

THE PLYMOUTH MAIL

VOLUME XXIX, No 4

PLYMOUTH, MICH., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1916

WHOLE No. 1474

To Our Patrons and Friends:

A Happy New Year

The spirit of the season prompts us to express our thanks and appreciation for your liberal patronage during the past year and to most heartily wish you health and prosperity for the coming year of 1917.

BEYER PHARMACY

Block South P. M. Depot

RESOLUTIONS FOR THE NEW YEAR

Will You Do Your Part?

A little more deed and a little less greed;
A little more giving and a little less greed;
A little more bearing other people's load;
A little more God-spoons on the dusty road;
A little more rose and a little less thorn;
To sweeten the air for the sick and forlorn.
A little more song and a little less gloom;
And oaths of gold for the uplift of the slum;
A little less kicking the man that is down;
A little more smile and a little less frown.
A little more Golden Rule in marks of trade.

A little more sunshine and a little less shade;
A little more respect for fathers and mothers;
A little less stepping on the toes of others;
A little less knocking and a little more cheer
For the struggling hero that's left in the rear.
A little more of love and a little less hate,
A little more of neighborly chat at the gate.
A little more of the helping hand by you and me,
A little less of this graveyard sentimentality;
A few more of the flowers in the pathway of life,
A little less on coffins at the end of the strife.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Services for Sunday, December 31st:
10:00 a. m.—The pastor preaches. Theme: "Acts and Resolutions."
11:20 a. m.—Sunday-school.
3:00 p. m.—Worth White Boys and Girls.
7:00 p. m.—The pastor preaches. Theme: "A Brave Woman's Resolution."

Greetings....

We extend to all our patrons and friends our best wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year. We wish also to express our appreciation for the patronage given us in the past year, and hope to merit a continuance of the same during the New Year.

Pinckney's Pharmacy

THE PEOPLES DRUG STORE

Always Open.

Free Delivery

GREETINGS....



We desire to extend to our patrons and friends our thanks and appreciation for their liberal patronage during the past year, and to wish you all a Happy and Prosperous New Year.



E. L. RIGGS

Plymouth's First Municipal Xmas Tree

Last Sunday evening a large crowd of citizens assembled on Main street to witness the festivities of Plymouth's first municipal Christmas tree. The weather was in keeping with the old-fashioned brand of Christmas weather the ground being covered with snow and a sharp twinge of cold in the air. The tree was placed near the drinking fountain at the edge of Kellogg park.

Shortly after five o'clock the program opened with the singing of a Christmas carol, "The Silent Night," the Plymouth band playing the accompaniment, and the assemblage joining in the chorus as the words were thrown on a screen on a building on the opposite side of the street. As the first song was being sung, hundreds of white, blue and red lights were turned on, and the tree flashed forth resplendent in beauty that called forth the admiration of the large crowd. A large star shone forth from the very top of the tree and the whole presented a most beautiful sight.

The idea of a community Christmas tree in Plymouth was conceived and carried out under the auspices of the Woman's Literary Club and a number of public-spirited, spirited citizens who co-operated in the plans. The ladies of the club are to be congratulated on their progressive spirit in getting in line with thousands of other towns and cities in the observance of this beautiful Christmas custom, which the whole community enjoys together. Much credit for the success of Plymouth's first community Christmas tree is due to Mrs. R. E. Cooper, president of the Woman's Literary Club, under whose leadership the plans were made and so successfully carried out.

The Woman's Literary Club wish through the Mail to thank all those who contributed in any way to the success of the community Christmas tree.

Methodist S. S. Reader Fine Christmas Program

The Christmas concert and entertainment given by the Methodist Sunday-school in the village hall last Sunday evening was a great success in every way. A large crowd was in attendance, every seat in the lower hall being occupied and some were obliged to stand. The first part of the program was given over to the younger members of the Sunday-school and consisted of songs and recitations. The children took their parts exceedingly well and received great credit on the teachers who had given much time in training them.

The second part of the program was the dramatization of the Christmas story, "The Nativity," that old, old story, yet ever new, of the birth of Christ. Twelve members of the Sunday-school took part in this little play and it was indeed beautifully rendered. It was through the efforts of Miss Ingeborg Smith that they were able to present this play here, as she secured the costumes and several of the costumes from the Normal, where it was previously presented.

Grange Elect New Officers

All the regular members of the Grange met at the regular meeting of the Grange at the Grange hall, Saturday, Dec. 20th, beginning at 8:30 a. m. standard time. There will be two sessions, forenoon and afternoon, with a Vienna lunch and smoker at noon. The meeting is called for the purpose of considering many important points in the proposed constitution and by-laws to be adopted by the Plymouth Agricultural Association. It is also expected that a speaker from the extension department of the U. S. G. will also be present at this meeting. Every farmer is cordially invited to attend.

County Farmers Federation Elect Officers

At a meeting held at Eloise last week Wednesday the Wayne County Farmers Federation was formally organized with the following officers:
President—G. C. Raviler, Plymouth
Vice Pres.—Geo. VanRiper, Flat Rock
Secretary—Chas. Evans, Belleville
Treasurer—S. A. Spicer, Canton
A constitution and by-laws were also adopted at this meeting. The organization of the Federation is so framed that every branch of agricultural work will be carried on under its supervision. It will also be through this organization and its affiliated bodies that the county agricultural agent will reach the people in his work.

Important Meeting for Farmers

There will be a general meeting of the Grange at the Grange hall, Saturday, Dec. 30th, beginning at 8:30 a. m. standard time. There will be two sessions, forenoon and afternoon, with a Vienna lunch and smoker at noon. The meeting is called for the purpose of considering many important points in the proposed constitution and by-laws to be adopted by the Plymouth Agricultural Association. It is also expected that a speaker from the extension department of the U. S. G. will also be present at this meeting. Every farmer is cordially invited to attend.

Presbyterian Sunday-school Observes Christmas Season in Unique Manner

The Presbyterian Sunday-school observed Christmas in a most unique and pleasant manner last Tuesday evening. There was an entire change from the old way of observing Christmas. Indeed, it is the policy of this school to have something different each year. This year the entire Sunday-school assembled in the large dining hall and any who has believed this room too large for even present needs should have looked into this large room filled with Sunday-school scholars on this occasion. Each class had its own table and each class vied with its neighbor in presenting a beautiful holiday appearance. That there was plenty to eat goes without saying and there was merry-making throughout the supper hour. After supper Santa Claus appeared to distribute little gifts to his admirers and candy portions of everyone. Then everyone went upstairs into the auditorium where Rev. D. F. Fisher told the story of "The Christmas Story." This beautiful story of the birth of Christ was dramatized by the use of forty photographs which were most beautiful and the children were intensely interested in every picture for these questions of an hour. At the conclusion of this story the Sunday-school and guests departed, bringing it to have been the best Christmas yet.

Quadrants Studied

All members of the Plymouth Agricultural Association met at the regular meeting of the Association at the Grange hall, Saturday, Dec. 20th, beginning at 8:30 a. m. standard time. There will be two sessions, forenoon and afternoon, with a Vienna lunch and smoker at noon. The meeting is called for the purpose of considering many important points in the proposed constitution and by-laws to be adopted by the Plymouth Agricultural Association. It is also expected that a speaker from the extension department of the U. S. G. will also be present at this meeting. Every farmer is cordially invited to attend.

Will Hear a Splendid Lecture

A rare treat is to be furnished the members and guests of the Woman's Literary Club on Friday evening, Jan. 5th, when Prof. H. V. Wann of the University of Michigan, gives his illustrated lecture on "Sights and Scenes in Constantinople." This ancient yet modern city on the Bosphorus has a new interest since it has been figuring in the European war, and no man is better fitted to present it than Prof. Wann, who for some years was an instructor in Roberts college, Constantinople, and is thoroughly familiar with conditions there. Among the scenes which he will present are the Bosphorus, Golden Horn, Pera, Galatia Bridge, Turkish Quarters, Bazaars, Mosques and street scenes. Prof. Wann is at present instructor in French in the University of Michigan, and is one of the most interesting University extension lecturers. The lecture will be given in the Presbyterian church.

Milk Producers Meet

A meeting of the milk-producers of Plymouth and vicinity was held in the Grange hall, Tuesday afternoon, for the purpose of reconsidering the price of milk for the ensuing year, established at a meeting of producers held recently. The meeting was presided over by Wm. Kobbeman, president of the local branch of the Mutual Dairymen's Association. Mr. Near, president of the Central Mutual Dairymen's Association was present and discussed the milk question. The meeting voted to ask \$2.18 4-5 per cwt. for the ensuing year. It was also voted to sell on a test rate. There were over one hundred milk producers present at the meeting.

Former Resident Dead

Lloyd L. Lewis, a former resident of this place, died at the home of his son Harry, in Ann Arbor last Friday. Death was due to heart trouble. The deceased is survived by his wife and two sons, one who resides in Rochester, New York and Harry with whom the deceased and his wife made their home. The funeral services were held in Ann Arbor last Sunday. James McKeever, M. M. Willett, Oliver Penney, Charles Byrns and Theodore Chilton attended the funeral.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Merritt entertained several relatives at a family dinner Monday.

Thanking you for past favors, we wish you

A Happy and Prosperous New Year.

F. W. HILLMAN

Hardware, Tinning, Heating

A Happy New Year

We desire to extend to our patrons and friends our hearty thanks and appreciation for the liberal patronage of the past year and to wish you and yours a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

HENRY J. FISHER

We wish our Patrons and friends a Happy and Prosperous New Year.



The Detroit Edison Co
MAIN STREET, PLYMOUTH

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Make and live up to the following resolution and you will be a RICH MAN Resolved:—To start the New Year with a bank account and deposit regularly.



Plymouth United Savings Bank
PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN

Paper Has Advanced

Do you want to buy at a price less than today's cost?

All next week you can buy

Three Five Cent Ruled Pencil Tablets for

11 CENTS

WHOLE QUANTITIES ONLY

Happenings of the World Tensely Told

European War News

Parliament was prorogued at London by King George until February 7. In the address from the throne proroguing parliament King George declared that "the vigorous prosecution of the war" would be the single aim of England until the security of Europe had been established. He indicated that peace is not yet in sight.

The German submarine U-45 has been sunk by destroyers, according to a Mantes dispatch to Paris. The U-45 recently sank steamers off Saint Nazaire.

The British steamer St. Ursula was torpedoed and sunk with the loss of her crew, the state department at Washington was informed by William Keelinger, American consul at Malta. Six Americans were on board, but none was lost.

Mexican War News

Two companies of the Fourteenth infantry arrived at Ajo, Ariz., from Yuma under command of Colonel Jones to guard against a possible raid on the big copper camp by Mexican bandits.

Randolfo Uribe, a follower of Villa, who is said to have instituted the practice of cutting off the ears of Carranza prisoners, and 17 of his band were executed by "home guards," and many Villa troops killed in a battle south-west of Chihuahua City.

Puebla and Orizaba have fallen into the hands of soldiers of Felix Diaz and Jalapa is in the hands of other revolutionary forces, according to reports received by United States agents at El Paso, Tex.

Secretary Lane and his colleagues on the Mexican-American joint commission at Philadelphia placed upon General Carranza the responsibility of deciding whether the American government should continue its efforts to effect a satisfactory and amicable adjustment of the questions affecting the relations of the two countries, and then adjourned until after the holidays.

Domestic

The will of Miss Clara L. Ricciardi, formerly Clara de Rignet, princess de Chigny, who was Clara L. Ward of Detroit, Mich., was filed in probate court at Chicago. The estate amounts to more than \$1,000,000.

Four bodies have been recovered from the smoldering ruins of the Masonic Home at Wichita, Kan. One other guest is missing and scores are suffering from injuries received in the burning structure.

A centrifugal machine gun, said to throw 3,000 projectiles a minute at an initial velocity of 4,000 feet a second, was tested by United States naval authorities at Vallejo, Cal. The gun is operated by electricity.

Broynart recoveries of from \$3 to \$10 at the opening of the New York stock market, prompted by the developments in the peace situation, caused a hurried covering of short commissions and a strong tone in the stock market.

A. Bedford was elected president of the Standard Oil company of New Jersey to succeed the late John D. Arnold. Mr. Bedford has for some years been vice president and treasurer of the company.

Wall street had its wildest experience in 14 years on Thursday, when even stock on the list went down in value because of President Wilson's peace notes to the warring powers. The losses ran into the hundreds of millions as the "war-birdie" stock inflation was flattened out. In a sensational day from \$108 to \$101 a share United States Steel common alone suffered a market value slump of about \$40,000,000. Total sales numbered 3,270,000.

Nicholas Dehm, twenty-three years old, and his bride of a month, Marg, twenty-one years old, were found dead in their home at Evanston, Ill.

Two miners are dead and 15 injured following a gas explosion in the Oilfield Johnson mine, near Bruceville, Ind. William Bailey and Thomas Patterson, both of Bruceville, were killed.

James J. O'Kelly, nationalist member of the house of commons, died in London.

Miss Nettie M. Richardson of Pittsburg, Pa., was given a verdict for \$170,000 in her \$500,000 breach-of-promise suit against Henry Denishoff, her wealthy cotemporary third cousin.

Samuel G. Davis of Tulsa, Okla., newly dealer in Indian lands, was shot and killed at Joplin, Mo., in the presence of Mrs. Daisy Carter, a divorcee whom he was to have been married.

Samuel Skinner and half a dozen other men, by order of Mayor William E. De Moelen, Jr., seized a ton of coal in the yards of the Northwestern railroad. The coal was to be used for the poor.

Caused by the panic that has gripped the Milwaukee board of directors, the board of directors of the Milwaukee board of directors has decided its will to maintain peace relations with the city of Milwaukee's best known citizens. They are: Alfred B. ...

Mrs. Iva Barnes was found not guilty of the murder of her husband, James R. Barnes, by a jury at Chicago.

Mark R. Bacon of Wyandotte, a Republican, was declared elected congressman from the Second Michigan district.

A Christmas pardon was granted by Governor Whitman at Albany, N. Y., to William J. Conditon who has served three years and three months of a state's prison sentence of four years and eight months for his part in the wrecking of the Carnegie Trust company of New York. Many millions of dollars were involved in the failure.

Four miners, Clarence Hicks, James Hamilton and Arthur Treau were killed in a cave-in in the Block-house Zinc and Lead mines four miles south of Plattville, Wis.

Baron Robert E. Oppenheim, London and Paris banker, held up at New York by immigration authorities on the ground that he had been implicated in charges involving moral turpitude, was ordered released by the immigration bureau pending further investigation under a bond of \$1,000.

Charles Noe, a half-breed Indian, confessed that he, and not Miss Bertha Smith, beat to death Charles Stone, a building contractor, whose body was found near the girl's home at St. Louis, Mo. She made the statement, she said, to shield Noe.

Foreign

King Christian of Denmark, in the cabinet council at Copenhagen, ratified the treaty providing for the sale of the Danish West Indies to the United States.

Both houses of the Danish parliament at Copenhagen now have approved the sale of the Danish West Indies to the United States. The landing, or upper house, voted favorably upon the proposition, 40 to 19.

The British government has decided to release the Irish prisoners who were interned after the rebellion in Ireland. Henry E. Duke, chief secretary for Ireland, made the announcement in the house of commons.

Premier Lloyd-George said in the house of commons at London that it was felt that the allies should know before entering on negotiations that Germany was prepared to accede to the only terms possible for peace to be obtained and maintained in Europe. The premier said that without repatriation peace would be impossible. He declared there were no proposals for which he had no knowledge was to put their heads into a noose with the rope's end in the hands of Germany.

Claude Grahame-White, aviator, and Ethel Levy, former wife of George M. Cohan, were married in London. The aviator's first wife, Dorothy Taylor of New York, divorced him.

In Berlin diplomatic circles, says an Exchange Telegraph dispatch to London from Amsterdam, it is understood that the German emperor will at an early date summon to headquarters the American ambassador, James W. Gerard, with the view to discussing with him possible American mediation and action.

Premier Briand announced in the senate at Paris that the allied governments will send their formal reply to Germany's peace offer at once, definitely stating that the allied governments cannot seriously consider it.

Washington

A definite plan for universal military training will be laid before congress at Washington next month in the shape of a bill formulated by the general staff of the army, accompanied by complete estimates of cost, as compared with the present volunteer system.

Commander Ralph Earle was appointed chief of the navy's bureau of ordnance, with the rank of rear admiral. The nomination was confirmed by the senate at Washington.

Secretary Lansing issued a statement at Washington amplifying and qualifying the one he made earlier in the day regarding the president's notes to the belligerents, because, he said, he feared some incorrect inferences were being drawn from his first utterance. Secretary Lansing said his purpose in making the second statement was to make it clear beyond question that there was no change in the policy of neutrality of the United States. In the first statement he said the United States was on the verge of war.

Dispatches received at Washington from Europe indicate that the submarine war peril is soon to be revived, perhaps in an intensified form.

The view in allied, Teutonic and diplomatic circles at Washington is that the president's peace note will have the effect of bringing peace perceptibly closer.

President Wilson announced at Washington that the shipping board would be composed of the following members: Democrats, William Deussen of San Francisco, Bernard N. Baker of Baltimore and John A. Donald of New York city. Republicans, John Barber White of Kansas City and Theodore Brest of New Orleans.

A determined filibuster conducted by wet senators blocked the way to a vote on the Sheppard District of Columbia prohibition bill in the senate at Washington. After a bitter struggle by the wet the senate agreed to vote on the bill January 3.

The population of the United States continues to shift to the cities, according to estimates announced by the census bureau at Washington. The entire population in the states, territories and United States possessions is put at 100,000,000.

LIMIT PLACED ON LIQUOR SHIPMENTS

Attorneys for Drys Prepare Bills

QUARTS MONTHLY PROPOSED

Enforcement of "State-wide" Measure to Be Placed in Hands of Prohibition Commissioners, Aided by Sheriff.

Landing.—One quart of whisky, or one gallon of wine, or one case of beer or of malt liquor a month will be the legal portion of Michigan drys after June 1, 1918, if the plans of the drys, as outlined at a meeting of attorneys here, go through the legislature.

Two important points in the proposed legislation settled were the limit on shipments and a plan to create a commissioner of prohibition who is to see to it that the liquor laws are enforced.

There was considerable discussion among the attorneys whether the adoption of the amendment meant that the use of liquor was to be prohibited or merely that the brewery and the saloon, or, as the amendment puts it, "the manufacture, sale, bartering for sale or giving away," were to go. Some thought that the state should be completely dried up and that all shipments should be absolutely stopped, while others were of a contrary opinion.

Attorney Wayne B. Wheeler, representing the Antisaloon League of America, interposed just long enough to say that even with the most favorable decision on the Webb-Kenyon bill by the United States Supreme court, all a state could do was to limit the quantity in shipments. It could not, he said, under the Webb-Kenyon bill and the Michigan amendment, absolutely stop such shipments. It was found that the laws now in force in Virginia could best be adapted to Michigan.

The commissioner of prohibition, while he is to be in charge of the prosecution of violators of the liquor laws, is to work through the attorney general's office, according to present plans. It is not the intention, Attorney Edwin Rawden said, to load down the state with a new job and a lot of assistants. A deputy commissioner will be included, but the county sheriffs are expected to do the rest of the work. The commissioner is to have the power to go over the head of a prosecuting attorney, if necessary, but all his legal assistance is to come from the attorney general.

No Result From Rail Quiz.

The only results of the Michigan railway commission hearing on the car shortage was to gather data for the interstate commerce commission and clear up several misconceptions. As the coal business in interstate commerce, the state board found it had no power.

Despite the hundreds of pages of testimony taken in the two days from railroad men, board of commerce traffic experts and brokers, the only constructive remedy came from the railroads which are advocating an increase in reconignment charges. This is a blow at brokers who buy coal from the mines and later order its distribution. They can hold the cars indefinitely by paying demurrage charges and New York Central records showed brokers had held cars 85 days in Detroit.

This year's freight congestion was caused through fear of a strike, according to the rail men, who also claimed that embargoes were essential in relieving Detroit congestion. The Michigan Central has a track capacity of 4,000 more cars than last year in Detroit, and claims congestion is not as bad as it was in 1912. All railroads claimed they have sufficient motor facilities to move the freight if cars are released promptly. The Michigan Central has 123 switching crews in Detroit, but collects \$23,000 monthly demurrage charges. The Detroit yards of the Pere Marquette yield \$9,000 demurrage monthly, but rolling stock in hauling service would bring the roads much more revenue.

The Wahab railroad representatives testified they hold 903 cars for Detroit which they cannot deliver owing to Grand Trunk embargoes. They have some 500 cars of coal, of which 228 are for 23 Detroit brokers.

Tuberculosis Common in Jails. The county jails of Michigan are full of cases of tuberculosis, according to the figures given by the tuberculosis survey experts who have just finished tabulating figures compiled from their inspection of ten county jails. In the ten jails they found that 27.4

SHORT STATE NEWS.

Grant.—Since the Travis murder case, the mystery of the disappearance, more than six years ago, of Conrad Finkbeiner, a farmer who lived for many years near here, is again being discussed. Conrad's aged mother, now too feeble to hold a pen, and her son, John Finkbeiner of Dexter, are making a last attempt to find him. The relatives have given up hope of finding him alive. No person has seen him or heard from him since he left.

Houghton.—Werner Beckman, thirty-seven years old, who went to sleep and could not be wakened for 24 hours, is dead, while Charles Stromand is being held for his murder. At the Copper Range hospital here it was learned he was suffering from concussion of the brain. Stromand was arrested when it was reported he had Beckman had a fight shortly before the latter went to sleep.

Reconnoiter.—William J. Brown, Reconnoiter, a member of the Canadian mounted police, was killed December 1 at ...

of the statistics either have the means to do a positive inspection. Not a single one of these cases had been reported by anybody to the state board of health as is required by the state laws, nor did any of those afflicted know they had the disease or were even suspicious of it.

The inspection of the ten jails took place Monday, all of which were thoroughly examined. Of this number 18 were found to have the disease so decidedly that they were listed as "positive" cases, nine as "arrested" cases while the diagnosis of 101 cases was decidedly "negative."

The figures for the ten counties follow:

Table with columns: Co. Name, Pos., Sus., Ar., Neg., Tot. Rows include St. Clair, Bay, Genesee, Saginaw, Jackson, Washtenaw, Tuscola, Benzie, Houghton, and Totals.

Commenting on the fact that none of those afflicted actually knew they had the disease, Dr. William De Kleine, the head of the survey, said: "The average county jail inmate is not characterized by high intelligence. The hard-working laboring man and people of that class seldom land in the county jail."

"The first and obvious duty of each county, in view of the large number of cases discovered in the county jails, is to make its jail building absolutely safe, so that the spread of the disease is not encouraged there."

Haarer Favors Budget. That a system which makes the secretary of state, state treasurer and superintendent of public instruction responsible for the auditing of bills against the state is inconsistent and awkward, is the contention of retiring State Treasurer J. W. Haarer. The treasurer believes that heads of departments should be held responsible for the correctness of the bills of employees under them and that such work as naturally comes under the jurisdiction of an auditor should be cared for in the office of the auditor general. Under existing laws part of the accounts against the state are generally passed upon by the auditor general and part of them by the state board of auditors, with no logical line of demarcation.

"Why should the board of state auditors have to say how much a state employee's expenses should be?" asks the treasurer. "Under the budget system every department head would be responsible for the administration of the fund appropriated to him. He would scan expenditures personally, and if an employee was padding his accounts the department head would find it out."

Eat Alfalfa, Helme's Advice. Eat a little more alfalfa hay ground into alfalfa flour is the advice of James W. Helme, state dairy and food commissioner, to boycotters of butter and eggs.

The state dairy and food commissioner explained that Professor McCollum of the University of Wisconsin, after many experiments with feeding white rats, found that the only food which took the place of the fat found in butter and eggs was alfalfa. Even other fats, such as lard, tallow or the vegetable fats, including olive oil or cottonseed, would not take the place of the fats of butter and eggs.

Professor McCollum found that during 90 days the rats fed on various grains grew about half the normal rate and then stopped growing altogether.

Fellows' Opinion Favors Bacon. Attorney General Grant Fellows has given an opinion to Secretary of State Vaughan that the state board of canvassers must accept the totals returned by the board of county canvassers in the Benkes-Bacon fight in Jackson county, a part of the Second congressional district. This upholds the county canvassers in accepting the figures of the city board, but does not preclude a recount in the city precincts.

The returns of the Jackson county canvassers would make Bacon's plurality in the district 87, while if the disputed votes were counted Benkes would have a plurality of 44 votes.

Cunningham Heads Rail Board. Commissioner Charles S. Cunningham of Detroit was elected chairman of the state railroad commission when David H. Crowley qualified as a member of the commission to succeed Lawton T. Hemans.

Commissioner Cunningham declined to discuss the rumor that he intends to resign as a member of the commission to become traffic manager of the Detroit board of commerce, to succeed A. T. Waterfall.

Cunningham said the position with the Detroit board of commerce had not been tendered him.

New Corporations. Beneficial Finance company, Detroit, \$50,000; Charles G. Milner, Theodore H. Perry, Emil J. Schroeder. Union Co-operative Bakery, Detroit, \$15,000; Adam Abiliski, W. L. Wladislav Kucherak, Simon Czapska. R. E. Hamilton & Sons, Detroit, \$30,000; Thomas C. Hamilton, Webster L. Halle, William G. Hamilton. Highland Park Mineral company, Highland Park, \$5,000. Grand Rapids Grinding Machine company, Grand Rapids, \$25,000. The Schultz Mallevary Sales company, Detroit, \$125,000; Peter W. Schulte, William F. Schultz, Joseph H. Mplowry. Reliable Realty company, Lansing, \$15,000. Fred G. Hoffman company, Lansing, \$1,200. The Bancroft Elevator company, Bancroft, \$25,000. Meridian Power company, Ann Arbor, \$16,000. The Universal Tool company, Detroit, \$10,000. Robert R. Scarborough, Healy Green, Thomas J. E. Trevelick.

Die deutsche Abteilung ist für die Familienglieder, welche am liebsten Deutsch lesen.

Vom Schanplatz des europäischen Völkertrieges

Die kriegerischen Ereignisse sind durch die an die Entente-Mächte gerichteten Friedensvorläufe der deutschen Regierung und der an dem verbündeten Regierungen in der Hintergründung gedrängt worden. Friedenssicherungen haben schon lange und schon oft in der Luft gelegen, aber noch nie ist es zu einer ertüchten Besprechung der Friedensmöglichkeiten gekommen. Friedensmöglichkeiten; denn das sind die vorläufige noch und dürften es auch noch eine Zeitlang bleiben, selbst wenn die Entente-Regierungen es für angebracht hielten, sich schließlich mit den deutschen Vorklären zu beschäftigen.

Viele Wochen werden mit Verprechungen der Alliierten unter sich und einleitenden Verhandlungen ausgefüllt werden, so schreibt E. C. J. im "Wächter und Anzeiger", ehe man sich eingehender mit dieser Frage beschäftigen kann. Vor allen Dingen ist zu einer Besprechung die Kenntnis der Bedingungen notwendig, unter denen Deutschland den Frieden machen will. Diese sind heute noch gänzlich unbekannt, obgleich aus antiken und halbamtlichen Quellen viele Andeutungen über den Inhalt derselben in die Presse gelangt sind.

Man hat A. B. behauptet, daß Deutschland sich mit der Kreierung selbständiger Fürstentümern in Polen, Böhmen und Litauen, begnügen und nicht auf die Einberleiung der jetzt besetzt gehaltenen Teile bescheiden würde. Das hat den Vorn vieler Eiferer hervorgerufen, die weit vom Schuß sind und deutsche Weltpolitik am liebsten freieren. Das ist gerade diese Art, die nicht mitgekämpft und nicht mitgelitten haben, wirkt beruhigend, da man sich fragen muß, daß solche Leute kein Recht zum Mitreden haben und von den Schmiergerichten, die die Beilegung des Krieges verurteilen, sehr wenig oder gar keinen Begriff haben.

Ganz gleich, wie der Frieden geschlossen wird, allen wird das Resultat nicht recht sein, weder den Sozialisten, die gegen jede Gebietsveränderung auf Kolben ansetzen. Staaten sind, nach den Alldeutschen, die, die gegen Europa verfahren möchten. Der Standpunkt beider hat etwas für sich, und beide werden berücksichtigt werden, solange ihre Wünsche nicht extrem werden. Deutschland hat viele Erfahrungen mit der Einberleiung fremdsprachiger Völker gemacht. Wir brauchen nur an die Schmiergerichten in Elßaß, Lothringen und in Polen zu erinnern. Deutschland kann wenig daran gelegen sein, zu einer Zeit, die beweisen hat, daß nur innere Einigkeit und das das Frei sein von heterogenen Elementen im Innern die volle Wohlfahrt noch Aufrechterhalten können, mit neuen Fremdvölkern eine Einigkeit im Innern zu gefährden. Zudem vergessen die Leute, die heute schon auf den Reichstagen schimpfen, weil sie befürchten, daß er ein solches Frieden schließen möchte, daß Deutschland in den Krieg gezwungen wurde und ihn in erster Linie zum Schutze seiner Grenzen in Frankreich trug, nicht etwa um große Eroberungen zu machen. Die Sache läge anders, wenn Deutschland den Krieg zum Ruine gebrachten hätte, um fremdes Gebiet zu erobern. In einem solchen Falle würde Deutschland heute nicht in der Lage sein, den Frieden zu schließen, sondern es müßte unbedingt weiter kämpfen, bis die Gegner am Boden lagen. Die Tatsache, daß Deutschland einen Vorkriegs-Frieden schloß, entbehrt es dieser Notwendigkeit, es hätte den Krieg schon in dem Augenblick gewonnen, in dem es unmöglich ist, in das deutsche Reichsgebiet einzudringen. Damit war der Verteidigungskrieg in jeder Beziehung gewonnen. Daß das deutsche Volkland die deutsche Regierung in die Lage versetzte, sollte, Eroberungen von dem riesenhaften Umfang zu machen, wie sie gemacht wurden, hat der deutschen Regierung Handhabe in die Hand gegeben, die sie gegen andere Vorteile und auch gegen die Zurückführung der verlorenen Kolonien austauschen konnte.

Es ist vielleicht nicht ohne Nutzen geklärt, daß Deutschland erst dann den offiziellen Vorklären zur Beilegung des blutigen Zwistes machte, nachdem die Lage in Südwesteuropa geklärt und für Deutschland entschieden worden war; denn im Südosten und im Osten liegt der Ausgang Deutschlands zu seiner zukünftigen Macht. Das eroberte Gebiet, das sich in deutschen Händen befindet, muß nicht abfolgt gegen fähbare Vorteile fordern kann und wird auch gegen Konzeptionen austauschbar werden, die für Deutschland und seine Stellung als Großmacht von viel höherem Werte sind als einige Exklusivrechte, wegen die man in

Europa oder in den Tropen oder sonst wo liegen. England trat in den Krieg, um Deutschlands Gebiete und Deutschlands Reichsmacht zu vernichten. England sah sich in seiner Vormachtstellung im Osten oft bedroht. Die hat es ausbeuten wollen, hat sie aber nicht beiseite gänzlich entgebeht. Schon die Bagdad-Eisenbahn zeigte, daß die deutsche Landstrasse nach dem Osten dem in die Hände Englands war, und der Angriff auf die Dardanellen, der gleichfalls fehlschlag verlor, den gleichen Zweck. England und auch Frankreich und Rußland sind stark an der Bagdad-Bahn interessiert. Die Diplomaten der genannten Länder haben lange untereinander gehandelt und geeifert, wer den Hauptanteil an der Bahn haben sollte. Deutschland hat, obgleich es finanziell am stärksten an der Bahn interessiert war, nicht übermäßig gut bei diesen Verhandlungen abgefahren, und es wird die Gelegenheit, die dort eingehenden Vorklären und Konzeptionen gegen Zeile der Siegesbeute einzutauschen gerne ergreifen. Die Erschließung Mesopotamiens und Persien und des ganzen Ostens durch eine Bahn, die sich unter deutscher Kontrolle befindet, gibt Deutschland den Platz an der Sonne, nach dem es sich seit vielen Jahren gesehnt hat. Er ist des Kampfes wohl wert gewesen.

Auch darf man nicht vergessen, daß Deutschland infolge seines Sieges die unbeschränkte Führung in Europa erlangen hat. Sein Wunsch, und nicht der der Entente, wird von jetzt ab in Europa der maßgebende sein, und sein Wort wird entscheidend ins Gewicht fallen. Deutschland wird frei atmen und seinen friedlichen Bestrebungen auf kulturellen, kommerziellen und industriellen Gebiete frei nachgeben können. Das ist erreicht worden und kann ihm nicht mehr genommen werden. Der mitteluropäische Block, das festeste und stärkste Statengebilde der modernen Zeit unter Deutschlands Führung, ist ein Glückspreis, der des Schweißes und Blutes der Ehlen wohl wert gewesen ist. Darüber können sich selbst die Nörgler nicht hinwegsetzen.

Und an der Festsigung dieses Blockes wird trotz der Friedensgerichte, die wie Frühlingsschiffe über die Schicksaltfelder Europas ziehen, rüstig weitergearbeitet. In Rumänien schaffen Wardeniens Heere die letzten Winterkriege, die diesem Blöcke auf Seite liegen, aus dem Wege. Rumänien, nun fast gänzlich in deutschen Händen, wird sich der Kontrolle der Zentralmächte nie wieder entziehen können.

Wären die Mächte der Entente-Presse toben, mögen die Franzosen die Deutschen bei Verbund zurückdrängen und mögen die Führer der Alliierten noch so oft behaupten, daß sie nicht befeigt sind, die Tatsache, daß Deutschland gesiegt hat und daß der Sieg mit jedem Tage noch wächst, vermögen sie dadurch nicht aus der Welt zu schaffen.

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Zeichen des nahen Friedens. Dem Harz, Schritte, die deutsche Schiffs-Interessen unternehmen, erfolgten in der offenbaren Annahme, daß der Frieden nahe ist. Die hiesigen Bureaus der zwei großen deutschen transatlantischen Linien erheften, sie hätten Instruktionen erhalten, Frachtskontrollen für Sendungen von New York nach Deutschland "nach Aufnahme unseres regulären Dienstes" abzuwickeln. Die Hamburg-Amerika-Linie gab folgendes bekannt: "Es freut uns, ankündigen zu können, daß wir jetzt bereit sind, Fracht-Engagements von den vier Städten nach Hamburg zur Verbindung nach Wiederaufnahme unseres regulären Dienstes nach Friedensschluß oder zu jeder früheren Zeit, als die Ginderenisse für solche Wiederaufnahme befeigt sind, zu treffen."

Eine ähnliche Notiz ging von dem Bureau des Norddeutschen Lloyd aus. Es heißt, daß solche Kontrakte kein Tabu garantieren und angefertigt werden mögen, wenn Verhältnisse ihre Einholung verhalten sollten.

Vom Schanplatz des europäischen Völkertrieges

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Clinton Man Faced Trial. St. John.—Jonathan Strong of Eagle was arraigned in court here charged with the murder of his nephew, William Eddy of Eagle, whom he shot half-past nine night when he found him with other boys sneaking his automobile, and pleaded not guilty. He was released on bail of \$5,000.

Kills Self to Avoid Operation. Battle Creek.—With preparations completed for an operation at Nicholas hospital here, Mrs. Burr L. Weeks, forty years old, shot herself through the head with a 22-caliber rifle. Her body was found on the floor of a hallway in her Level Park home by her husband.

Post Office Is Robbed. Adrian.—Between \$800 and \$900 in money and stamps was taken from the Egipion post office. The post office is in a general store owned by Cass Zeffert, who is serving on the grand jury in Detroit. The door of the store was opened with a key, and the safe, which was unlocked, was simply opened.

Shot Into Crowd. Munkegon.—Peter Mondello is wanted by the Munkegon police for falling into a crowd of spectators gathered before had been hit in a fist encounter. He is alleged to have shot Earl Woodward, eighteen, and August Shawlow, twenty-two. He made his escape.

Retired Pastor Dies. Battle Creek.—Rev. Marcellus Claypool, sixty-three years old, a retired United Brethren minister, died here of Bright's disease.

Barstow Slayer Still Free. Flint.—The mystery surrounding the murder of Neil J. Barstow, Sr., wealthy real estate merchant, philanthropist and late city official, disappeared with Sheriff Frank A. Green announced that Frank Barstow, Max O'Brien, a robber, recently admitted himself as the slayer of Barstow. Barstow was killed by three Flint persons who suspected Barstow was about to reveal real estate secrets on October 10, 1916. The persons who shot Barstow were: Charles Barstow, a brother of the victim, and two others.

STAIRS

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Ferris May Be Mayor. Big Rapids.—Shortly after Gov. Woodbridge N. Ferris steps out of the governorship next month, he may step into the mayor's chair in Big Rapids. At a mass meeting held there he was nominated for mayor to oppose the incumbent, A. B. Cogger, at the recall election January 18. He accepted. Two commissioners also were nominated to oppose the present commissioners. Big Rapids has had difficulty over its city government ever since it adopted the commission form, because of friction between city officials and the manufacturers of the town.

To Censor Children's Movies. Battle Creek.—For some time Battle Creek has been working out a plan for having "movies" for children properly censored, at least on one day each week. One theater manager, W. S. Butlerfield, has finally agreed to cooperate, and the films will be shown each Wednesday afternoon, Superintendent of Schools W. G. Coburn, and Mrs. C. R. Brewer of the Woman's club will act as censors.

Dog Bites Baby's Face. Ionia.—Mary, the four-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Brelow, was badly lacerated about the face by a dog. The parents were outside the farmhouse and when they returned found the child lying on the floor with the dog over her. The animal had to be pulled off, refusing to leave when called. One of the gashes went unhealed through the cheek. The dog was killed and the head sent to Ann Arbor for examination.

City Fuel Cocks Proposed. Kalamazoo.—Mayor James B. Balch, who has saved the citizens of Kalamazoo from \$250 to \$4 a ton for coal by establishing a municipal coal yard, is urging mayors of other Michigan cities to join Kalamazoo in appealing to the 1917 legislature to amend the home rule bill so that municipal fuel docks can be established wherever necessary. "This will help break up what seems to me to be an unwarranted combination," he said.

Defunct Bank Pays Dividend. Port Huron.—A ten per cent dividend has been paid depositors of the Richmond State bank, which closed its doors in April, 1915, following the failure of the Richmond Elevator company. W. H. Acker had paid depositors three per cent dividends, and with this last installment will give depositors 85 per cent of the money credited to them.

Michigan Man Slain. Chicago.—Peter Mondello, believed to have come here from Munkegon, was shot and killed, probably, the police believe, as the result of an Italian feud. On Mondello's person were found a pistol, a stiletto and letters addressed to 65 Ottawa street, Munkegon. Three persons arrested asserted ignorance of the crime.

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THE PLYMOUTH MAIL

VOLUME XXIX, No. 4

PLYMOUTH, MICH., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1916

WHOLE No. 1474

To Our Patrons and Friends:

A Happy New Year

The spirit of the season prompts us to express our thanks and appreciation for your liberal patronage during the past year and to most heartily wish you health and prosperity for the coming year of 1917.

BEYER PHARMACY

Block South P. M. Depot

RESOLUTIONS FOR THE NEW YEAR

Will You Do Your Part?

A little more deed and a little less greed;
A little more giving and a little less greed;
A little more bearing other people's load;
A little more God-spread on the dusty road;
A little more rest and a little less thorn;
To sweeten the air for the sick and forlorn.
A little more song and a little less gloom;
And oaths of gold for the uplift of the slum;
A little less kicking the man that is down;
A little more smile and a little less frown.
A little more Golden Rule in matters of trade,

A little more sunshine and a little less shade;
A little more respect for fathers and mothers;
A little less stepping on the toes of others;
A little less knocking and a little more cheer
For the struggling hero that's left in the rear.
A little more of love and a little less hate,
A little more of neighborly chat at the gate.
A little more of the helping hand by you and me,
A little less of this graveyard sentimentality;
A few more of the flowers in the pathway of life,
A little less on coffins at the end of the strife.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Services for Sunday, December 31st:

10:00 a. m.—The pastor preaches. Theme: "Acts and Resolutions."

11:20 a. m.—Sunday-school.

3:00 p. m.—Worth White Boys and Girls.

7:00 p. m.—The pastor preaches. Theme: "A Brave Woman's Resolution."

Greetings....

We extend to all our patrons and friends our best wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year. We wish also to express our appreciation for the patronage given us in the past year, and hope to merit a continuance of the same during the New Year.

Pinckney's Pharmacy

THE PEOPLES DRUG STORE

Always Open.

Free Delivery

GREETINGS....



We desire to extend to our patrons and friends our thanks and appreciation for their liberal patronage during the past year, and to wish you all a Happy and Prosperous New Year.



E. L. RIGGS

Thanking you for past favors, we wish you

A Happy and Prosperous New Year.

F. W. HILLMAN

Hardware, Tinning, Heating

A Happy New Year

We desire to extend to our patrons and friends our hearty thanks and appreciation for the liberal patronage of the past year and to wish you and yours a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

HENRY J. FISHER

Plymouth's First Municipal Xmas Tree

Last Sunday evening a large crowd of citizens assembled on Main street to witness the festivities of Plymouth's first municipal Christmas tree. The weather was in keeping with the old-fashioned brand of Christmas weather the ground being covered with snow and a sharp twinge of cold in the air. The tree was placed near the drinking fountain at the edge of Kellogg park.

Shortly after five o'clock the program opened with the singing of a Christmas carol, "The Silent Night," the Plymouth band playing the accompaniment, and the assemblage joining in the chorus as the words were thrown on a screen on a building on the opposite side of the street. As the first song was being sung, hundreds of white, blue and red lights were turned on, and the tree flashed forth resplendent in beauty that called forth the admiration of the large crowd. A large star shone forth from the very tip of the tree and the whole presented a most beautiful sight.

The idea of a community Christmas tree in Plymouth was conceived and carried out under the auspices of the Woman's Literary Club and a number of public-spirited, spirited citizens who co-operated in the plans. The ladies of the club are to be congratulated on their progressive spirit in getting in line with thousands of other towns and cities in the observance of this beautiful Christmas custom, which the whole community enjoys together. Much credit for the success of Plymouth's first community Christmas tree is due to Mrs. R. E. Cooper, president of the Woman's Literary Club, under whose leadership the plans were made and so successfully carried out.

The Woman's Literary Club wish through the Mail to thank all those who contributed in any way to the success of the community Christmas tree.

Methodist S. S. Render Fine Christmas Program

The Christmas concert and entertainment given by the Methodist Sunday-school in the village hall last Sunday evening was a great success in every way. A large crowd was in attendance, every seat in the lower hall being occupied and some were obliged to stand. The first part of the program was given over to the younger members of the Sunday-school and consisted of songs and recitations. The children took their parts exceedingly well and rendered great credit on the teachers, who had given much time in training them.

The second part of the program was the dramatization of the Christmas story, "The Nativity," that old, old story, yet ever new, of the birth of Jesus. Twelve members of the Sunday-school took part in this little play and it was indeed beautifully rendered. It was through the efforts of Miss Margaret Smith that they were able to present this play here, as she secured the necessary and several of the costumes for the drama, where it was judiciously presented.

County Farmers' Federation Elect Officers

At a meeting held at Eloise last week Wednesday the Wayne County Farmers' Federation was formally organized with the following officers: President—G. C. Ravler, Plymouth; Vice Pres.—Geo. VanRiper, Flat Rock; Secretary—Chas. Evans, Belleville; Treasurer—S. A. Spicer, Canton. A constitution and by-laws were also adopted at this meeting. The organization of the Federation is so framed that every branch of agricultural work will be carried on under its supervision. It will also be through this organization and its affiliated bodies that the county agricultural agent will reach the people in his work.

Important Meeting for Farmers

There will be a general meeting of the farmers of the county at the Grange hall, Saturday, Dec. 30th, beginning at 9:30 a. m. standard time. There will be two sessions, forenoon and afternoon, with a Vienna lunch and smoker at noon. The meeting is called for the purpose of considering many important points in the proposed constitution and by-laws to be adopted by the Plymouth Agricultural Association. It is also expected that a speaker from the extension department of the M. A. C. will also be present at this meeting. Every farmer is cordially invited to attend.

Presbyterian Sunday-school Observes Christmas Season in Unique Manner

The Presbyterian Sunday-school observed Christmas in a most unique and pleasant manner last Tuesday evening. There was an entire change from the old way of observing Christmas. Indeed, it is the policy of this school to have something different each year. This year the entire Sunday-school assembled in the large dining hall and any who have believed this room too large for even present needs should have looked into that large room filled with Sunday-school scholars on this occasion. Each class had its own table and each class vied with the others in presenting a beautiful holiday appearance. That there was plenty to eat goes without saying and there was merry-making throughout the supper hour. After supper Santa Claus arrived to distribute little gifts to the children and candy popcorn to everyone. Then everyone went upstairs into the auditorium where Rev. F. J. Fisher told the story of "The Olden Time Man." This beautiful story of the Holy Yandys was illustrated by a set of forty photographs which were most beautiful and the children were intensely interested in every picture for the duration of an hour. As the conclusion of this story the Sunday-school and guests departed feeling it to have been the finest Christmas ever.

Orange Elect New Officers

All members of the Orange...

Will Hear a Splendid Lecture

A rare treat is to be furnished the members and guests of the Woman's Literary Club on Friday evening, Jan. 5th, when Prof. H. V. Wann of the University of Michigan, gives his illustrated lecture on "Sights and Scenes in Constantinople." This ancient yet modern city on the Bosphorus has a new interest since it has been figuring in the European war, and no man is better fitted to present it than Prof. Wann, who for some years was an instructor in Roberts college, Constantinople, and is thoroughly familiar with conditions there. Among the scenes which he will present are the Bosphorus, Golden Horn, Pera, Galatia Bridge, Turkish Quarters, Bazaars, Mosques and street scenes. Prof. Wann is at present instructor in French in the University of Michigan, and is one of the most interesting University extension lecturers. The lecture will be given in the Presbyterian church.

Milk Producers Meet

A meeting of the milk-producers of Plymouth and vicinity was held in the Grange hall, Tuesday afternoon, for the purpose of reconsidering the price of milk for the ensuing year, established at a meeting of producers held recently. The meeting was presided over by Wm. Kobbeman, president of the local branch of the Mutual Dairymen's Association. Mr. Near, president of the Central Mutual Dairymen's Association was present and discussed the milk question. The meeting voted to ask \$2.15 4-5 per cwt. for the ensuing year. It was also voted to sell on a test rate. There were over one hundred milk producers present at the meeting.

Former Resident Dead

Lloyd L. Lewis, a former resident of this place, died at the home of his son Harry, in Ann Arbor last Friday. Death was due to heart trouble. The deceased is survived by his wife and two sons, one who resides in Rochester, New York and Harry with whom the deceased and his wife made their home. The funeral services were held in Ann Arbor last Sunday. James McKeever, M. M. Wilcox, Oliver Penney, Charles Evans and Theodore Chilson attended the funeral.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Merritt entertained several relatives at a family dinner Monday.

We wish our Patrons and friends a Happy and Prosperous New Year.



The Detroit Edison Co.
MAIN STREET, PLYMOUTH.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Make and live up to the following resolution and you will be a RICH MAN
Resolved:—To start the New Year with a bank account and deposit regularly.



Plymouth United Savings Bank
PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN.

Paper Has Advanced

Do you want to buy at a price less than today's cost?

All next week you can buy

Three Five Cent Ruled Pencil Tablets for

11 CENTS

THE PLYMOUTH MAIL

F. W. SAMSEN
L. B. SAMSEN, Editor and Manager

Local News

John Jewell and wife entertained their sons and families at their home on Harvey street Christmas day.

Frank Whitbeck is in Detroit this week attending a convention of the salesmen of the Detroit Vapor Stone Co.

Mr. and Mrs. George Robinson and daughter June of Detroit, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Robinson Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Johnson of Northville, spent Sunday with their son and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Johnson.

Ed. Willett and wife visited relatives in Detroit last Sunday. Their two little grandchildren, Marian and Hazel Williams returned home with them.

RAG. Samsen and family and Dr. John Olmeyer and wife spent Sunday with relatives at Rushon. Little Helen Samsen remaining over the first of the week.

Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Wilson entertained a company of friends at their home on Dodge street Xmas day. Mr. and Mrs. John Wilson of Northville, were the out of town guests.

Grange Notes

Our next regular meeting will be January 4. A general good program is being prepared by the lecturer.

January 6, the Wayne County Pomona will be entertained by the Plymouth Grange. It will be an all day meeting and we will also have the report from our Pomona delegates, Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Bird, from the State Grange which was held in Lansing.

OBITUARY.

Hannah Elizabeth Phelps was born in the town of Superior, Washburn county, May 10, 1844, between Plymouth and Ann Arbor on the Ann Arbor road. A few years of her early childhood was spent here. The family then moved 1 1/2 miles east of Eaton Rapids, when nearly all of Eaton county and her home surroundings was a wilderness. The little country school house near her home also served the purpose of a church. Here she was baptized and received into the church at the age of 12 years. She lived in Eaton Rapids until about 20 years of age and then she came to Plymouth with relatives. At the age of 23, Hannah Elizabeth Phelps was united in marriage to James B. Purdy of this village. To this union two children were born: Nettie L. Moore and Harry Edgar Purdy, both living here. Aside from her husband and two children, Mrs. Purdy leaves one sister, Mrs. Selim Phillips of Milford, and one half brother, William A. Decker of Hastings, Nebraska, and a large number of friends to mourn their loss. She passed from this life Dec. 21, at 12:30 a. m., at the age of 72 years and six months. Another home circle is broken; a few more hearts are aching because the presence of a faithful wife and a fond mother is missed from the fringed. The funeral was held Sunday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock from the home of her daughter, Mrs. N. I. Moore, Rev. Farber officiating. Interment in Riverside cemetery.

Ross Willett and Byron Willett and wife of Detroit, visited relatives here the first of the week, Mrs. Willett remaining over a few days. Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Doerr and children returned to their home in Bad Axe, Wednesday, after a few days' visit with Mrs. Doerr's parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Spicer.

A CARD—We, the undersigned, wish to express our sincere gratitude to members of Eddy Post, G. A. R., the J. and A. Ryder Relief Corps, members of Sunlight Arbor of Gleasons, officers and employes of Markham Air Rifle Co., Rev. Farber, the singers and all others who so kindly rendered assistance during the illness and at the time of the death of the mother in our home. Very sincerely, James B. Purdy, Harry E. Purdy, Nettie L. Moore.

OLD TREE STILL PRODUCTIVE

Planted by Governor Endicott Nearly Three Centuries Ago, It Bears Yearly Crop of Fine Fruit.

Thought to be the oldest fruit tree in this country, the pear tree planted 280 years ago by Governor Endicott of Massachusetts is still thriving well and bearing a yearly crop of fruit of the first quality. John Endicott purchased a large tract of land at Danversport, then known as the southern section of Salem village. The estate afterward became known as the Endicott plantation. Governor Endicott, being a great lover of sugar pears, sent a relative in Dorchester, England, for a pear tree. After several months the tree arrived, and at that time few people ever believed that the tree would live, as the roots had become very dry. The governor, believing that he, better than anyone else, was the proper man to plant the tree, journeyed to the plantation and there, in a sheltered spot close to the Danvers river, dug a hole and carefully planted it. For many years he cared for it himself, and it was not long before it became the most famous of all fruit trees of Massachusetts. This year it is estimated that there were close to 3,000 pears on the tree. Few people who visited Danvers missed the opportunity of seeing this wonderful tree, which was carefully guarded by a picket fence. The tree is made up of three distinct trunks, which are partially decayed, although the upper section of the tree is quite healthy in appearance. Endicott himself used to relate that the tree supplied a sufficient number of pears to supply the entire Salem village, which in those days numbered less than one hundred inhabitants. When Governor Endicott died in the year 1685 special mention was made in his will in regard to the famous tree, which was left in care of his daughter.

GOES FAR BACK IN HISTORY

Nippur Tablet, Recently Discovered and Translated, Has Brought Joy to Archeologists.

A Sumerian epic that tells the story of the reconstruction of civilization after the deluge has been discovered on one of the famous Nippur tablets in the University of Pennsylvania museum. Announcement of the discovery and the completion of the translation of the epic has just been made by Dr. Stephen H. Langdon, Sumerian scholar and assistant curator of the museum. The epic, according to Doctor Langdon, takes up the history of civilization after Paradise, the fall of man and the flood, and is a sequel to the Sumerian epic which he translated a year ago. The fragment which contains the latest history is four and one-half inches long and one inch thick. It contains about 300 lines of inscriptions. It dates from about 2250 B. C. and hence represents a literature older than that of the Babylonians and the Chaldeans. "The boat or ark is mentioned," Doctor Langdon announces, "as well as Iahnam, the god of the deluge. It describes the regeneration of the ancient land of Sumeria at the hands of the god of wisdom, who decreed that it should be the center of civilization."

Not At All Likely. "Do you think the widow of the man who was lynched will win her damage suit against the mob?" "I reckon not," replied Mr. Gap Johnson of Rumpus Ridge. "When a lady loses the kind of a husband that a mob would nacherly lynch, she hasn't lost anything. And when a gang of prominent citizens take time from their own business to lynch a cuss just 'cuz he needs it, it hain't reasonable to expect 'em to pay for the privilege of doing the community a favor. That's the general sentiment of the voters in this neck of the woods, and I reckon the jury, being mostly candidates for something now or in the future, will promptly decide to make it unpalatable."—Kansas City Star.

Both Worn Out. Walter Whitman, an employee of the Adams Express company in Columbus, Ind., was unloading a calf consigned from Columbus to Indianapolis, when the calf showed a disposition to ramble. It rambled all around, in and out of town, and Whitman had to forsake his other duties and follow after. The chase continued from four o'clock in the afternoon until about ten o'clock at night, when it was a draw between the calf and Whitman. At that hour Whitman walked up to the calf and the animal accompanied him back to the Pennsylvania line's station without further protest.

Thief Feared Siege of Paris. A woman shoplifter who was caught in the act of appropriating a curtain from a Paris emporium was sentenced to ten months' imprisonment. An enormous quantity of stolen objects, consisting chiefly of provisions and articles of clothing, was found at her apartment. Her excuse before the judge was that the articles had been laid in by her as a precaution against a siege of Paris, an argument which failed to move the court.

Biggest in the World. California is to have the biggest bridge in the world to connect Oakland with San Francisco and relieve five ferry systems. It will cost \$22,000,000, be five and one-half miles long, one of the heaviest bridges ever built, carrying three roadways and four railroad tracks, and two of its 16 spans will be high and wide enough for any ship to pass.

Try a liner in the Mail. It pays. Stomach Trouble and Constipation. These who are afflicted with stomach trouble and constipation should read the following: "I have never found anything so good for stomach trouble and constipation as Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. I have used it often and it has done me good. It is now for the past two years. They not only regulate the action of the bowels but stimulate the liver and keep one's body in a healthy condition."—Mrs. Benjamin Cooper, Auburn, N. Y.—Adv.

Christmas Exercises at Baptist Church

Christmas exercises were held in the Baptist church of this place, last Saturday evening. Promptly at 7:30 o'clock a large audience had assembled to listen to an excellent program rendered by the children of the primary grades, and every recitation and song given showed that the committee having the program in charge had carefully drilled the children for the occasion. The church choir also ably assisted with the program. The decorations were of the Christmas color, red and green, and were the finest the church has ever had. There were three large arches extending across the front of the rostrum, each having a large bell in the center. The side arches were draped to the rostrum. From beneath the center arch were garlands, a large cluster of bells and banners with the words, "A Merry Christmas." The sides and ceiling of the auditorium were also decorated with the same colors. At the back of the rostrum was a large bank beautifully decorated on which the gifts, which were garlands, were placed. At the close of the exercises the Sunday-school superintendent, S. Bennett, in behalf of the pastor, class, Ladies' Aid society and loving friends, presented Rev. and Mrs. Bell with a beautiful leather rocker as a small token of the esteem in which the pastor and his wife are held by the members and congregation. The superintendent takes this opportunity to thank the various committees having the work in charge for their kindness and loyalty in helping make this Christmas season one long to be remembered.

Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Spicer held their annual Christmas gathering at their home east of town last Monday, fifteen of the family being present. The house was decorated in Xmas colors and a tree with Santa there to distribute the gifts made the day enjoyable not only for the children but the older ones too.

CHURCH NEWS. CHRISTIAN SCIENCE. First Church of Christ Scientist, corner Main and Dodge streets. Sunday morning services, 10:30 o'clock. Subject, "Christian Science." Sunday-school at 11:30 a. m. Wednesday evening, testimony service, 7:10. Reading room in rear of church open daily except Sunday, from 2 to 4 p. m. Everyone welcome. A lending library of Christian Science literature is maintained. ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL MISSION. H. Midworth, Mission. Sunday, Dec. 31.—Divine service at 10:15 a. m. Morning prayer and sermon. Subject of discourse, "A New Year's Message to the Men and Women of Plymouth." Christmas hymns will be sung by the choir. All are cordially invited to attend the service.

PRESBYTERIAN. Rev. B. F. Farber, Pastor. Services will be held in this church on Sunday, Dec. 31, as follows: Morning worship at 10 o'clock. The pastor preaches. Theme, "Acts and Resolutions." Sunday-school at the close of the morning service. Worth While Boys and Girls' Society at 3 o'clock. Evening service at 7 o'clock. The pastor preaches. Theme, "A Brave Woman's Resolution." Prayer meeting on Thursday evening at 7 o'clock. The public is most cordially invited to attend these services.

BAPTIST. Rev. Archibald L. Bell, Pastor. Phone 54W. Morning worship, 10 o'clock. Theme of sermon, "How to have a Happy New Year." 11:15 a. m., Sunday-school. 6 p. m., young people's meeting. 7 o'clock, evening service. Subject, "Standards for the Journey." The annual week of prayer will be observed next week beginning Monday evening at 7 o'clock and each night during the week. It is expected that every member will make a special effort to attend these meetings.

METHODIST. Rev. Frank M. Field, Pastor. The services for New Year's Sunday will be of a special character. The evening will be given up to an old-fashioned Watch Night service, beginning at seven o'clock. New Year's message, "Spared Another Year," by the pastor. Howard Burden a student in Albion college, will also preach. The young people will have a half hour. Preaching, the "Acts and Resolutions" worth League meeting. A love feast will round out the program. Morning service at ten o'clock. Theme, "The Spirit of Methodism," a theme to be presented in thousands of Methodist churches throughout the country this Sunday with a communion in connection at Baltimore working for the uniting of the two great branches of Methodism north and south. Sunday-school directly after morning service.

LUTHERAN. Next Sunday morning there will be Sunday-school at 9:00. Subject, "What is a Sacrament?" The morning services will be in English. Text, Ps. 50:14, 15. Theme, "How shall God's children use the last hours of the old year?" The evening services will be in German. The Lord's supper will be celebrated and all who wish to partake must announce themselves Friday afternoon or evening. New Year's day there will be German services in the morning and English in the evening. Six days after there will be services in the Lutheran church in Livonia. The Ladies' Aid will meet immediately after the morning service.

BIBLE STUDENTS. Meeting as usual for Dec. 31, 2 p. m. Ten minute discourse by A. K. Dolph. Topic, "The development of true christian character." First, to what degree or extent is my character stronger and more crystallized than one year ago? Second, have I started on the only and right foundation, Jesus Christ. Third, am I realizing more than ever that after starting on the right foundation that the only way to gain everlasting life is through a perfect character. Then as a worker, merchant, mechanic, laborer, farmer, etc., and willing this coming year to try to gain such character by being just, honest and upright in all my dealings with my fellow men, as I shall be required to do when I stand before God, can you say that you are a true christian? If you are not, you are not a true christian. They will not only regulate the action of the bowels but stimulate the liver and keep one's body in a healthy condition."—Mrs. Benjamin Cooper, Auburn, N. Y.—Adv.

ANNOUNCEMENT! Having purchased from the Plymouth United Savings Bank their INSURANCE BUSINESS known as "THE PLYMOUTH INSURANCE AGENCY," I now represent the following unexcelled list of Companies: Franklin, Phoenix, Liverpool, London & Globe, The National Surety Co., National, German-Alliance, Michigan Fire & Marine, The Aetna, (Automobile Dept.), The Travelers Insurance and Indemnity Companies. With this unusually strong list of Companies I am in position to give the best service obtainable in any of the following lines: FIRE, TORNADO, PLATE GLASS, BURGLARY, BOILER, LIABILITY, INDEMNITY BONDS, COMPENSATION, MESSENGER AND PAYMASTER ROBBERY, AUTOMOBILE. ANY KIND OF INSURANCE—ANYWHERE. When in need of insurance do not fail to make your wants known to me and get the BEST your money can buy. May the New Year be a happy one, filled with an abundance of Prosperity for all. R. R. PARROTT. Phone No. 39 Plymouth, Mich. No. 136 Main St.

PHOTOS. No wedding is complete until photographs of the bride and groom have been taken. Include the bridal party and guests if you wish. Photographs taken at the church, home or in our own studio. WEDDING PHOTOS. Best Work. Lowest Prices. WOOD'S STUDIO. Plymouth, Mich. Phone 179W3.

Central Meat Market. To Our Patrons and Friends: We desire to extend to you our thanks and appreciation for your patronage for the past year and trust we may merit a continuance of the same during the coming year, we wish you one and all a Happy and Prosperous New Year. FRANK RAMBO, Mgr. PHONE NO. 23.

New Year Greetings. We desire at this time to thank our patrons and friends for their liberal patronage for the past year, and hope to merit a continuance of the same during the year of 1917. W. E. SMYTH, Optician and Eyeglass Specialist. PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN.

Presentation at St. John's Church. Last Sunday after the morning service the congregation assembled in the church for the purpose of presenting H. Midworth with a fine linen surplice vestment. A. J. E. Torre, the warden, in making the presentation on behalf of the congregation, in the course of a few remarks, said they were assembled together that morning to express their thanks and appreciation to their dear friend and pastor for the faithful service and his untiring energies for the benefit of the mission during the past year, he asked Mr. Midworth to accept the vestment as a token of their appreciation and love. Mr. Torre said he also wished to make some remarks in reference to Dr. Bettys. When Mr. Harlow, the late organist, resigned and went to the Canadian Northwest, there was a certain gap or break in the musical part of the service, but he had no fear that that gap would soon be filled and the difficulty overcome as all others had been. Right there Dr. Bettys realized the opportunity for doing some work for the church and the Master's service and offered his services at the organ and with the choir. Mr. Torre, on behalf of the members of the church, thanked Dr. Bettys for the service he was rendering. Mr. Midworth in replying said he was very grateful to receive the kind expressions of love and appreciation from the congregation of St. John's; above all he valued the support he had always received from the vestry and congregation; he also commented on the good work Dr. Bettys was doing with the musical part of the service. Dr. Bettys replied and in a few remarks thanked the congregation for their expressions of appreciation. Mr. Stevenson said she could not let the congregation disperse without extending a vote of thanks to their warden, Mr. Torre, for the work and energy he had put forth during the time he had been warden. In response the congregation signified their approval by raising their right hand. Mr. Torre thanked Mrs. Stevenson and the members and assured them that to him it was a labor of love for the mission, and the result of such loyal support and encouragement he was receiving from the vestry and Ladies' Guild. With the usual Christmas salutations the congregation dispersed.

Have Your Horses Shod With Steel Center Shoes While They Last. J. S. LORENZ. The Blacksmith Plymouth, Mich.

Who'll Be the Next to Build? Look What A Wide Choice! A Good Store Building—for use or for rent. A Nice Home, Cottage, Bungalow or Mansion. A Good Barn, on the farm or in town. A Shed, for automobile, stock or machinery. A New Porch, or Addition to the House. A Henney or F' noe. Be the Next and See Us For Lumber and Building Material. Plymouth Lumber & Coal Co. CHAS. MATHER, Sec. & Manager.

COAL! Don't Delay. The time to put in your winter supply of fuel is NOW. Don't wait until the real cold weather sets in, when there is a rush of orders on. Call up 91 and place your order now. J. D. McLaren Co. TELEPHONE 91.

THE LONE STAR RANGER

A Thrilling Texas Border Story
By ZANE GREY

SYNOPSIS

The first of the story about 1881. The Lone Star country. The oldest cowboy, Buckhorn Duane, a young man who has inherited a lust to kill, which he suppresses. In self-defense he shoots dead a drunken bully and is forced to flee to the wild country where he joins Elmer's outlaw band. Elmer, an ambitious man, tells him about Jennie, a young girl who has been seduced and is bound for a life of slavery. They determine to rescue the girl and restore her to civilization. Elmer is killed by a rival gang. Duane is reported the outlook to Buck. Elmer is killed. Buck never sees her again, but kills her abductor. Duane barely escapes death at the hands of lynchers for a crime he never committed. He goes to see Captain Macleary of the Rangers, who hands him a pardon on condition that he join the Rangers and assist in breaking up the outlaws. Duane accepts and goes to the outlaws headquarters on a secret mission. He meets Longstreth, mayor of Fairdale, and Miss Ray Longstreth and her cousin, Ruth. There is something suspicious about Longstreth.

CHAPTER XVII—Continued.

Miss Longstreth rose white as her dress. The young women present stared in astonishment. They were not equally perturbed. There were cowboys present who suddenly grew intent and still. By these things Duane gathered that his appearance must be disconcerting. He was panting. He wore no hat or coat. His big gunsheath showed plainly at his hip.

Sight of Miss Longstreth had an unaccountable effect upon Duane. He was plunged into confusion. For the moment he saw no one but her.

"Miss Longstreth—I came—to search—your house," panted Duane. "Search my house!" exclaimed Miss Longstreth, and red succeeded the white in her cheeks. She appeared astonished and angry. "What for? Why, how dare you! This is unwarrantable!"

"A man—Bo Sneeker—assaulted and robbed Jim Laramie," replied Duane, hurriedly. "I chased Sneeker here—saw him run into this house."

"Here? Oh, sir, you must be mistaken. We have seen no one. In the absence of my father I'm mistress here. I'll not permit you to search."

Lawson appeared to come out of his astonishment. He stepped forward. "Ray, don't be bothered now," he said, to his cousin. "This fellow's making a bluff. I'll settle him. See here, mister, you clear out!"

"I want Sneeker. He's here, and I'm going to get him," replied Duane, quietly.

"Bah! That's all a bluff," sneered Lawson. "You're on to your game. You just wanted an excuse to break in here—to see my cousin again. When you saw the company you invented an excuse. Now, be off, or it'll be the worse for you."

Duane felt his face burn with a tide of hot blood. Almost he felt that he was guilty of such motive. Had he not been unable to put this Ray Longstreth out of his mind? There seemed to be scorn in her eyes now. And somehow that checked his embarrassment.

"Miss Longstreth, will you let me search the house?" he asked.

"No."

"Then—I regret to say—I'll do so without your permission."

"You'll not dare!" she flashed. She stood erect, her bosom swelling.

"Pardon me—yes, I will."

"Who are you?" she demanded, suddenly.

"I'm a Texas Ranger," replied Duane.

"A Texas Ranger!" she echoed. Floyd Lawson's dark face turned pale.

"Miss Longstreth, I don't need warrants to search houses," said Duane. "I'm sorry to annoy you. I'd prefer to have your permission. A ruffian has taken refuge here—in your father's house. He's hidden somewhere. May I look for him?"

"If you are indeed a ranger," Duane produced his papers. Miss Longstreth haughtily refused to look at them.

"Miss Longstreth, I've come to make Fairdale a safer, cleaner, better place for women and children. But to do that I must see you out here. But to do that I must see you out here. But to do that I must see you out here."

Floyd Lawson made a violent motion with his hands. "All stuff! Condemn, go on with your party. I'll take a couple of cowboys and go with this Texas Ranger."

When Duane arrived at the hall where court was held there were other men there, a dozen or more, and all seemed excited; evidently, news of Duane had preceded him. Longstreth sat at a table on a platform. Near him sat a thick-set grizzled man, with deep eyes, and this was Hanford Owens, county judge. To the right stood a tall, angular, yellow-faced fellow with a drooping sandy mustache. Conspicuous on his vest was a huge silver shield. This was Gorsech, one of Longstreth's sheriffs. There were four other men whom Duane knew by sight, several faces were familiar, and half a dozen strangers, all dusty horsemen.

Longstreth pondered hard on the table to be heard. Mayor or not, he was unable at once to quell the excitement. Gradually, however, it subsided, and from the last few utterances before quiet was restored Duane gathered that he had intruded upon some kind of a meeting in the hall.

"What'd you break in here for," demanded Longstreth.

"Isn't this the court? Aren't you the mayor of Fairdale?" interrogated Duane.

"That's a lie, Longstreth."

Duane. His voice was clear and loud, almost piercing.

"Yes," replied Longstreth. Like a flint he seemed, yet Duane felt his intense interest.

"I've arrested a criminal," said Duane.

"Arrested a criminal!" ejaculated Longstreth. "You? Who are you?"

"I'm a ranger," replied Duane. A significant silence ensued.

"I charge Sneeker with assault on Laramie and attempted robbery—if not murder. He's had a shanty party here, as this court will know if it keeps a record."

"What's this I hear about you, Bo! Get up and speak for yourself," said Longstreth, gruffly.

Sneeker got up, not without a furtive glance at Duane, and he had shuffled forward a few steps toward the mayor. He had an evil front, but not the boldness even of a rustler.

"It ain't so, Longstreth," he began, loudly. "I went in Laramie's place for grub. Some fellow I never seen before came in from the hall an' bit Laramie an' wrangled him on the floor. I went out. Then this big ranger chased me an' fetched me here. I didn't do nothing. This ranger's hankerin' to arrest somebody. That's my hunch, Longstreth."

Longstreth said something in an undertone to Judge Owens, and that worthy nodded his great bushy head.

"So, you're discharged," said Longstreth, bluntly. "Now the rest of you clear out of here."

He absolutely ignored the ranger. That was his rebuff to Duane—his slap in the face to an interfering ranger service. If Longstreth was crooked he certainly had magnificent nerve. Duane almost decided he was above suspicion. But his nonchalant air, his air of healthy, his authoritative assurance—these to Duane's significant contrast to a certain tenseness of line about the mouth and a slow palling of his olive skin.

The prisoner, Sneeker, with a countenance that broke the spell of silence, shuffled a couple of steps toward the door.

"Hold on!" called Duane. The call halted Sneeker, as if it had been a bullet.

"Longstreth, I saw Sneeker attack Laramie," said Duane, his voice still ringing. "What has the court to say to that?"

"The court has this to say. West of the Pecos we'll not aid any ranger service. We don't want you out here. Fairdale doesn't need you."

"That's a lie, Longstreth," retorted Duane. "I've letters from Fairdale citizens all begging for ranger service."

Longstreth turned white. The veins corded at his temples. He appeared about to burst into rage. He was at a loss for quick reply.

Floyd Lawson rushed in and up to the table. The blood showed black and thick in his face; his utterance was incoherent, his uncontrolled outbreak of temper seemed out of all proportion to any cause, he should reasonably have had for anger. Longstreth shoved him back with a curse and a warning glare.

"What's your warrant to arrest Sneeker?" shouted Longstreth.

"I don't need warrants to make arrests. Longstreth, you're ignorant of the power of Texas Rangers."

ranger stunts out here. I'll block you."

"That pseudo-reply of Longstreth's was the signal Duane held to be his cue. He had looked on the crisis. He wanted to force Longstreth's hand and show the town his stand."

Duane looked clear of everybody. "Men! I call on you all!" cried Duane, piercingly. "I call on you to witness the arrest of a criminal prevented by Longstreth, mayor of Fairdale. It will be recorded in the report to the Adjutant-General at Austin. Longstreth, you'll never prevent another arrest."

Longstreth sat white with working jaw.

"Longstreth," said Duane, in a voice that carried far and held those who heard. "Any honest citizen of Fairdale can now see what's plain. In the two years you've been mayor you've never arrested one rustler. Strange, when Fairdale's a nest for rustlers! You've never sent a prisoner to Del Rio, let alone to Austin. You have no jail. There have been nine murders during your office. Innumerable street-fights and hold-ups. Not one arrested. There have been water-rights, cattle deals, property lines. Strange how in these lawsuits you or Lawson or other men close to you were always involved. Strange how it seems the law was stretched to favor your interest!"

Duane paused in his cold, ringing speech. In the silence, both outside and inside the hall, could be heard the deep breathing of agitated men. Longstreth, was indeed a study. Yet did he betray anything but rage at this interloper.

"Longstreth, here's plain talk for you and Fairdale," went on Duane. "I don't accuse you and your court of dishonesty. I say strange! Law here has been a farce. The motive behind all this laxity isn't plain to me—yet. But I call your hand!"

CHAPTER XVIII.

Duane left the hall, elbowed his way through the crowd, and went down the street. He was certain that on the faces of some men he had seen ill-concealed wonder and satisfaction. He had struck some kind of a hot trail, and he meant to see where it led. It was by no means unlikely that Chesedine might be at the other end. Duane contemplated a mounting eagerness. But ever and anon it was shot through with a remembrance of Ray Longstreth. He suspected her father of being not what he pretended. He was troubled.

Upon returning to the inn he found Laramie there, apparently none the worse for his injury.

"How are you, Laramie?" he asked. "That was a good crack Sneeker gave you."

"I ain't accusin' Bo," remonstrated Laramie, with eyes that made Duane thoughtful.

"Well, I accuse him. I caught him—took him to Longstreth's court. But they let him go."

Laramie appeared to be agitated by this intimation of friendship.

"See here, Laramie," went on Duane. "In some parts of Texas it's policy to be close-mouthed. Policy and health-preserving! Between ourselves, I want you to know I lean on your side of the fence."

Laramie gave a quick start. Presently Duane turned and frankly met his gaze. He had startled Laramie out of his habitual set taciturnity; but even as he looked the light that might have been amazement and joy faded out of his face, leaving it the same old mask. Still Duane had seen enough. Like a bloodhound he had scented.

"Talking about work, Laramie, who'd you say Sneeker worked for?"

"When he works at all, which sure ain't often, he rides for Longstreth."

"Humph! Seems to me that Longstreth's the whole circus round Fairdale. I was surprised to hear some one say Longstreth owned the Hope So joint."

"He owns considerable property hereabouts," replied Laramie, contentedly.

"Humph again! Laramie, like every other fellow I meet in this town, you're afraid to open your trap about Longstreth. Get me straight, Laramie. For cause I'd throw a gun on him just as quick as off any rustler in Pecos."

"Talk's cheap," replied Laramie, making light of his remark, but the remark deep in his face.

"Sure, I know that," Duane said. "And usually I don't talk. Then it's not usually I know that Longstreth owns the Hope So?"

"Reckon it's known in Pecos, all right. But Longstreth's name isn't connected with the Hope So. Blandy runs the place."

"That Blandy. His faro game's crooked, or I'm a loosed bronch. That Hope So place ought to be run by a good fellow like you, Laramie."

"Thank God I am," he replied, feelingly. "Frank Morton an' all my friends an' neighbors an' all my prosperous days, an' friends still. You can gamble on Frank an' all. But if you want advice from me—don't invest money in stock now."

"Why?"

"Because any new fellow buyin' stock these days will be rustled quicker 'n he can say Jack Robinson. The old ranchers are wise an' sure. They'd fight it—"

"What?" Duane put in as he paused. "What'd make them fight?"

"A leader!"

"Howdy thar, Jim?" boomed a big voice.

A man of great bulk, with a ruddy, merry face, entered the room.

"Hello, Morton," replied Laramie. "I'd introduce you to my guest here, but I don't know his name."

"How! How! That's all right. Few men out hyar go by their right names."

"Say, Morton," put in Duane. "Laramie gave me a lynch you'd be a good man to do to. Now, I've a little money and before I lose it I'd like to invest it in stock."

Morton smiled broadly.

"I'm on the square," Duane said, bluntly. "If you fellows never size up your neighbors any better than you have sized me—well, you won't get any richer."

It was enjoyment for Duane to make his remarks to these men pregnant with meaning. Morton showed his pleasure, his interest, but his faith held aloof.

"Wal, stranger, to come out flat-footed, you'd be foolish to buy cattle now. Better go back across the Pecos where the rustlers ain't so strong."

"All I hear is rustlers, Morton," replied Duane, with impatience. "You see, I haven't ever lived long in a rustler-run county. Who heads the gang, anyway?"

Morton looked at Duane with a curiously amused smile, then snapped his big jaw as if to shut his impulsive words.

"Look here, Morton. It stands to reason, no matter how strong these rustlers are, how hidden their work, however involved with supposedly honest men—they can't last. There are a lot of men around Fairdale who're afraid of their shadows—afraid to be out after dark—afraid to open their mouths. But you're not one. What you need out here is more raw blood. Savy what I mean?"

"Wal, I reckon I do," he replied, looking as if a storm had blown over him. "Stranger, I'll look you up the next time I come to town."

Then he went out.

Laramie had eyes like flint striking fire. He breathed a deep breath and looked around the room before his gaze fixed again on Duane.

"Wal," he replied, speaking low. "You've picked the right man. Now, who in the hell are you?"

Reaching into the inside pocket of his buckskin vest, Duane turned the lining out. A star-shaped bright silver object flashed as he showed it, pocket and all, under Jim's hard eyes.

"Ranger!" he whispered, cracking the table with his fist. "You sure rung true to me."

"Laramie, do you know who's boss of this secret gang of rustlers hereabouts?" asked Duane, bluntly. It was characteristic of him to come sharp to the point. His voice—something deep, easy, cool about him—seemed to steady Laramie.

"No," replied Laramie.

"Does anybody know?" went on Duane.

"Wal, I reckon there's not one honest native who knows."

"But you have suspicions?"

"I have."

"Have you any idea whether Chesedine and his gang are associated with this gang here?"

"Lord knows. I've always suspected them bein' the same gang. None of us ever seen Chesedine an' there's strange when Knell, Fogg, Panhandle Smith, Blossom Kane, and Fletcher, they all ride here often. No, Fogg doesn't come here often. But the others do. For that matter, they're around all over west of the Pecos."

"Now I'm puzzled over this," said Duane. "Why do men—apparently honest men—seem to be so close-mouthed?"

"That's a fact," replied Laramie, deeply. "Men have lost cattle an' property in Fairdale—lost them honestly or otherwise, as hasn't been proved. An' in some cases when they talked—blatant a little—they were found dead. Apparently held up an' robbed. But dead men don't talk! That's why we're close-mouthed."

The ranger was about to speak again when the clatter of boots interrupted him. Borses halted in front, and one rider got down. Floyd Lawson entered. He called for Sneeker.

It was his visit surprised Laramie, but he did not say so. Lawson showed signs as he saw the ranger, and then a dark gleam flitted from the eyes that shifted from Duane to Laramie and back again. Duane leaned easily against the counter.

"Say, that was a bad break of yours," Lawson said. "If you come feeling around the ranch again there'll be hell."

It seemed strange that a man who had lived west of the Pecos for ten years could not see in Duane something which forbade that kind of talk. If certainly was not nerve Lawson showed; men of courage were seldom intolerant. With the matchless nerve that characterized the great gunners of the day there was a cool, unobtrusive manner, a speech brief, almost gentle, certainly courteous. Lawson was a hot-headed Louisiana of French extraction; a man, evidently, who had never been crossed in any thing, and who was strong, brutal, passionate, which qualities in the face of a situation like this made him simply a fool.

"You're right. But not the kind you think," Duane retorted, his voice sharp and cold.

"Ray Longstreth wouldn't stoop to know a dirty blood-tracker like you," said Lawson hotly. He did not seem to have a deliberate intention to rouse Duane; the man was simply rancorous, jealous. "I'll call you right. You cheap bluffer! You four-flush! You damned interloper, concealed ranger!"

"Lawson, I'll not take offense, because you seem to be chumming your beautiful cousin," replied Duane, in slow speech. "But let me return your compliment. You're a fine Southern! Why, you're only a four-flush—a cheap bull-headed rustler!"

Duane blazed the last word. Then for him there was the truth in Lawson's working passion-blackened face.

Lawson jerked, moved, meant to draw. But how slow! Duane lunged forward. His long arm swept up. And Lawson staggered backward, knocking table and chairs, to fall hard, in a half-sitting posture against the wall.

"Don't draw!" warned Duane.

"Lawson, get away from your gun!" yelled Laramie.

But Lawson was crazed with fury. He tugged at his hip, his face crowded with purple veins, malignant, murderous. Duane kicked the gun out of his hand. Lawson got up, raging, and rushed out.

Laramie lifted his shaking hand. "What'd you wing him for?" he yelled. "He was drawn on you. Kicked men like him won't do out here."

"That bull-headed fool will roar and hurt himself with all his gang right into my hands. He's just the man I've needed to meet."

"If Lawson's the man you think he is he'll begin the secret underground business. Why, he an' Longstreth have always been after me."

"Laramie, what are your eyes for?" demanded Duane. "Watch out, now here. See your friend Morton. Tell him this game grows hot. To gether you approach four or five men you know well and can absolutely trust. I may need your help."

Then Duane went from place to place, corner to corner, bar to bar, watching, listening, recording. The excitement had preceded him, and speculation was rife. He thought best to keep out of it. After dark he stole up to Longstreth's ranch. The evening was warm; the doors were open; and in the twilight the only lamps that had been lit were in Longstreth's big sitting-room, at the far end of the house. When a buckboard drove up and Longstreth and Lawson alighted, Duane was well hidden in the bushes, as well screened as a glimpse of Longstreth as he went in. For all Duane could see, he appeared to be a calm and quiet man, intense beneath the surface, with an air of dignity under insult. Duane's chance to observe Lawson was lost. They went into the house without speaking and closed the door.

At the other end of the porch, close under a window, was an offset between step and wall, and there in the shadow Duane hid. So Duane waited there in the darkness with patience born of many hours of hiding.

Presently a lamp was lit; and Duane heard the splash of skirts. "Something's happened," surely. Ruth, he heard Miss Longstreth say, anxiously. "Papa just met me in the hall and didn't speak. He seemed pale, worried."

He coughed, closed his throat in a way that betrayed he had been drinking.

Duane sank deeper into the shadow of his covert, and stiffening his muscles for a protracted spell of rigidity, prepared to listen with all acuteness and intensity. Just one word from this Lawson, inadvertently uttered in a moment of passion, might be the word Duane needed for his clue.

"It happened at the town hall," began Lawson, rapidly. "Your father and Judge Owens and I were there in consultation with three ranchers from out of town. They that danced."

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"I don't call it teasing, Floyd wants to spoon," declared Ruth, emphatically. "He'd run after any woman."

"A fine compliment for me, Constan Ruth," laughed Ray.

"I don't care," replied Ruth, stobornly. "It's so. He's mussy. And when he's been drinking and tries to kiss me—I hate him!"

There were steps on the hall floor. "Hello, girls!" sounded out Lawson's voice, minus its usual gaiety.

"Floyd, what's the matter?" asked Ray, presently. "I never saw papa as he is to-night, nor you so—so worried. Tell me what has happened?"

CANADA A PRIZE

Highest Premiums Awarded at Many Exhibitions.

The Fall fair season is past and a retrospect of them shows that Western Canada is stronger than ever in the matter of exhibits, and has shown more than her usual share of good work.

From Western Canada to Texas is a long look, from Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba to the southwestern corner of Texas in several days' journey, but the outstanding farmers from this new country to the northwest were wide awake to the possibilities that waited them at the International Dry Farming Congress held at El Paso, Texas, a few weeks ago, to bring to the attention of those in that far-off corner what the land of Western Canada could do in the production of grains and roots from its soil.

And what did these farmers do? The first thing was to carry off the first prize and sweetestake for wheat. That was a foregone conclusion, for it has now become an established fact that nowhere else in the world is there grown wheat of the high character and market value of Western Canadian wheat. The same may be said of oats, barley and rye. But when it came to notice that Western Canada had first prize for alfalfa it was that more special attention was given to the products from Western Canada. It showed that in that country there lies the opportunity for supplementing the wonderful native grasses, so full of nutrition that with the tamed varieties among them being alfalfa, the cattle with no other food were fattened and fitted for the shambles. Western Canada's worth was proved as probably the greatest mixed farming portion of the continent. When the steers from the Western Canadian prairies reach the Chicago stockyards they bring the top price and outweigh those from other places where grass fattening is the process. But it was not only in grains that Western Canada carried off the highest honors at the El Paso exhibition. Potatoes, parsnips, beets, carrots and rutabagas also took the highest honors. In root production this country is becoming favorably known.

The question often arises as to market. There is always the highest price awaiting the producer, and as soon as the Hudson Bay Railway, now about completed, reaches the Bay there will be an additional outlet for the product of the farm. The Pacific coast route, via the Panama canal, will give another outlet of which full advantage may be taken. With virgin lands selling at from \$15 to \$20 per acre, and improved farms at reasonable prices and on easy terms, there is no better opportunity for the man with financial means and a desire to secure a home at the least cost in a country where he can soon become wealthy than in Western Canada. To the man with such means and who is prepared to accept a farm of 100 acres free, the Dominion Government offers him his choice in districts that have land of the highest type, but at present being from ten to twenty miles from a railway.

The Peace River Country, now being opened for settlement and reached by railway affords excellent opportunity to the homesteader. To secure information as to Western Canadian lands write the Canadian Government agent, whose name appears elsewhere in this paper.—Advertisement.

Irish WK Triumphant. An Irish waiter named Kenny was noted for his wit and ready answer. A party of gentlemen who were staying at the hotel heard of Kenny's wit, and one of them made a bet that he would say something that Kenny couldn't answer at once.

A bottle of champagne was ordered, and the one who had made the bet took hold of the bottle and commenced to open it. The cork came out with a bang and flew into Kenny's mouth.

Happy New Year

To Our Patrons and Friends

Thanking you for past favors, we will be pleased to welcome you at all times during the year 1917.

SCHRADER BROS.

PLUMOUTH AND NORTHVILLE

Thanking you for past favors, we wish you

A Happy and Prosperous New Year.

GAYNE BROS.

A Happy New Year

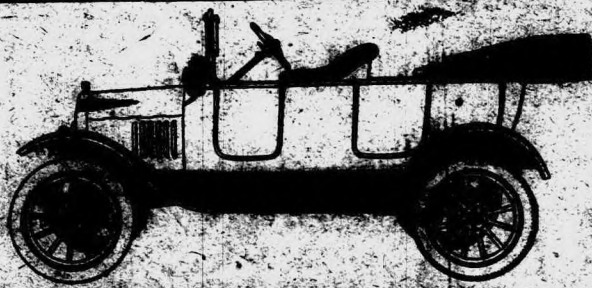
We wish to take this opportunity of extending our thanks and appreciation for your patronage of the past year, and wish you and yours a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

WILLIAM C. PFEIFER

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Advertise Your Auction In The Mail.

It Has a Large Circulation and Brings Results.



FORD

THE UNIVERSAL CAR

These strong reasons urge you to buy the Ford car. First, because of its record of reliability...

BONAFIDE

Happy New Year... Thanking you for past favors... SCHRAMMERS... Thanking you for past favors, we wish you

WEST PLYMOUTH. Mr. and Mrs. John Boyer and family went back to their old home in Archibald, Ohio, to spend the holidays with their parents.

Notes About More Coffee. Steps are being taken to rehabilitate coffee growing along the Marano coast of Lanao, Philippine Islands.

Advertisement for Chamberlain's Cough Remedy.

GOLDEN PERIOD COMES BACK. Prosperity of New England First. Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Cort were in Detroit on business Tuesday.

BEGINNING OF NEW INDUSTRY. American Will Establish Plants in Honduras to Make Alcohol From Bananas.

Advertisement for Chamberlain's Cough Remedy.

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Wagon Creek. The pastor of the Houghton and Barton churches were well attended and the program well rendered.

LAPHAM'S CORNERS. Mr. and Mrs. Will Mager entertained on Sunday the following guests: Mr. and Mrs. Harry Mager, Mrs. Ellen Holmes, Walter Clark, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Holmes and family, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd J. J. J. J.

Advertisement for Chamberlain's Cough Remedy.

Advertisement for Chamberlain's Cough Remedy.

EAST PLYMOUTH. Mrs. A. Thomas entertained on Friday last nine ladies from Detroit at a holiday luncheon in honor of Miss Ella Cook.

Advertisement for Chamberlain's Cough Remedy.

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Greetings... We wish our patrons the greatest possible happiness of the season and extend to them our heartiest desires for a profitable and enjoyable year.