Napoleon's day consisted of a gun and a knapsack. Today the soldier carries an array of death-dealing weapons as complete as that of the arsenal itself, according to Popular Science Monthly.

Hand grenades and gun grenades, wire snares, and a rifle are carried by the foot soldiers in the advance. Pickaxe and shovel he must have when he reaches the trenches. Signal lanterns and sky rockets must also be carried by the officers to keep headquarters constantly in touch with the progress of the fight.

The gas alarm and the gas alarm are as necessary as gun. Add to all these the other implements of war and you will understand why physical fitness is the principal consideration in the examination of recruits.

Reading Character. "Are you a good judge of character?" "Pretty fair. Now, for instance, that dignified looking man over there in the corner of the lobby is a stranger to me, but I take him to be a public man, a statesman, perhaps, who is accustomed to addressing large crowds, has constructive ideas and is at home on the platform."

"Ahem!" "You know him?" "Did I miss my guess far?" "Oh, you could have done worse. He's the proprietor of a medicine show."

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ONE DOLLAR AND FIFTY CENTS PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

GEORGE E. B. TURNER, Publisher

Subscribers are urged to keep their subscriptions paid in advance.

The daily labors of the East, who can observe the careful and not provide for future want.

Saturday, February 9, 1918.

AYER

News Items.

William Brown is among 526 New England druggists who have volunteered for war duty as recruiting agents for the new merchant marine.

Miss Ruth G. Hill and John E. Heuresou Jr. were married at Christ Episcopal church, Fitchburg, on Monday morning.

The telephone auto bus which is used in transporting the operators to and from their duties at Camp Devens, collided with a public jitney automobile on the Shirley road, a short distance west of the West Main street railroad crossing, Wednesday night.

Mrs. George E. B. Turner went Wednesday morning to St. Joseph's hospital, Nashua, N. H., to have her tonsils and adenoids removed.

Mrs. Susan M. Barker of the Women's club attended the monthly meeting of the industrial and social conditions committee of the State Federation on Thursday, of which she is a member.

The fourth and last in the series of entertainments given under the auspices of the Women's club in the Red Cross tent place on Thursday evening in the town hall.

Word has been received during the past week from Harry A. Davis, an Ayer boy, who recently arrived in France, and who is now with the American forces.

Some one carried off a sleigh belonging to James E. Griffin, which was standing in his yard Wednesday night. Chief Beatty was notified of the theft.

The new soldiers' clubhouse at Robbins pond was opened on Thursday night with a fine program. Lunch was served.

The school teachers of Ayer and the towns in this vicinity are spending their spare time in assisting the local draft exemption board in indexing the various records and preparing applications according to rules issued by the war department.

The selectmen organized on Thursday evening, John D. Carney was chosen chairman and Douglas C. Smith, superintendent of streets and clerk.

Other Ayer matter on pages 1 and 4.

New Drafted Men.

The following is a list of the names of those called for military service in the 15th district in the final 15th day draft, who are to report at Camp Devens during the five days beginning February 23.

Ayer—Walter H. Flag, James Markham, James McNamara, John O'Neill, Shirley—Alexander P. Gionet, Maynard—Francis A. May, Joseph P. Dimes, Everett G. White, Graniteville—Florence G. Sullivan, Paul E. Symmes, Forge Village—George D. Wilson, Joseph Thompson, Groton—Leroy A. Blood, Ernest Dion, West Chelmsford—Ralph Diehlaisio, West Groton—Joseph Hurlkiewicz, Westford—Emile A. Milot, Ebenezer C. Prescott, Berlin—Orison B. Sloat, Harvard—Joseph F. Ford, Levi V. Goba, Ashby—Frank A. Gooley, West Acton—Alexander Bresth, Townsend—Edward Valcourt, East Pepperell—Thomas I. Allen, George J. Stone, Frank C. West.

A. W. C.

The Women's club held a very interesting meeting on Wednesday afternoon at the business meeting Mrs. Clara Hill was chosen delegate to the mid-winter meeting of the State Federation to be held in Chelsea February 20.

The program was in charge of the art department and as an opening number Mrs. Sargent sang that beautiful song, "Forgotten," and as an encore the lovely little lullaby, "Sweet and low." Miss Blood, the chairman of the art department, then said that an art program just now seemed out of tune unless it had something to do with the present situation and she had arranged to correspond with the times.

Mrs. Susan Barker gave an interesting talk about "Camouflage," giving various apt illustrations and showing its relation to art. A fine description of the works of art destroyed by the war was given by Mrs. Avis Burns Fisher, followed by the reading of an article concerning the cathedral at Rheims by Miss Esther Stone. Mrs. Alice Flisk Butlerfield then gave the views of several of our prominent men favoring the rebuilding of French towns and villages by America.

Mrs. Sargent sang as a closing song, "The unfurling of the flag," the words by Miss Clara Endicott Seaman, and the music by John Denmore. This called forth such an applause that she was obliged to respond with another patriotic song.

At the close of the meeting a rising vote of thanks was given to all who took part in the program.

work, about 350 large compresses have been made.

The members of the Star and friends met at the Star office Friday afternoon, two to five o'clock, under the leadership of Mrs. Eva Harlow and are to be complimented on their excellent work.

Union Services.

First Unitarian Parish, Federated and St. Andrew's churches, Federal Union House, West Main and Mechanic streets. At 10.30, morning service. Music: Chant, "Lord's Prayer." Lowell Mason; "Venite in G." Sully; response, "Consider and hear me." Plummer; offertory—anthem, "The lost child." Sullivan. First Unitarian Parish Church choir, Harold Tyne, conductor, organist, Preacher, Rev. Frank E. Crandall. Subject, "The divine contact."

At 7.30, evening service. Solo, Miss Irene Golden. Organist, Mrs. Emma Graydon. Preacher, Rev. Dr. Hugh A. Heath.

Suffrage Coffee House Opened.

The Suffrage Coffee House on West Main street was opened last Saturday afternoon. The Massachusetts Equal Suffrage association, through whose efforts this latest addition to training camp activities was made, was well represented. Many invited guests were present, including Brigadier General William Welzel, the acting commander of Camp Devens, his staff and other military men, as well as civilians from Ayer and nearby places.

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Benjamin F. Pitman, of Boston, who in a few words presented the house to Brigadier General Welzel for the men at the camp. Mrs. Pitman called upon Mrs. George H. Fearing, Jr., and the noted equal suffrage leader and president of the Massachusetts Equal Suffrage association, Miss Alice E. Blackwell, of Boston, who both made brief remarks. Brigadier General Welzel in a gracious speech, very thankfully accepted the house in behalf of the 76th Division, stating that the project received his hearty commendation. He said that he would have the men all over the camp notified of the presentation of the house, and that he had no doubt that it would be well patronized.

It became known that the two ladies who bore the expense of providing the house were Mrs. Robert G. Shaw and Mrs. George R. Fearing, Jr. These two ladies were adverse to having their names known in this connection as they did not like the publicity attached to their fine benefaction. At their request the presiding officer, Mrs. Pitman, would not mention their names.

Hot coffee, sandwiches and doughnuts were served the guests by a committee of young ladies. The 30th Infantry band gave a fine concert, consisting of the following numbers, under the leadership of John J. Schramm:

March—Eugene Herron, Rossini; Overture—William Tell, Rossini; Serenade—The Old Church Organ, Hall; Valse—Reading of the Winds, Chabrier; Selection—Woodland, Lueders; Suite—Rhapsodie—La Terza, Lacombe; La Rapsodie, La Zarzuela.

After the formal exercises were over, the guests were invited to inspect the house, of which privilege they availed themselves. The new recreation center is considered an ideal place of entertainment for the boys and girls, and was bought of William Corneliel, was remodeled to meet the new requirements.

The house is finely furnished with everything for the enjoyment and comforts of the soldiers. The lower floor is fitted up for a clubroom with comfortable seating for many parties, and a modern kitchen occupies the southeast corner and is in charge of Miss Mary Chase, a graduate of the Framingham Normal school. There are also private rooms where soldiers may meet their relatives for conversation. The building is equipped with up-to-date furniture, including a heating apparatus. The upper floor contains a club room with piano and writing utensils. This room was furnished by the college of Suffrage association. There are also three hot baths and apartments for ladies. Miss Blanche Huley, of Boston, is the resident manager of the house.

All expressed themselves as highly pleased with the new quarters and none were more enthusiastic than the military men for whose benefit the house was provided. The building is situated in an ideal location for the camp, it being on the main highway leading to the cantonment and within easy access of it.

Brigadier General Welzel's staff who accompanied him was composed of Major Wainwright, Capt. Lindsay and Lieut. Burdette. The committee having charge of providing the building in charge is composed of the following: Mrs. Robert G. Shaw, chairman; Mrs. Evelyn P. Coe, sec.; Mrs. Theresa Goodrich, treasurer; Mrs. George H. Fearing, Mrs. Lamond, Mrs. Frank Ingham, Mrs. Robert L. Howze, Mrs. Lewis J. Johnson, Miss Fanny Osgood, Mrs. Wenona O. Plinkham, Mrs. Benjamin Thomsen, Mrs. March B. Stewart, Mrs. Carl S. Stinkham.

Town Meeting.

The feature of the town meeting on Monday was the tremendous majority vote in favor of providing the building for the so-called jitney act regulating motor vehicles in the town. The afternoon session was devoid of much excitement, and the meeting was a quiet, peaceful one in so far as the town business was concerned. The polls opened at 5.45 a. m. and closed at four p. m.

The following election officers served: Herbert L. Farnsworth, Dennis J. Flaherty, William J. Hurlley, Thomas C. Moore, Charles E. Sherman, Francis B. Sullivan, Herbert J. Webb and Henry G. Turner. George L. Wilson was chosen moderator.

There was a total of 471 votes cast out of a total registration of 501. There were seven candidates for selectmen which was the only contest. John D. Carney and Douglas C. Smith were re-elected by a wide margin. The third selectman to be chosen was Elmer H. Longley, who was successful in this his first attempt in getting elected to office in town. The following is the result of the ballot, the vote being given only where there was a contest.

Selectmen, three, John D. Carney 599, Douglas C. Smith 282, Elmer H. Longley 218. Assessors, two, Thomas A. Kittredge 29, F. T. Auld 26. Overseers of poor, three, Carney 23, Smith 22, Longley 22. Fishermen, three, Warren L. Breble, town treasurer, Eliza B. Stearns, town clerk, Elmer H. Longley, auditors, Howard M. Bovey, James J. McGuane, constabulary, William H. Bovey, William H. Bovey, Benjamin E. Wilson, Fred J. Wilson, town committee, 3 years, George H. Brown, 1 year, Theodore W. Barry, board of health, Frank Burdell, 3 years, Hopkins, tree warden, Douglas C. Smith, water commissioner, 3 years, George L. Osgood, surveyor of woods and meadows, Albert M. Phelps, James Hillery, fence viewers, John M. Maloney, Thomas F. Mullin, library trustee, 3 years, Lyman K. Clark, park commissioner, 3 years, Lyman K. Clark, town fish commissioner, 3 years, Martin Scullane, hold drivers, John M. Maloney, Thomas F. Mullin, Chapter 223, John M. Maloney, shall Chapter 223, General Acts of 1916, entitled "An Act to authorize the licensing of cabs and towns of motor vehicles carrying passengers for hire," he licensed? yes 236, no 109, total 345, yes 63.

The following action was taken on articles in the warrant: Article 3. It was voted to amend the selectmen's report on page 66, under the heading "Receipts," by changing the receipts from \$2500.00 to \$2600.00; by substituting \$547.10 on page 69 for \$247.10 as unexpended balance under said school incidentals; and by adding at the end of school incidentals the item "unexpended balance \$300.00" to amend item on page 99, 18th line, by changing \$15,000.00 for \$15,900,000.00 and item on page 141, 13th line, by changing \$8,350.01 instead of \$47,429.55. It was voted to accept the reports as amended.

Art. 4. Voted to authorize the town treasurer, with the approval of the selectmen, to borrow during the current financial year, in anticipation of the revenue of said financial year and to be paid therefrom, the following amount: money may be necessary for the current expenses of the town, during the note or notes of the town, therefore, payable within one year of the date thereof.

Art. 5. Voted to authorize the town treasurer, under the direction of the selectmen, to borrow during the current financial year, in anticipation of the revenue of said financial year, the following amount: money may be necessary for the current expenses of the town, during the note or notes of the town, therefore, payable within one year of the date thereof.

Art. 6. Voted to raise and appropriate \$75 to pay the premium on the bonds of the town treasurer and tax collector.

Art. 7. Voted to raise and appropriate \$50 to be expended under the direction of the G. A. R. in the observance of Memorial day.

Art. 8. Voted that the salaries of the town officers remain the same as last year.

Art. 9. Voted that poll taxes shall become payable on demand, that all other taxes shall become due and payable October 1, 1918, and that interest at the rate of six percent per annum from October 1st be charged on taxes not paid at that time and that the tax collector be directed to collect all taxes not abated during the current financial year.

Art. 10. Voted to raise and appropriate \$300 to reimburse Earl H. Farnsworth for land taken for the construction of the highway by the selectmen and Littleton highway.

Art. 11. Voted to raise and appropriate \$1000 to reimburse Earl H. Farnsworth for land taken for the construction of the highway by the selectmen and Littleton highway.

Art. 12. Voted to raise and appropriate \$1000 to reimburse Earl H. Farnsworth for land taken for the construction of the highway by the selectmen and Littleton highway.

Art. 13. Voted to raise and appropriate \$1000 to reimburse Earl H. Farnsworth for land taken for the construction of the highway by the selectmen and Littleton highway.

Art. 14. Voted that the article be indefinitely postponed. This article called for a demand, that all other taxes shall become due and payable October 1, 1918, and that interest at the rate of six percent per annum from October 1st be charged on taxes not paid at that time and that the tax collector be directed to collect all taxes not abated during the current financial year.

Art. 15. Voted to raise and appropriate \$1000 to reimburse Earl H. Farnsworth for land taken for the construction of the highway by the selectmen and Littleton highway.

Art. 16. Voted to raise and appropriate \$1000 to reimburse Earl H. Farnsworth for land taken for the construction of the highway by the selectmen and Littleton highway.

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DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS THE MAN FROM PAINTED POST 506 AN AIRCRAFT PICTURE

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Douglas Fairbanks

WILL BE SEEN AT

Page Hall Theatre, Ayer

IN ONE OF HIS BEST PICTURES

The Man from Painted Post

A special treat is in store for the many admirers of Douglas Fairbanks in one of his best pictures, "THE MAN FROM PAINTED POST," coming to this theatre on Monday—afternoon at two o'clock; evening at six and eight o'clock. The script for this photoplay was written by Douglas Fairbanks himself and is based on Jackson Gregory's recent magazine story, "Silver Slippers." In the role of Fancy Jim Sherwood, the immaculate dude, who wipes out a powerful gang of cattle rustlers, the smiling star offers a characterization that will meet with popular favor among patrons of clean pictures. Bucking bronchos, crack-riding, trick roping and bulldogging steers are among the interesting features offered by this comedy drama of the true west. Participating in these scenes are the champions of the world in their respective accomplishments, including Sam Brownell, champion bucking broncho rider; John Judd, fancy rope artist; Tommy Grimes, H. A. Strickland and other winners at the last Rodeo Competition held in Cheyenne, Wyo. It was at this meet that Douglas Fairbanks signed up the champions for "The Man from Painted Post" and each individual give a good account for himself in this picture.

UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE MATINEES ON MONDAYS WILL START AT TWO O'CLOCK MATINEE EVERY DAY AT 3 O'CLOCK Saturdays and Holidays at 2 o'clock TWO PERFORMANCES EVERY EVENING—6 and 8 o'clock COMING—Monday, February 18—WILLIAM S. HART in "SILENT MAN"

P. Donlon & Co. CHOICE WESTERN BEEF NATIVE PORK, CHICKENS, FOWLS LAMB VEGETABLES FRUITS CANDY AND CIGARS TEAS AND COFFEE BREAD AND PASTRY BUTTER, LARD, OLEOMARGARINE FRESH FISH AND OYSTERS Every Week Agents for ACME OLEOMARGARINE The finest and best substitute for Butter. Can be used on the table LARD COMPOUND Cheaper than Lard and gives better Results FIRST QUALITY WESTERN BEEF Strloin Steaks 35c. lb.

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, \$2.50 BRASSIERES Hamburg Trimmed and Plain Models; also Tailored Models 50c. and 59c.

P. Donlon & Co. Meats Block AYER, MASS. Telephone 32

H. H. Proctor PAGE BLOCK AYER, MASS.

Union Cash Market Ayer, Mass.

Gamp Devens Post Cards We have 45,000 of the very best cards that have been produced. We had authority from Washington for the work and our Mr. Beverly was with the artist to select the subjects when the original negatives were made. The price is 1c. each \$1.00 per hundred

BOTTOM OF ROUND 25c. lb. ROAST PORK 28c. lb. SMOKED SHOULDERS 25c. lb. FRESH SHOULDERS 25c. lb. GOOD ROAST BEEF 22c. lb. TOP OF ROUND 35c. lb. OYSTERS, both in bulk and jars 25c. lb. EXTRA GOOD COFFEE 25c. lb. Ground to Order SHREDDED WHEAT 13c. pkg. CORNFLAKES 10c. pkg. HORSE FOR SALE CHEAP FOR CASH

Hardware AND Groceries The price is 1c. each \$1.00 per hundred Depot Square Ayer, Mass. DRUG STORE AYER

H. J. Webb REGISTERED OPTOMETRIST Opposite Depot Ayer, Mass.

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Wish to call your attention to their stock of GEMETERY MEMORIALS which they would be pleased to have intending purchasers inspect and obtain prices.

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Ayer, Mass. PRETTY HANDY

little place to have around when you find you need something at a moment's notice in the grocery line—that applies to our store where we have about everything imaginable in the small grocery line. You will be surprised at the amount of stock we carry for your convenience.

Our Specialty is the Handling of the Very Best Vermont Butter and Cheese

EAST MAIN STREET GROCERY JAMES E. GRIFFIN, Proprietor

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THE REAL ESTATE AGENT In regard to Investments? Room 3 Bank Bldg. Ayer

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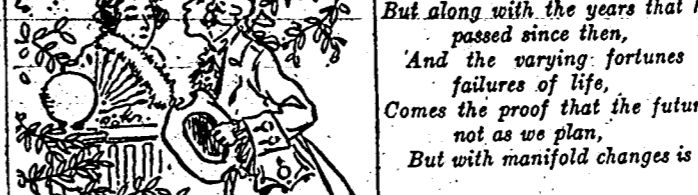
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If you're advertising in it, what's the point? It's the only cheap advertising medium that doesn't pay in cash at the price. Advertisers get the best, therefore it is the cheapest.

MEMORIES



But along with the years that have passed since then, And the varying fortunes and failures of life, Comes the proof that the future is not as we plan, But with manifold changes is rife. For we drew apart—though I loved her—the while— And she married a man more worthy of her, Who had wealth and refinement and learning profound And all that a queen might prefer. Yet I am not bitter, and envy not him, The wine of true happiness once 'to be mine.'— But out of my solitude rises to God A prayer for that old Valentine.

FIRST LOVE



The object of my affection was a girl of my own age who lived at the other end of our block. She had fiery red hair and the sides of her nose were dotted with freckles, but she was beautiful to me and she was mighty popular with the boys. Nowadays she would be called a good sport but a wild flirt. But she was always cheerful and she was the only girl who had not made fun of my back tooth and so I loved her to distraction. So also did others. When I saw her after the great day I found that practically every boy in the neighborhood had sent her a valentine breathing undying affection and that while mine was as beautiful as any, she seemed to cherish some of the others more. That valentine day made our block an armed camp of jealous lovers. Half I participated, and in both of which a dozen fights resulted, in two of which I got licked.

THE VALENTINE

save his quiver and a bath towel. But what used to be called modesty is now listed as prudishness. The average maid of today doesn't blink at a flock of Cupids, Psyche, Venuses or Dianas. She can mingle on equal terms with the undressed parade at the seaside and she has her picture in the pink pages showing nothing much but her legs and teeth. She gossips about eugenics and birth control much as the girl of old did about Little Goldenlocks and the three bears. If a sweetheart should send her a little box, sweet effect made of lace paper, hearts and pink roses she would yawn him off the premises. So it is that the old-time valentine is pretty much numbered with the slain. The very young, and the quantity romantic, may indulge, but not your latter day lovers. The day of St. Valentine may be remembered by gifts to sweethearts, but they are more apt to be silver cigarette cases or cocktail sets rather than the filmy Cupids of other days.—Los Angeles Times.

THE VALENTINE HAD

growing a bit cowbylike in these feverish times of efficiency and speed if Romeo loves a maid he grabs her by the shoulder, throws her into a deep-breathing buzz-wagon and breaks the road limit to the local Gretna Green. He doesn't sit in a little back room and blush to himself as he puts her address to an envelope containing a dainty lace-curtained portrayal of Cupid shooting an arrow into a little pink heart. The blush was over his own effrontery and also over the fact that Cupid had very little on

ORCHARD GLEANINGS

TO PREPARE GRAFTING WAX Directions Given for Melting Resin, Beeswax and Beef Tallow—Make It Into Sticks.

A good grade of grafting wax may be made as follows: Resin four parts by weight, beeswax two parts by weight, beef tallow one part by weight. The ingredients should be melted together but not boiled. As soon as they are all melted stir thoroughly and pour into a tub of tepid water. Grease the hands with tallow and work the mass under water in such a way that it will cool evenly throughout. When tough remove from the water and pull like candy until it becomes a light straw color. Make into sticks about an inch in diameter, wrap in oiled paper and lay aside until wanted. To use, simply warm by holding in the hands or by working it under tepid water. It will keep indefinitely. The wax is lumpy if because it was boiled or because it was cooled too quickly. Lumpy wax may be improved by heating slowly (preferably in a double boiler or glue pot) until it is completely melted and then repeat as before.

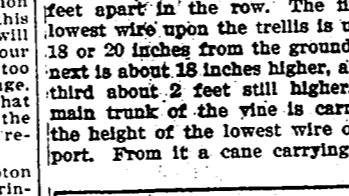
PRUNING THE FIRST WINTER

Horticulturist Must Then Shape His Vines According to Character of Plant Growth. Pruning grapes the first winter after the vines are started is most important. It is then that the horticulturist must carefully study his vines, shaping them according to the character of the growth made by the plants. If the season has been bad, or because of any other reason, the year's growth has been weak and short, all the wood except the biggest and strongest shoots should be taken off and the big shoot cut back to not more than three buds.

HIGH-RENEWAL SYSTEM PLAN

Trellis Consisting of Three or More Wires Required—Shoots Must Be Tied to Supports. The high-renewal system of training grapes requires a trellis consisting of three or more wires or other suitable supports carried by posts or stakes placed at convenient distances apart in the row of grapes, the vines themselves being planted 8 or 10 feet apart in the row. The first or lowest wire upon the trellis is usually 18 or 20 inches from the ground. The next is about 15 inches higher, and the third about 2 feet still higher. The main trunk of the vine is carried to the height of the lowest wire or support. From it a cane carrying about

HEAVY'S CHANGE



eight buds is trained in either direction along the lowest wire. From each of these buds shoots develop which bear the crop of the season; but as these shoots are seldom able to care for themselves they must be tied to the upper supports of the trellis.

Making Layers of Grapes

Operation May Be Done by Bending Shoot Down and Burying Part in Shallow Trench. Layers of Concord and Niagara grapes may be made of the present season's growth by bending a shoot down and burying a portion of its length in a shallow trench about one inch in depth. Cover with rich earth. The extreme end of the layered shoot should be tied to a stout stake in an erect position. By fall the layered shoot will be rooted and it may then be cut off from the parent vine. This is a good way to grow extra vines.

BURN DEAD TREES IN WINTER

Particular Attention Should Be Paid to Those Killed by Borers to Destroy Insects. Oak or other trees that have died during the year, especially if they have been killed by borers, should be left until spring the insects will lay eggs in healthy trees and perhaps cause their destruction.

ORCHARD USED FOR PASTURE

All Right for Sheep, Calves and Poultry, but Horses and Cattle Should Be Kept Out. Cattle and horses should not be allowed to graze in the orchard, as they not only tramp the sod hard, but will eat the tender shoots of the trees. The orchard may be used as a pasture for sheep, calves and poultry, but not for horses or cattle.

Hemp Eggs by Central's Ring

A telephone subscriber in Newark asked his operator to ring his bell in three minutes, and immediately hung up his receiver. At the appointed time the supervisor rang on the line and the subscriber responded merely with "Thank you." Later he called again and thanked the operator, and explained that he had been billing her and wanted to thank her. They had been cooked to the queen's taste, he said.—Youth's Companion.

Hemp Reduces Friction

It has been discovered that a hemp rope twisted in and out of the links of an iron chain will make the chain last 70 per cent longer by reducing friction, and save from one-fifth to one-third of the price of a new chain.

Optimistic Thought

He who reason rules may with safe rule others.

of the curfew law by the town, passed over. Art. 22 Voted to appropriate the sum of \$125 to provide the town hall with water supply, and the present committee have charge of the appropriation. Art. 23 Voted to appropriate the sum of \$100 for the employment of a health and district nurse, to be under the control of the local board of health.

Art. 24 Voted to appropriate the sum of \$200 to build a cement or granite sidewalk along the southerly side of Front street from a point at the intersection of Church street, thence by the easterly side of Church street as far as the appropriation will allow.

Art. 25 Voted that the town ratify the act of Charles H. Wear, Jr., sole remaining executor, and Frederick W. Holden, treasurer, in their administration of the estate of Mrs. Mary E. Lilly, deceased, dated February 4, 1918, inclusive.

The following is the result of the balloting for town officers, the figures being given only where there was a contest. Town clerk, Arthur G. Dunn; selectmen—Charles H. Wear, Jr., 3 years, 100 votes; William G. White, 1 year, 80 votes; Frederick W. Holden; assessor, George S. Lawrence; collector, William A. Boutlier; tax collector, Ralph S. Wheeler; overseer of the poor, Thomas S. Gately; school committee, 3 years, Thomas E. Lilly; board of health, 3 years, Walter Knobel; tree wardens, Asa A. Adams; constables, three, John E. Adams 123, Fred A. Smith 89, George W. Gately 75; William M. Gionet 70, John Seymour 64; auditors, Elmer H. Allen, J. Edwin Little, W. Evans, Thomas L. Hazen; 2 years, Edward S. Pratt; liquor question, no 120, yes 41.

Entertainment. The entertainment at Odd Fellows' hall on last Saturday evening, held under the auspices of the Service club, proved to be a most pleasing event. The large number present were appreciative of the program as a whole and were generous in their applause. The music of the evening was directed by Miss Minnette Ziever, supervisor at the clubhouse for girls in Shirley, and gave evidence of marked executive ability.

At the close of the entertainment all those who contributed to the program of the evening, in company with a goodly number of the soldiers from Camp Devens and some of the townspeople, which are being held in the soldiers' welfare, were entertained as guests at the Girls' clubhouse. Coffee and sandwiches were enjoyed. It was certainly gratifying to the girls who were given the most pleasing event, which terminated with charming results for all concerned.

The program of the evening was given as follows: Soloists, Privates William Gustafson, Bailey, O'Keefe, Jazz piano player, J. V. Foley, cabaret entertainer, Sgt. Elanthe, soloist, Miss M. C. A. Secretary Anderson, entertainer; Private Dias, monologist; Mrs. Margaret S. West, contralto soloist, sketch, A. Broken Arrow, sketch, Miss Ruth Malonson, Harri Ballou, Sarah Stevenson; one-act comedy, "Pinky Fanny Poo," Misses Oma Wolf, Marion Jubb, Leah Wheeler, and Katherine Miner, with Miss Hazel Ballou as pianist; comedy sketch, "No men wanted," Misses Mary Badstuber, Madeline Logue, Ruth Knobel.

Obituary. Charles H. Tewksbury died on January 8 at his home on Center road in Shirley, only a child of Henry and Sally Tewksbury, Tewksbury, and was born in Stewartstown, N. H., February 2, 1855.

In 1878 Mr. Tewksbury married Miss Anna Knapp, of Colebrook, N. H., and spent his early married life farming in Stewartstown, N. H. He later went into the hardware business in Colebrook, N. H., under the firm name Colebrook & Tewksbury. On account of his wife's ill health, however, they moved to a farm purchased in Harvard and lived there for several years. He then moved to Shirley five years ago, on the place formerly owned by Robertus F. Colburn, Center road, which is one of the ideal modern homes in Shirley. He has since been engaged in farming on a small scale and also produced milk which he delivered morning and evening to regular customers and a kindly, unassuming personality which won for him the esteem of the townspeople, who placed a high value on his integrity and ability.

His death was a great loss to the town, and a bereavement which was felt by the prominent citizens of the town to accept town office, and three years ago was elected assessor, without opposition, and two years ago, without opposition, he was elected selectman, holding both offices at the time of his death.

Though in politics a staunch democrat, he was generally conceded that he was fair-minded and broad and always four square to the world. A man of the people who was always in the front of the town, and his life and his home and family and spent all his time with them when not engaged in business.

His death was caused by cerebral hemorrhage, passing away in less than one hour after being stricken, which was a terrible blow to his family and a great loss to the town. The best that could be said of anyone can be said of him. "He was a kind man and the memory of his life will always be a blessing to the town. His funeral services were held at his late home on January 10, Rev. G. E. Woodman, formerly pastor of the Methodist church, officiating, and paid a glowing tribute to his life. The house was well filled with mourners, and friends and neighbors, and the funeral services were most impressive. Mr. Woodman and the family made his remarks very pertinent. The following program was given: Soloists, Misses Mary Badstuber, Madeline Logue, Ruth Knobel.

Art. 1. Voted that the town appropriate the sum of \$120 for the purchase of a police car, to be used for police protection and the choice of a police officer be left to the appointing board of selectmen.

Art. 2. Voted that the town appropriate the sum of \$100 for the purchase of a police car, to be used for police protection and the choice of a police officer be left to the appointing board of selectmen.

Art. 3. Voted that the town appropriate the sum of \$100 for the purchase of a police car, to be used for police protection and the choice of a police officer be left to the appointing board of selectmen.

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SHIRLEY News Items.

The Service club held their regular meeting in the clubrooms on Tuesday. The president, Mrs. Mary E. Lilly, presided. The secretary, Mrs. M. C. Gately, read the records and the membership of the club now had membership of 130. The president announced that the Woman's Patriotic league, having gone out of existence, the camp committee recently served a camp committee of the welfare of the club to the satisfaction of all interested in the work. The club is to hold community chest parties every Monday evening in their rooms at 7.30, to which all are invited and a good time is anticipated at the dance to be held by the club on the week Saturday evening at 7.30 in Odd Fellows' hall.

Mrs. Hannah Simpson is visiting at the home of her granddaughter, Mrs. Harold W. French, of Fitchburg.

Walter J. Desmond graduated last Monday from the dental college, receiving the honors of D. M. D. Mr. Desmond is in the reserve and expects soon to be called to the colors. At present he is practicing in the office of Dr. B. H. Wyle of Ayer.

At the whist party held at the Service clubrooms on Monday evening Mr. and Mrs. P. T. Authier, Mrs. Schiller and Mrs. Post won the first prize. They were awarded a box of chocolates each.

The Alliance held their regular meeting on Thursday afternoon in the Service clubrooms.

Miss Rosa Buckheim spent a few days this week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. August Buckheim, of Clinton.

The public library closed on Wednesday, owing to the shortage of coal. The public schools were closed on Tuesday afternoon owing to the extreme cold weather. The rooms were too cold to hold sessions.

The Ladies' circle of the Congregational church will meet next Wednesday afternoon with Mrs. E. H. Conant. The guest speaker of the day will be Mrs. Edward L. Green, of Fitchburg, president of the North Middlesex branch of the Woman's Board of Missions. A large attendance is requested.

Mrs. Abbe J. Wells and Mrs. Lavonne Edgerton will hold a military whist party at the Girls' clubroom in Peasley's block on Friday evening, February 15. The proceeds will be used for mending work at Camp Devens.

Town Meeting. Town meeting was held Monday in Odd Fellows' hall, opened at 11.30 a. m. and closed at 3.45 p. m. 185 votes being cast out of a registered list of 331, and one woman voted for school committee. The town business was taken up at one o'clock and as usual D. Chester Parsons was chosen moderator. No serious objection was voiced in the principle article, and the warrant for \$1000 was voted for police protection and the question of choice of a police officer was left to the discretion of the incoming board of selectmen. The sum of \$1000 was also voted for the employment of a public and district health nurse.

Major E. K. Sprague of the U. S. Public Health Service, also, Dr. Francis A. Finnegan of the state department of health were present and told of the practical worth to the town of a nurse of this character, being employed.

The article relating to curfew law was voted down by a big majority; the citizens felt that there was no need of this law in the town.

Dr. Thomas E. Lilly defeated Frank H. Wheeler for selectman and John E. Adams, Fred E. Smith and George A. Stebbins were elected constables. The vote on the curfew law was 130 yeas and 130 nays, the largest majority for no license in a decade.

The election officers were: Thomas J. Gately, Timothy C. Lucie, Henry F. Groat, Lester G. Holden, Joseph M. Flynn, George F. Buxton, Richard Weeks and Michael Gionet.

The articles in the town warrant were acted upon as follows: Article 1. Voted that the incoming board of selectmen, to be chosen by ballot.

Art. 2. Voted that the reports of the selectmen, overseer of the poor, school committee and auditor be accepted.

Art. 3. Voted that the reports of the selectmen, overseer of the poor, school committee and auditor be accepted.

Art. 4. Under this article the following appropriations were made: Balance of \$7000 and the unexpended balance of \$17, \$2000; town poor \$1500; highways \$2500; bridges and railroads \$1000; fire department \$700; enforcement of curfew law \$250; library and unexpended balance \$500; street lighting \$200; Memorial day \$50; street lights \$2800 and the unexpended balance of 1917, salaries \$900; tree wardens \$100; exterminating \$551.63; transportation of books \$25; transportation of voters \$15; board of health \$200 and unexpended balance of 1917, receiving money \$500; insurance \$100; care of fire \$100; town incidentals \$1500; care of Center common \$20; building of catch basin at the intersection of Leominster and Cateunemat roads \$50; and Cateunemat roads \$50.

AMERICAN
BOSTON MASS.
 A minute fresh surface of subway car—laminated for comfort, convenience and economy. Returned. All the modern conveniences in every room. Prompt service. \$1.00 a day. The unique restaurant now one of Boston's show places. The chef's choice of the market affords a service in quiet and beautiful surroundings to perfect taste.

THE FAMOUS
RATHSKELLER

TRY
Felch's Plant Restorer
 FOOD FOR HOUSE PLANTS
 For Sale at Greenhouses and Grocers
GEORGE E. FELCH Ayer, Mass.

SHIRLEY CASH MARKET

ALWAYS ON HAND WITH A FRESH SUPPLY OF
BEEF
PORK
VEAL
LAMB
SMOKED, PICKLED and CANNED MEATS
 As Your Door in Ayer Every Tuesday and Saturday
 Every Day in Shirley
FRESH FISH FRIDAYS
VEGETABLES IN THEIR SEASON
CHARLES A. MCCARTHY, Prop.
 CUTFLOWERS, PLANTS, FLORAL DESIGNS, ETC. HARDY ORNAMENTAL TREES, SHRUBS AND VINES

H. Huebner Florist
 Groton, Mass.
 Greenhouses near Groton School
FRANK T. SWEET, C. E.
 Surveying
 Batter Boards
 Civil Engineering
 Office with HERBERT J. WEBB
 Main Street Ayer, Mass.

Valentines
 NOVELTIES
 COMICS
 PULLS
 MECHANICAL FIGURES
 Postcards, Folders, Hearts, Decorative Crepe Paper and Paper Napkins, Stickers, Seals, Etc.

Ayer Variety Store
 On Saint Valentine's day, 1908, Arthur Trumbull of Oswego, N. Y., sent a young woman named Alice Cayvan, whom he had been courting with indifferent success for several years, a large, heart-fashioned out of crimson cardboard. Through the heart he had stuck a paper mache arrow. On it he had written the single interrogatory word "Hopeless." The next day the heart was returned to him by mail; but the arrow had been removed and the hole in the center had been patched up with a bit of white paper on which Miss Cayvan had written a clearly legible "Yes." They were married soon after.

Not less productive of result was the effort of Albert Hildrummel of Topeka, Kan., who, according to an article printed in Western newspapers, sent the young woman he loved, Clara Sedgwick, a blank marriage certificate on last Valentine's day with these verses on the back:

This is my idea of a valentine. Practical, indeed, but true. If you'll write your name in it, It will be a valentine for two.

It is interesting to note that the recipient did as directed.

An odd valentine was that sent two years ago by Francis Everlin of Chicago to Sarah Collins of Toledo, O. Everlin had asked the latter to marry him on numerous occasions, but the young woman had always asked him to refrain from regarding her otherwise than "a sister." Everlin had no such intention, however, and, biding his time till Valentine's day, sent her a valentine made up to resemble a ballot such as is used in municipal elections. At the top of the ballot was a

Dr. C. A. Fox, Dentist
 Harry Bldg. Tel. Co. Ayer, Mass.

FRANK S. BENNETT
 Successor to ARTHUR FEARNER
 Insurance Agent and Broker
 Main Street Turner's Bldg. AYER, MASS.

Ralph H. Wylie
 DENTIST
 Barry Bldg. AYER MASS.
 Telephone Connection 3144

A VALENTINE
 By ARTHUR GUTTMAN with illustrations by JOHN WOLCOTT ADAMS

If all be true that wise men say Of good St. Valentine his day, Oh, then above the melting snow The Snowdrops' beautiful kisses blow; The silver Trout of lake and linn Do swim together fin-to-fin; The furry Hares of heath and shaw Do make their gambols, paw-to-paw; The Birds their mating crawl-to- wing And fly together, wing-and-wing And all about the wakening land Go Youths and Maidens, hand-in-hand. Then, Ever-Dearest, hear my plea And wander hand-in-hand with me.

—From Good Housekeeping.



CUPID STILL RULES
 Cynics Who Decried Power of St. Valentine Are Unable to Prove Their Case.

A CYNIC once remarked that the two most irritating days on the calendar were those connected with St. Valentine's Day and Valentine's Day. The first often brought with it a stretch of rain and the second a stretch of a strain; for, of all strains in the world, he argued, the worst was that imposed by having to read a silly lot of footless and useless valentines.

The cynic probably does not stand alone in his opinion of Saint Valentine's day. There are thousands of men like him who believe that the day has degenerated; that, where once Cupid conquered hearts through loving missives sent on February 14, he now merely yawns and falls to head.

But does he? Have the old valentines, as love messages, really lost their power? Or have new kinds of valentines succeeded the flimsy lace kind of other years? And are they at all effective?

The printed chronicles of the last several years reveal numerous cases that go to disprove the statement of the cynic and his followers.

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DO YOU MAKE \$1000 OR \$2000 IN 1917?
 If so, Heed the Federal Income Tax Requirements—Do Your Income Duty Now.

If you are a citizen or resident of the United States and your net income for 1917 equaled or exceeded \$2,000 if you are married and live with your wife (or husband), or \$1,000 if you are not married or do not live with your wife (or husband) you must make a Federal income tax return on or before March 1, 1918.

If your net income plus the net income of your wife (or husband) and dependent children (if any) amounted to \$2,000 or more, all such income must be reported, either on one form or on separate forms. Income of wife (or husband) and children should be classified in the same manner as your own income.

Income of dependent children must be included in their father's or mother's return unless such income was derived from a separate estate under control of a guardian, trustee, or other fiduciary. Income of minor or incompetent, derived from a separate estate, must be reported by his legal representative.

Personal Exemption.

If you are married and live with your wife (or husband) or are head of a family, you are entitled to a personal exemption of \$2,000 plus \$200 for each dependent child under 18 (or mentally or physically incapacitated for self-support). If husband and wife make separate returns, this exemption may be claimed by either (but not by both) or may be divided between them.

If you are not married or do not live with your wife (or husband) or are not head of a family, you are entitled to a personal exemption of \$1,000 only.

A "head of family" is a person who, in accordance with some moral or legal obligation, actually supports and maintains one or more individuals closely related to him or her by blood, marriage, or adoption.

When to Pay.

You may pay your tax by sending cash, check, or money order with your return, to the collector of internal revenue.

You must pay it on or before June 15, 1918, to the collector to whom the return is sent.

Penalties.

For making false or fraudulent return—Not exceeding \$2,000 or not exceeding one year's imprisonment, or both, at the discretion of the court, and, in addition, 100 per cent of the tax evaded.

For failing to make return on time:—Not less than \$20 nor more than \$1,000, and, in addition, 50 per cent of the amount of tax due.

The basis for computing any tax that may be due the Government is the net income. This amount is determined in the case of each person by certain definite computations prescribed in the law. The individual must consider as his total income the earnings of himself, his business, his money and his property. If he is married, the income of his wife must be included. If there are dependent children, the earnings of such dependent children must be included.

There are a few items of income that are not taxable. A person can omit any salary or wages from a State or a political subdivision thereof; gifts or legacies; life insurance received as a beneficiary or as premiums paid back at maturity or surrender of policy; also interest on municipal, state or United States bonds. The only income from Government bonds that a person is required to show on his Federal return is the interest on any Liberty Bonds he may own in excess of \$5,000 par value.

There are certain deductions allowed by the law on personal returns. A person may claim as such deductions the following:—

Necessary business, trade or professional expense; interest paid on personal indebtedness; taxes paid (not including federal income tax or assessments for local improvements); losses sustained in business or through fire, storm, shipwreck or theft (except when compensated by insurance or otherwise); wear and tear of property rented or used in business (formula: divided cost by number of years; deduced life of property); bad debts of business or profession, actually charged off within the year; if these items were shown as income on a Federal income tax return; contributions to charitable, educational organizations, etc. (to an amount not exceeding 15 per cent of year's net income).

Having computed his total income from all taxable sources for the year, and ascertained his allowable deductions for the same year according to the items that are allowable by law, a person can readily find his actual net income by subtracting the deductions from the total income.

Dividends are included in the net income of an individual. However, before the normal tax is computed on a return, the dividends are eliminated from that income. The same process applies to income from bonds of corporations that have agreed to relieve the bond holder of income tax on bond interest.

Wonderfully Acute Facilities.

The keenest hearing is that of the vaudeville artist, who frequently answers the encore before it starts—Kansas City Star.

Politics of the Future.

Some day a political genius will announce that he covets the votes of the worst class of people; and the bored and soft-soaped electorate will arise with a mighty shout and elect him to office unanimously—Sioux City Journal.

pen and ink picture of a house, and beneath appeared Everlin's name opposite all the offices to be voted for, viz., rentpayer, bundle carrier, loving husband, and so on. A slip was appended asking the voter to vote the straight ticket. Whether it was the humor of it or something else is unknown; but the fact remains that Miss Collins put the matrimonial X under the house.

The "missing-link" puzzle craze gave Herbert Randall of San Francisco his valentine cue in 1907. To his sweetheart, Vera Salomon of the same city, he sent this incomplete stanza, asking her to fill out the last line. The verse ran:

"It might have been" are saddest words In world of love and love and strife; For thee, these are the gladdest words: The stanza was returned the following day with this line: "Yes, dear, I now will be your wife."

One of the most peculiar valentines on record was the one sent a year ago by Allen Straw of Pittsburgh to Louise Royaver of Erie. It was nothing more or less than a large roll of white silk, bearing the words: "This is for a wedding dress. Please valentine me with a 'yes.'" The silken valentine was effective.

On Valentine's day three years ago two men sent their sweethearts railroad timetables to Niagara Falls, and another man sent his lady love a trunk tied with white ribbons and strewn inside with rice.

John Thomas Ray of Omaha won a wife through a valentine sent to a young woman living in St. Louis. Ray's valentine took the form of a big red apple, to the stem of which he had attached a card reading: "Love me and a world of happiness shall be yours. Love me not, and all that you will have will be this apple. It is big and red and pretty, but it will not last any more than will the semihappiness you believe you are enjoying while single."

The popular jigsaw puzzles were used as valentines by several woosers last year. One man, named Shaw, of Atlanta, sent one to his sweetheart in the same city and with it the lines: "I've puzzled my brain to guess your answer. Won't you put me in shape again with a 'Yes'?" The girl sent the valentine puzzle back with a note that read: "I do not want this puzzle. I'll give you myself. I have been a puzzle, I admit; but I'm going to solve myself for you."

Another man, Stanley Lemoyne of Denver, sent one of the puzzles as a valentine to Rhea Knowles of the same town, with the note: "This will help pass away the dull hours for you in case you refuse to marry me." The girl married him.

Odd valentines, these, indeed; but odder still the valentine sent in 1906 by Reynolds Touhey of New York to May Lindstrom of Brooklyn, a valentine that succeeded in leading the latter to the altar. Touhey's valentine was a Dresden doll baby, and attached to it was a card reading: "Imagine having nothing more real than this all your life!"—The Sunday Magazine.

MOTHERS
 Don't neglect your children's teeth—watch for the six-year molar, which erupts between the fifth and seventh years. This tooth belongs to the second or permanent set, and is the most important tooth in the mouth. It is the keystone to the dental arch. See us about your children's teeth.

For the boys at sea

Opportunities.
 The reason opportunities are neither recognized nor embraced lies in the composition of the tissues, the flesh, and the blood, called man. One man perceives one kind, his blood brother sees a lesser or many better ones. John pushes through the habits he acquires all too early; James overcomes the temperament he and his nine brothers partly inherited.

The largest rubber tree in the western hemisphere is located on the island of Hawaii.

FARM COUNTRY

MATING AND BREEDING PLAN
 Quality and Not Quantity Counts These Days—Bigger Returns Secured From Small Flocks.

As quality and not quantity, is what counts these days, it will pay better to hatch a small number of chicks from the best fowls in the flock, than it will to hatch a large number from ordinary stock. A great many make the mistake of trying to keep too many fowls in their breeding yards, in order to keep a good stock of layers on hand. A small flock that has



Barred Plymouth Rock Cockerel.
 been culled, and you know to be good stuff, will bring larger returns in the end.

It is very important to look after the ages of the fowls to be mated. As a rule cockerels are mated to hens, and cocks to pullets. This is all right, yet one can get good results by mating fowls of the same age, provided they are well mated. It is never advisable to mate pullets with cockerels. A male bird two years of age is best.

Twelve to 14 hens should be mated with one male for best results. It is sometimes the case that a male may be mated with a larger number of hens with good results, but it is risky to experiment.

You should be sure that you have a good male bird at the head of your flock. If all males are strong and vigorous at the time, you will at least, be half certain of strong eggs for hatching.

PROFITS IN EGGS PRODUCTION
 Experimental Results at Indiana Station Show That There Is Money in the Business.

Considerable attention has been given to the present lack of profit in egg production. But data gathered by the Purdue Experiment station show that there has been a good profit during the past year, despite the high prices of feeds.

Experimental results at that station have shown that it takes six pounds of mixed feeds to produce a dozen eggs on the farm. On this basis, with local grain prices, it cost 9.6 cents for feed to produce a dozen eggs in 1914-15; 9.3 cents in 1915-16, and 15.7 cents in 1916-17. During the same periods the average income per dozen eggs was 18.1 cents, 20.2 cents and 30.4 cents respectively. This means a profit over feed cost of 8.5 cents in the first-named period; 10.9 cents in the second, and 14.6 cents in the third, or during the past year.

Doesn't it look like there's still a profit in producing eggs on the farm?

CANKER INDICATIVE OF COLD
 Also Results From Injuries Received Fighting—Plan for Treatment Outlined.

While canker is usually indicative of a cold, it is also the result of injury. When male birds have been fighting, cankers are likely to form from injury to the mouth. Germs get rooted in these wounds and set up ulcerating sores. Digestive disorders will cause canker. Look to the diet of birds that are affected; clean out the cankers and apply pure soda, or creolin, if at hand. Make a swab of cotton on a toothpick, and touch every spot of the sore. Peroxide of hydrogen, diluted with an equal amount of water, will cleanse. The sore should then be touched with carbolic vaseline.

KEEP POULTRY HOUSES DRY
 Difficult Matter When Outside is Fairly Reeking With Moisture—Change Litter Often.

When the outside is fairly reeking with moisture it is difficult to keep the inside of the poultry quarters from dampness. By changing the litter often and providing ventilation enough to carry off all the foul air, the fowls can be kept reasonably comfortable, and it is a relief to know that this kind of weather is not last always.

The Way of Investigations.
 Very few investigations hold up in a way that makes them as interesting at the finish as they were at the start.

Changing Color of Flowers.
 Many pink flowers may be turned blue by exposing them to the fumes of ammonia for a few minutes, and blue flowers become pink when exposed to acids.

LITTLETON
 News Items.
 Miss Augusta W. Smith is visiting her brother, Charles H. Smith, at his home in Cambridge, Mass. She is accompanied by her sister, Mrs. John A. Wright, who is also visiting with the group.

Miss Mary P. Kimball will be home on Monday to attend a course in hospital nursing at the Massachusetts General Hospital.

Mrs. Susie Dexter, of Littleton, is a guest at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles P. Watts.

G. Edward Prouty, Harry W. E. Wood registered as voters at the Littleton school.

The polls will be open from 6 to 8 o'clock Monday morning.

George Durkee, one of our oldest citizens, is reported quite indisposed.

The Grange dance on Wednesday evening of the 7th party, had a few coming from out of town. Among the guests were several from Camp Devens. The musical orchestra furnished the music, giving splendid satisfaction.

Many former pupils and other friends of Miss Maria L. Bragg, for many years a teacher at the West school, will be sorry to learn that she is at a sanitarium, suffering from the effects of a recent shock.

The bread flour shortage is causing inconvenience and unrest here so only to the scarcity of their monthly amount on hand at the store has dwindled to scarcely a bagful, and orders given three months ago to the wholesale dealers have not yet been filled. Fuel first and then food is evidently the order of the administrators.

Rev. Charles A. S. Dwight, of Berlin, will again occupy the Congregational pulpit on Sunday morning. A large congregation should greet Mr. Dwight and it is hoped that every family of the parish will be present to hear his message.

The United Workers were again obliged to postpone their monthly meeting because of the very severe weather. This is the second consecutive meeting that has met this fate.

The ladies of the Congregational church will serve the dinner on town meeting day.

The Woman's club will hold no meeting until Monday, February 25, as the speaker who was to entertain the next week asked to give a postponement of her Littleton engagement.

The King's Daughters postponed their meeting until next Tuesday because of the intensely severe weather this week.

Capt. and Mrs. Gallaudet have broken up housekeeping as he was transferred to Fort Sill, Okla., and Mrs. Gallaudet and little daughter Ellen have gone to her mother's home in New Haven, Conn.

Willis Stone enjoyed a visit with his aunt, Mrs. Frank Merriam, Fitchburg, from Friday until Sunday morning.

The highway surveyor was out with the road scraper doing road work last Saturday, but was held up by the snowstorm of Sunday and the high winds of the next two days.

Carlton Needham, of Camp Devens, came home for Sunday.

The paper and magazine collectors succeeded in getting a large sum of money and forwarded the same to Fitchburg last Saturday. The receipts will help swell the public safety treasury.

The Newtown branch of Red Cross workers met with Mrs. Walter Kimball on Thursday afternoon.

J. H. D. Whitcomb went to the quality cattle auction in Brattleboro, Vt., this week. Mrs. Whitcomb visited their daughter, Mrs. Stewart, in Worcester during his absence.

The Lincoln class supper will be held in the Baptist vestry this year as usual, Wednesday evening, February 13, at 8:30 o'clock. Officers will form the main feature of the menu. A good table will be spread and some of the war recipes will be used. The supper will be followed by an entertainment.

Paul Ramsdell, U. S. N. radio school, Cambridge, spent the week-end at the Baptist parsonage.

Extreme Weather Conditions.
 Thought, speech and action have centered on one thing this week—the weather. Even the war and Camp Devens have occupied a subordinate place in our interests. Ever since Mr. Ground Hog persisted in seeing his shadow last Saturday we have been facing the evidence of the old adage that six weeks of genuine winter prevail, and the comforting philosopher who declares that sooner or later only about an equal amount of severe weather is meted out each season is invited to take a back seat. For Jack Frost has cut up the worst capers and already asserted his authority for more weeks this winter than ever before within the memory of the semi-centenarian. One might think that he had taken up arms against us for few people have not felt the force of his darts and spent countless hours restoring damage or loss for which he is responsible. We learn of frozen water pipes, sink-springs, etc., everywhere, and it is reported that water mains have burst. It has been a week of hustle for the plumber and the manager of the public water works, and the head of every house has had to exercise his ingenuity to prevent or repair trouble with pipes and pumps.

Again, the vegetable cellar has demanded exceptional attention. The drifting snow has made automobile traffic very difficult. Very many of the roads have been rendered all but impassable. Autos have been stranded in many places. It is reported that one road was so bad that the work was stopped one day. Three large trucks were brought to a halt near Thomas Smith's place. A snow plow was called in to clear a few hundred feet of the road. The parties refused to leave their homes, but the plow was called in to clear a few hundred feet of the road. The parties refused to leave their homes, but the plow was called in to clear a few hundred feet of the road.

LUNENBURG
 News Items.
 On Thursday evening of last week the citizens' town committee met and organized by choosing Sidney H. Francis, chairman; Norman G. Bigelow, sec.; Sherman Sanderson, treas. It was decided to organize a committee for the nomination of town officers to be held in the lower town hall on Monday evening, February 11, at eight o'clock; year to elect a town committee for the ensuing year.

The selectmen held a special meeting on Monday evening to receive articles for insertion in the warrant for the annual town meeting at the Thursday evening meeting. A petition was received from Eben H. Mead for license to maintain a public parage, etc., on Massachusetts avenue and it was voted to give a hearing on this petition on February 28.

Another severe cold wave struck the town on Monday afternoon the mercury going down continually after two o'clock and falling to 21 below zero dawned, it was 25° below zero and the heavy wind which had continued all night, still blowing a gale so sharp and cutting that made the weather the hardest of the winter. In many places a loaded team would glide smoothly along over the surface.

The surgical dressings class and the ladies sewing circle held their meeting together last Thursday afternoon in the Congregational church and spent an hour in preparing material for comfort pillows and also made ten packages of 5x5 compresses, one of 7x7 compresses, 2 packages of cut gauze, 4 gauze pads, 1 gauze strip, 6 oakum pads, 9 comfort pillows, 4 packages of operating towels, 1 of serviettes and 12 of eye dressings.

Arthur Emerson has a telephone installed at his home on Highland street. His call is 36-4.

S. U. McIntire on Massachusetts avenue, near the center of town, also has a telephone, 41-3.

A. A. Cook whose name has been mentioned for reelection as electric light commissioner, also as a candidate for selectman, makes positive announcement that he is not and will not be a candidate for either office.

BOXBOROUGH
 News Items.
 Joseph Poland received the sad news of his father's death in Colorado, the early part of the week, from pneumonia.

Miss Cora Hartwell is spending a few days at her brother's, Albert Hartwell.

Friends of William Goodard are glad to hear of his recovery from pneumonia.

Mr. Lincham, of Boston, entertained a party of snowshoers at his summer home here last Sunday.

Mrs. S. D. Salmon, 3d and Mrs. E. L. Littlefield enjoyed auction bridge and bridge with Mrs. L. A. Sebastian in Belmont on January 31.

Rev. Luther Morris, of the Universalist church, gave an interesting talk on January 26 on "Wales" before the West Acton Women's Club. Mr. Morris sang two very pretty Welsh songs. Guest night at the club has been changed from Monday evening, February 11, to Friday evening, February 15. The entertainment will be given by the Perkins ladies' trio, assisted by Miss Cowlishaw, and will begin at seven o'clock sharp.

New Advertisements
 WANTED: Ten good mechanics and a painter. The shop government is steadily expanding. BOX 12, Cambridge, Mass.
 WANTED: Middle-aged, practical woman to care for aged and infirm. Household work, good wages. Address Mrs. D. O. Box 58, East Boston, Mass.
 LOST BOOK: In accordance with Chapter 200, Section 40 of the Acts of 1908, notice is hereby given that the book No. 292 has been lost and application has been made for the return of the same. NORTH MIDDLESEX SAVINGS BANK, Ralph L. Hastings, Treasurer, Ayer, Mass., January 25, 1918.

Francis J. Perry
 CARRIAGE and AUTOMOBILE PAINTING
 SIGN PAINTING and LETTERING OF ALL KINDS
 Central Avenue AYER, MASS.
 Over Wheeler's Blacksmith Shop

ENTERTAINED GUESTS.
 Mrs. S. E. B. was entertained by the ladies of the church on Wednesday evening of the 7th party. The musical orchestra furnished the music, giving splendid satisfaction.

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ONE DOLLAR AND FIFTY CENTS PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

This Paper is Sold by W. A. Drummer, East Peppereil Edward L. Harris, Postoffice, Shirley...

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 to postoffice address should be changed, must send us both the old and new address and also the name of the paper they receive.

Saturday, February 9, 1918.

PEPPERELL

News Items Charles Woodward of Washington, D. C. made a surprise visit to Park street, after remaining a week here...

Mrs. I. J. Rowell is suffering with her eyes as a result of the grippe. Her many friends wish her a speedy recovery and return to her previous duties.

T. J. Rivers of Cushing, Me., is spending the winter at the home of his grandfather, Mrs. Ernest Melindy and his granddaughter, Miss Pearl Maloney.

The news of a happy event has reached town that will interest a large circle of friends. It is "Dorothy Mabel Sapp, wedding 7.30 a. m. Monday morning, 5.10 a. m. a smart, brown-eyed little mite—both are getting on fine."

Mrs. Charles Sapp lives on Idlewild avenue, Green Cove Springs, Fla., and received her education in the Peppereil schools as Miss Elsie Northrup, step-daughter of the late Judson Willoughby.

Supt. Paul spent the week-end with his son Raymond at Newport, R. I., returning Monday night, via Nashua. Eugene Prescott and family moved Saturday to Lowell. Mr. Prescott has been employed recently in Ayer.

Miss Annie Hamilton, the district nurse, was taken to the hospital to be operated on for appendicitis. Leroy Kelley, who has been working in Nashua, N. H., has enlisted in the Canadian Expeditionary Force...

Near midnight Friday of last week there was a chimney fire at Miss Ada Whitney's house on Hollis street. Engineer Farber and Constable Lakin got the fire under control.

Tuesday Mrs. Mark Riley was operated on for umbilical hernia. The operation being performed by Dr. Smith of Nashua. Dr. Qua and was considered successful.

Tuesday, February 5, a baby boy was born to Mrs. Helen (Messer) Ford. The nurse who had attended Mrs. Percy Blake was present in service as our local nurse.

The annual meeting of the District Nurse association was held in Saunders hall on February 5. The annual report of Miss Hamilton, the treasurer, Mr. Richardson, and the secretary, Mrs. Tarbell, were read and approved.

Miss Kate Forness, who lives with her sister, Mrs. Philip Morant, has been spending a couple of weeks with relatives in the home of Mr. Peabody and Danvers. Mr. Morant bought the Graham place and has made extensive repairs on the place.

A. A. Shattuck, who is the oldest man in town, is quite sick at his home on Oak hill. The Oak Hill Improvement society held an all-day meeting on Wednesday with Mrs. Maxwell, using their time for Red Cross work.

Thursday saw a lot of farmers in town and the scarcity of things they could only get a couple of pounds of sugar, and the villagers could doze in every day and get sugar at a some price. Members of the following families were seen in East Peppereil: Frank Ryan, George Stewart, Rupert Blood, Mr. McElhinney and W. H. Shattuck.

Walter Lunt has been drawn on the jury at the Peppereil court on Tuesday. The Boston Post is giving photos of women with extra fine heads of hair, and it comes to the ears of you that Peppereil could be in that class as she has a braided that measures fifty-one inches in the braid.

The installation of the officers of Acoma Rebekah lodge will take place on Tuesday. The news of the death of Mrs. Percy J. Blake (Hattie Taylor) on Tuesday morning, February 5, following a serious operation the afternoon before, came as a shock to those of her friends who did not realize her critical condition during her short illness.

was the grand instructor of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. Mr. Webb had been present on many occasions at Beacon lodge. His pleasing voice and chivalrous manner made each visit a noteworthy remembrance.

Mrs. Thomas Attridge slipped and fell, last week Friday. Increasing pain on the following day necessitated the attention of the village social club met on Wednesday with Mrs. Charles Chapman of Brookline street. The business was the putting together of the squares into strips for a patchwork squares which means a good deal of work. A meeting will be held on next Thursday to continue in the house. This quilt is for the Federated House in Ayer.

Mrs. Blanche Brown and suite, of Groton, will install the officers of Acoma Rebekah lodge at their next meeting. Mrs. Brown will be assisted by a check for the installing party and members. The meeting will open at 7.30 sharp, because of the early closing law.

The log house belonging to Sherwood Shattuck in the East Village was burned Monday morning between three and four o'clock. Besides the tools of lost about thirty-five dollars worth of household articles and some dry wood. Mr. Shattuck stays nights with Charles Taft, the damage was done before he could get there. He had no insurance.

The Boy Scouts have become despatch bearers for the government as aides to the committee on public information in distributing printed matter among the people in all parts of the country. The 2,000 Boy Scouts are enrolled in this work. Our government wishes all people to know the causes of the war and why our country is engaged in it. The boys are also advertising the government thrift stamps. The eighth anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America will be celebrated by all troops on next February 8, at the next regular meeting of the Peppereil troop will be held on Wednesday, February 13. Scout J. P. Haskins, Jr., has obtained his training from Troop No. 1 of Roanoke Falls.

On account of bad roads and weather the military whist planned by the L. S. C. for Thursday evening has been postponed until next week. A special Lincoln day program has been provided, which is unique and interesting. This has to do with the life of the president, his associations, and a special offering is requested. The Forward club meeting at six o'clock will consider "Conscience as a subject." Mr. Lewis will preach at seven o'clock.

Another Cold Day. Tuesday, February 5, was another of the "coldest days that I ever knew," and although the sun shone brightly after the thermometer could not get up to the zero mark and there was a high wind all day that blew the light snow that fell the day before into ever shifting clouds and blocking roads and paths the worst of any time this winter. The rural mail carriers had a severe time in trying to get around their routes. Roy Sawyer was out for 2 p. m. but was unable to get all round his route. Earl Stewart was not able to get his mail, so had no choice but to get home as well as he could.

Roy Nutting, who runs the pump at the pumping station, managed to get to the station in the morning all right, although he had a very bad, but when he started for home he found it was not possible to come through on the direct road over Oak hill, but by going through the woods and over the main street, got to his home at the Center.

The schools were supposed to be open, but as the buses could not get the attendance was pretty slim and those children who walked had a hard, cold time to get there, many stopping in the houses along the streets and waiting for the bus. Dr. Smith, of Nashua, was called to town to an urgent surgical case and became stalled in the drifts, but with the aid of Dr. Davis finally got through.

About Town. The sad death of Mrs. Percy Blake on Tuesday morning, February 5, is a loss to the town. She was a most useful and valuable friend to her family and the community. She has been for some years a sufferer from intervals of an interlocking trouble, and the illness followed an operation of a most serious nature at her own home on Monday.

Rev. R. H. Kennedy was pastor of the Congregational church in this town for thirty years ago. He and his family now live in Portland, Oregon. His two oldest sons, Richard (born here in Peppereil) aged twenty-one, and John, aged nineteen, enlisted in the army last May and are both now in France.

Many people will remember a bright young fellow named William M. Hutchinson, who lived here with his father, Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Hutchinson, as a child. He is a physician and lives in the vicinity of New York. His only son, Arnold, is a member of the 1st S. S. Cavalry and was in France since September.

Mrs. Betty Wilson, of Hove's corner, passed her ninetieth birthday last Sunday. In spite of the terrible cold she is in fairly good health and spirits.

The following item will be of interest to many of our former prisoners and friends in Peppereil. Rev. J. W. Williams, of Belmont, was seriously ill the first part of January and obliged to go to a hospital. Upon recovery his physician ordered complete rest and cessation of work and recreation. He and his wife took passage on the "treble" for New Orleans on Saturday, January 25, from New York, and according to the report in the New York Times, on account of a collision in a blinding snow-storm with a freighter off the Delaware Capes, was forced to return to her pier with a badly injured crew. The further plans of Mr. and Mrs. Drawbridge are unknown as the "treble" will be today undergoing repairs.

Church Notes. The annual supper and ball of the Congregational church in Peppereil was held in the vestry of the church on Tuesday evening, February 5. The tables were set for about 200 and were well served by the members of the church and congregation. An orchestra of eight pieces discoursed the music while the supper was being served. Mrs. H. N. Tower was chairman of the supper committee, and although the menu was simple there were few who complained. Rev. J. W. Williams called the meeting to order and all praise and song. "Pleat be the God that binds." Reports were given by the clerk in which he paid fitting tribute to the five aged members who had died the past year; by the trustees, who reported closing the year with a slight balance on the right side; by the Ladies' Benevolent society. The Sunday school and other departments had reported at a business meeting held two weeks ago. The pastor reported a membership of 110, and making 616 pastoral calls. He was surprised by the receipt of a substantial check from the trustees as a token of their appreciation of his work.

The matter of closer federation seemed to be in the minds of many and after several had voiced their sentiments this motion was passed with much enthusiasm. "That it be the sense of this meeting that the time is ripe for a paper." This raises the nap.

for taking steps looking toward the amalgamation of the Unitarian and Congregational churches in this town; that a committee of five be appointed to consider the matter, meet any committee from the other church and put back to this church. Albert F. Parker, Otis A. Morrill, Mrs. H. N. Tower, Dr. T. E. Qua and M. C. Lane were chosen. It was voted that the church should send greetings to the aged and shut-in members; also, to the sixteen young men whose names are on the roll of honor of the singing of the roll number one responded in person and fifty-nine by letter.

The following officers were elected: Rev. J. W. Williams, moderator; Lyman C. Blood, clerk; C. A. McGraw, Sunday school supt.; Gustaf Anderson, deacon 4 yrs.; A. F. Parker, H. N. Tower, C. H. Jewett, trustees; M. C. Lane, C. H. Miller, Marshall Meriam, auditors; Miss Clara M. Shattuck, Mrs. Mary M. Pond, church com.; Mrs. William Dennen, H. N. Tower, Mrs. J. J. Sargent, Mrs. G. M. Sargent, Mrs. M. L. P. Shattuck, Miss Josephine Lawrence, library com.

A fine spirit of cordial brotherhood pervaded the gathering and the outlook for another year is hopeful.

The annual meeting of the Congregational Sunday school was held in the vestry of the church on Tuesday evening, after a short devotional service reports of the year's work was in order. The secretary reported 161 on the roll of membership; the treasurer has received \$49 for home expenses and has paid out \$77; likewise she has received \$21 for benevolence and has paid out \$25; the librarians have received 1000 books and report the addition of 40 new books; the home department reported 72 members; the cradle roll has 47 babies.

The officers for the year are: C. A. McGraw, mod.; David Merrill, asst. supt.; Miss Helen Pond, sec.; Mrs. Mary Pond, treas.; Mrs. C. A. McGraw, primary supt.; Mrs. Mary Wood, intermediate supt.; Mrs. J. J. Sargent, supt. of the day; Mrs. A. A. Pelton, home dept. supt.; Rev. F. E. Mills, asst. supt.; Marshall Meriam, auditor; Miss Josephine Lawrence, librarian.

Rev. J. E. Lewis will preach at the union service of Congregational and Unitarian churches on Sunday morning at 10.45. Sunday schools of the two churches will meet at noon. A special Lincoln day program has been provided, which is unique and interesting. This has to do with the life of the president, his associations, and a special offering is requested. The Forward club meeting at six o'clock will consider "Conscience as a subject." Mr. Lewis will preach at seven o'clock.

The monthly business meeting of the Federation of Churches will be held in the Congregational vestry on Tuesday evening at 7.45. The program is all the more interesting as the weather is so cold that today they are not to be considered constitutional paragon.

Red Cross Branch. The January report of articles sent to the Middlesex chapter, containing 260 gloves, 200 pairs of socks, 13 mufflers, 25 pairs of wristlets, 9 pairs of socks, 4 helmets, 2 bandage socks. A business meeting was held Monday afternoon at the home of the president, The president and treasurer of the Junior Red Cross society, Misses C. M. Shattuck and M. L. Sargent, will call a committee of five from the senior branch were chosen to assist the junior officers in their work with the children.

Plans for the campaign in New England are nearing completion, and from Lincoln's birthday until Washington's birthday, when a fund equivalent to twenty-five cents for each pupil has been raised or a school has pledged itself to Red Cross auxiliary and each member can wear a Red Cross button. The work of the Junior Red Cross will be directed by the present manual arts program of the schools. It is hoped that every school will be a center for patriotic sentiment. J. L. Heims, secretary of the Junior Red Cross membership campaign.

Boxborough. William Hutchinson, Eugene Smith and Mrs. Ada Durkee drove to Camp Devens to see Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Benjamin E. Graman, last Sunday.

On account of the extreme cold and the poor condition of the roads there was no school the first two days of the week.

The body of William Perkins was brought here for burial last Monday afternoon at the home of his daughter, besides his wife he leaves two daughters and a son.

Mrs. Frank Dodge is visiting a friend in Waverley this week.

Mr. and Mrs. T. Wetherbee attended the funeral of their uncle, James Chandler, of South Acton, last Monday. His body was found in the solid ice in the partly burned steamer "Chelsea" on which he was a purser for many years. He was buried in the family lot in West Acton.

William Goodearl, who has been very sick with pneumonia, is now considered out of danger.

At the town meeting on Monday the following officers were chosen: Moderator, George Burroughs; town clerk, Simon B. Hager; selectmen, J. L. Salmon, 3d, 3 years, and J. W. Coffey, 2 years; Philip Cunningham; treasurer, Albert Hartwell; school committee, Messrs. Alvin Richardson; board of health, the selectmen; trustees, Messrs. J. W. Coffey, 2 years, Albert Littlefield, Mrs. B. Y. Nelson; highway surveyors, Philip Cunningham; dist. W. H. Burroughs; assessors, J. W. Coffey district 4. Resolutions were adopted regretting the death of Albert Littlefield not to be a candidate for many of the important offices he has held so faithfully. He has been a member of the town for many years and was a member of the office of selectman the long time.

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Church Notes. Morning worship services—Morning worship services at 10 o'clock, Rev. G. W. Sargent, the minister. Subject, "The other brother's part." Sunday school at 12.15. C. E. meeting and service at seven o'clock.

The Sunday morning service will be held at 10 o'clock Sunday. We have received special printed program envelopes to be used by the congregation. The principles for which we have lived and worked have very significant bearing to our country's national independence. All the town people are very cordially invited to come in fellowship with us on this morning. Fellowship service at 12.15. C. E. meeting and service at seven o'clock.

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Many Like Him. "What's wrong with Giltchers?" "He has a mistaken conception of his duty as a citizen." "Yes?" "He won't put his shoulder to the wheel. He wants other people to do that, while he stands on one side and jots down the number of revolutions it makes."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

An excellent remedy for mildew is to saturate the article with kerosene, roll it up and let stand for at least 24 hours, then wash it in hot soapwater.

PLEA FOR MORE FUN. Young life demands definite work and definite play. It also demands its healthier manifestations a certain period of rest. Much of the delinquency of the day in large cities is due to the habit of roaming the streets at all hours of the night. It is due to a restlessness engendered partly indeed by lack of parent's care, but also to a defiance of orderly life that takes the place with a section of young people of independence. A more complete understanding of life, at its best, gotten by associating with those who are broad-minded and appreciative of the need for recreation and rest, is what will prevent delinquency. "Big brother" movements have their appeal and place. The only trouble here being its probable fathering by overzealous dogmatists in religion. No boy wants to be preached at. He wants to be amused, by being with worth-while comrades. A "big brother" who plays comrade and not preacher is a valuable asset. Loneliness of soul is keenly felt by many a boy, himself unconscious that he is so suffering, says Milwaukee News. It is when he is lonely that he finds occupation with a "gang." The natural social instinct is merely perverted.

Italian unity, the dominant preoccupation of all patriotic Italians the last 300 years, owes its actual accomplishment to the strong hand and daring initiative of the royal house of Savoy. William Kay Wallace writes in Scribner's. It was the head of this ruling house, guided by the wise counsel of his able minister, Count Cavour, who presented the question of Italian unity to the attention of Europe, thus securing the active assistance of Napoleon III and the co-operation of the French, without which the task of driving out the Austrians would have been impossible. This is the debt that Italy owes its present ruling dynasty. And though republican sentiment is still strong throughout the peninsula, and the implacable force in the creation of united Italy, "love of liberty" still remains, the kings of the house of Savoy have reconciled themselves so well with this modern spirit that today they are not to be considered constitutional paragon.

When the allies come to the final stage of insisting upon the restoration of Alsace-Lorraine Bismarck himself cannot be cited with effect, says London Chronicle. That statesman did not foresee Mr. Sydney Brooks' metallurgical arguments, but he became a convert to annexation—like a good German—because his monarch willed it. And this was the ground he found for getting good-out of evil: "In the interest of Germany as well as of all Europe, our policy must aim at effecting France as much as possible, and rendering her incapable for a long time of breaking the general peace." Substitute Germany for France, and you have it in a nutshell.

Detailed physique invites pneumonia. Overheated, crowded, badly ventilated rooms, cars, shops or other places should be avoided. Too many persons in this world are too much afraid of fresh air, especially if it be a bit cold. As a rule they would much rather breathe over the air that someone else has already breathed. If you have any doubt about this, just try to open the ventilators in a crowded street car on a cold day and see what happens to you. Nutritious food is harder to get, for a price, than it used to be; but fresh air does not cost any more now than it did before the war.

The first wooden vessel of the new merchant fleet building for the government was launched at a Pacific port. She is a ship of 4,000 tons dead weight, 290 feet over all, and was constructed in what is said to be the world-record time of 120 days. A good beginning! Now for maintaining the prestige thus established!

In spite of the many calls made for contributions to the different war funds and for a multitude of local charities, the money seems to pour into the treasuries of all worthy organizations. The liberality of the American people was never better proven than it has been since this country went into the war.

There is little or no element of the accidental in the automobile killings which are becoming startlingly frequent. A sufficient period for reflection in jail might help considerably to convince the speeders of the errors of their ways.

Still, we think it is well enough for the fathers of the country to abandon any real hope on account of the great knitting craze. They may just as well proceed to solve their sock troubles by trimming their topknots frequently.

It is a relief to know that a baseball war is not to be added to the world's troubles next season.

Keep Smiling. Best advice of all is contained in the last words of the chorus of a popular song: "Smile—smile—smile!" However, you must smile from the heart, not merely twitching facial muscles mechanically, but flashing a message of friendliness and joy from the heart.—Burlington Hawkeye.

It is difficult sometimes when using essence for cake or sweets, etc., to measure correctly the number of drops required. If the rim of the bottle is wet in one place the essence will drop quite easily.

SCHOOLS OF NAVIGATION. If ships are going to win this war, it stands to reason that we must have plenty of men to man these vessels—a formidable undertaking for a country that has neglected its merchant marine so long. It is estimated that 20,000 officers will be required for the great fleet which Uncle Sam is now building and the first vessels of which will soon be ready for service. This offers a great opening for thousands of capable young men who have had practical experience at sea, says Philadelphia Record. Just as the government is taking enlisted men from the army and navy and making officers of them, so it desires to secure able-bodied seamen and firemen, who in a few weeks will be trained to become third officers and assistant engineers. After that their promotion will depend upon the capacity they show for their work. There is no reason why many young men now serving before the mast—if such an expression may be used regarding the present sailor—should not become mates, or even captains, before the cessation of hostilities. This is one way in which a large number of men not eligible for the army or navy may do their bit most effectively. Schools for their training have been opened in the House and the University of Pennsylvania, and the course of instruction lasts only six weeks. The Delaware river shipyards are turning out the boats, and the communities along its banks should supply the officers and engineers for them.

One of the popular theories about the Russian revolution is that the overthrow of czarism was merely a radical measure taken by the people against a pro-German government, for the purpose of a more vigorous prosecution of the war on the side of its allies. In reality, the March events were not only a revolt against autocracy, but also a protest against this war. The revolution brought a message of peace and brotherhood to a world writhing in the agonies of a fratricide war. In an historical utterance, which reminded mankind of the cry of the great French revolution, the new democracy appealed, over the heads of diplomats and rulers, to the belligerent nations, to stop this war, thus crystallizing the idea of peace as a pact between free peoples. Ever since then universal peace has been one of the main concerns of the best minds of Russia.

There are, between the ages of thirty-five and fifty-five years, a vast number of people in America who are hoarding and accumulating fat enough to supply energy equivalent to that of 600,000,000 loaves of bread, enough to supply an army of 3,000,000 men for 60 days. This is according to statistics gathered by the life insurance companies. A man who is 40 pounds overweight is carrying on his body the equivalent in fuel value of 155 one-pound loaves of bread. If the guilty ones would cease this accumulation (which they are willing enough to do) it would release much-needed fuel foods, such as wheat, corn, oats, barley and rye. There are two ways of surrendering the fat. One is by judicious exercise and the other is by substituting other foods for the fat-building kinds.

A Berlin dispatch to Amsterdam deplores the destruction of Italian art works by Italians in the course of their recent retreat. "Considering the manner in which the Germans treated French and Belgian art, it may be concluded that if there is any sincerity in their present expressions of regret it is referable to the circumstance that they expected to carry off as plunder the Italian pictures and sculptures which they claim to have been ruined, but many of which, probably, have been merely hidden awaiting the end of the war.

Some London diplomats, still cheered by the obsession that Germany can be starved, are chortling over the reduction of the flour allowance to seven pounds a week. Plenty—if the seven pounds are put into certain dumplings or doughnuts we have met. It is a psychological fact that many folk think they are being fed when chewing on any old thing.

The merciful man is merciful to his beast. Extra care should be taken of the working horses this winter, particularly in the matter of securing them as far as possible from falling on the icy streets. Humanity in this case is economy as well, as this care will save many dollars in the shape of horseflesh and animal labor.

The kind of pacifist who uses language which implies that he would not kill a mad dog if it were advancing to bite him is not regarded with as much patience as might be possible in a plinky time of peace.

Butchers buy pork at 20 cents and sell it out at prices ranging up to 60 cents. They utilize the hoofs, bristles and everything else but the squeal—and when the food investigator comes around they use the squeal.

Keep Smiling. Best advice of all is contained in the last words of the chorus of a popular song: "Smile—smile—smile!" However, you must smile from the heart, not merely twitching facial muscles mechanically, but flashing a message of friendliness and joy from the heart.—Burlington Hawkeye.

It is difficult sometimes when using essence for cake or sweets, etc., to measure correctly the number of drops required. If the rim of the bottle is wet in one place the essence will drop quite easily.

Feb 9 Saturday Sale Feb 9. FRESH PORK SHOULDERS, 5 to 7 lbs. each. 25¢ lb. FRESH PORK LOINS. 28¢ lb. BONELESS POT ROASTS. 20¢, 22¢, 26¢ lb. BONELESS SIRLOIN ROASTS. 35¢ lb. BEEF SAUSAGE, with cereal 23¢ lb. HAMBURG 20¢ lb. PLAIN TRIPE. 11¢ lb. PICKLED PIGS' FEET 16¢ lb. FRESH PIGS' FEET. 10¢ lb. VEGETABLES—Native Celery 25¢ bunch Lettuce 6¢ head York State Celery 17¢ bunch Rhubarb 20¢ lb. Mushrooms 21¢ lb. Cauliflowers 35¢ each Red Radish 6¢ lb. Sweet Peppers 40¢ lb. Chives 18¢ basket Parsley 12½¢ bunch Potatoes Onions Squash, Etc. BAKERY DEPT. War Bread 5¢ loaf Light Fruit Cake 25¢ lb. War Cookies 12¢ doz. Brown Bread 10¢, 18¢ loaf. Baked Beans from our own ovens. 32¢ qt. BISCUIT DEPT. Fluted Coconut Buns 23¢ lb. Fig Buns 25¢ lb. Marshmallow Creams 30¢ lb. See Foam Biscuits 30¢ lb. Nabisco, Lotus and Anola Sugar Water Confections 14¢ pkg. Baby Educators 25¢ box. CANDY DEPT. We now have a full line of Confectionery. Special low prices on Chocolates. Guaranteed Eggs 49¢ dozen. Local Fresh Eggs 75¢ dozen. Rice 11¢ lb. White House Coffee 35¢ lb. White House Orange Pekoe Tea 35¢ can. UNITED STATES FOOD ADMINISTRATION, License No. G. 23,853. BROCKELMAN BROS. FITCHBURG MARKET. 420 Main Street Telephone 2686 FITCHBURG, MASS.

WISDOM TO KEEP THESE MEN AT HOME. Some industries can be retrained for military service under special treatment. Others will be restored to civilian occupations where they will have a better chance of recovery. At a conference to take place in New York this and related questions will be discussed by authorities. But, as has been suggested, the situation disclosed by the Camp Wheeler disaster is less serious than it might first appear.—Pittsburgh Chronicle Telegraph.

To many of us South America seems rather a vague, far-away sort of place, in which the United States does not have dealing to any considerable extent. But a few figures in regard to the trade between United States and South America will do to open our eyes a bit. For last year alone, from January to July inclusive, the exports to South America were \$162,698,000 against \$177,783,000 in the corresponding months of 1916. There has been an increase of 10 percent in the trade with South America in the three years since the beginning of our war. In fact, the trade with other parts of the world, which show an increase of only 120 percent in the same period.

The old-fashioned forge weld by an expert at the anvil makes the most trusty repair for a broken steering rod. New Advertisements. FOR SALE—Building and lot on West Main Street, three minutes' walk from Depot Square, Ayer. Building 32x75 feet, suitable for store or business place. Price right for cash. Inquire of H. J. WEBB, opposite Depot Square, Ayer, Mass.

Sheriff's Sale. Middlesex, ss. Ayer, February 8th, A. D. 1918. Taken on execution and will be sold at Public Auction at my office on East Main Street in said Ayer, Saturday, March 16th, A. D. 1918, the right title and interest, to be sold by law from attachment or levy on execution, that Harry L. Parker of Fitchburg in the County of Worcester, had on the sixth day of said February, A. D. 1918, at the time the same was seized on execution, or now has in and to the following described Real Estate: A certain tract of land containing about 17½ acres, more or less, situated in the Southwesterly part of said Townsend, bounded and described as follows: Beginning at a wooden fence post, which was formerly called a stake and stones, at the Southeast corner of the farm, formerly owned by Marshall Davis, and being the Southwest corner of land formerly owned by George Wymann, and at the Northernly side of the premises here described; thence North 66 degrees 20' West as run in the year 1902 and by said Davis farm 415.3 feet to a stake and stones at the Easterly end of a wall; thence South 11 degrees 10' West as run in 1902 and by land of John and Katie Vaites, 259 feet to a stake and stones near the Easterly end of a wall; thence South 56 degrees East as run in 1902 and by land formerly of John Adams, 205.5 feet to a stake and stones for a corner; thence Southerly 12 rods, by said land, to a corner of the wall; thence Easterly 65 rods by the wall, to a stone post, formerly called a stake and stones, thereon formerly owned by George Wymann, and at the Northernly side of the premises here described; thence North 32 rods from the other stone post; thence about West 29 degrees North as formerly run, the year not being known, and by land of said Wymann, 65 rods to the bound first mentioned.

TUBERCULOSIS IN THE ARMY. Withdrawal of 500 men suffering from tuberculosis is rather an alarming indication, at first glance, of the prevalence of the disease in the army. If there are so many patients in a single camp, what must be the total among the soldiers? Civilians will also ask whether camp life is not conducive to the spread of this serious ailment. One answer is to be found in the statement of Dr. Charles F. Hilditch, executive secretary of the National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis, that "the war will not increase tuberculosis, but it will disseminate it." This is a startling statement, and a recognized authority on the subject, was recently assigned by Surgeon General Gorgas to tackle the tuberculosis problem in the army. Under his direction hundreds of specialists have been making rigorous examinations in all the military camps and weeding out those exhibiting the least tendency toward the disease. Admittedly thousands of men who should never have been taken from civil life were passed by the original examining surgeons. The process of examination was a necessarily hasty one. The detection of incipient tuberculosis is not possible through such means. A thorough examination by an expert is required. This all the then are not receiving, and it is not strange that so many tuberculosis sufferers should be found. It should be understood that the majority of these exhibit only a latent and hearty, but it is realized that the disease might make rapid progress under the hardships of life in the trenches and it is the part of

Poultry Wanted. Now Paying 23c. to 25c. and upwards for Good Poultry. Leave Orders by telephoning 5385-M or 51-2, or telephone Lowell 5385-M. DAVID SPERSTAN.