

**STRATFORD SALOONS  
MAY GET EXTRA HOUR**

Board of Trade to Hear Discussion of Commission Form of Government.

(Special to The Farmer.)  
Stratford, Dec. 13.—A large crowd greeted the Ramblers at the first game of the season in the Auditorium last night. The enthusiasm of the spectators indicates that interest in the game has increased and that in the better ball larger crowds will witness the games. The Spartans of New Haven were no mean antagonists and they forced the locals to extend themselves throughout the whole game. The line up: Ramblers, Flood, Cuzzelline, Blamey, Right Forward, Ames, Beardsley, Left Forward, Buddington, Center, Somes, Heig, Right Guard, Green, Haeffele, Asha, Smith.

The low ceiling of the Auditorium made it impossible to set the baskets at the regulation height and this made the work of scoring difficult. The large floor space gave the players of both teams an opportunity to do some clever passing. Harry Flood received an ovation when he made the first basket of the season. In the last part of the half Beardsley was injured in a scrimmage and his right hand was so seriously sprained that he was obliged to quit. When he retired there was general disappointment which was short lived, however, for Ferdinand Buddington, the famous pitcher of the Stratford baseball team who was impressed did brilliant work on the floor. He has never been seen with the team before all his fine work brought out rounds of applause. Haeffele who dropped out of the middle of last season on account of injuries received in a game was warmly welcomed by the audience when he appeared. The Ramblers wore their new uniforms of red with white bands on which are the letters "R. B. B." in front and "S" on the back. The new rigs are stunning. The score at the end of the first half was 29 to 5 in favor of the Ramblers. At the end the Spartans had gained on their opponents and the final record stood Ramblers 39, Spartans 17. The Ramblers Juniors played the Colonials, the first half taking place before the Ramblers appeared and the second half during the intermission. The Colonials were to much for their lighter opponents. The score, Colonials 29, Juniors 21. The line up: Colonials, Hale, Right Forward, Thomas, McQuillan, Left Forward, Soblowaki, Baldwin, Center, Fleck, Andrews, Right Guard, J. Joblowaki, Clinton, Doubleton.

The required number of signers have been obtained and the selectmen have called a special town meeting to consider the petition to extend the open hours of the saloons in the town till midnight. The warning which was posted yesterday at a meeting of the voters at the Town hall next Thursday night. The general sentiment of the town is to leave the matter with the selectmen as they are empowered by law to act in the matter. As the selectmen are in favor of granting the request and have already given tentative permission it is probable that the liquor dealers in this town will enjoy the same privileges accorded those in Bridgeport. The meeting, however, will afford some of the temperance orators of the town an opportunity to inveigh against the "curse of rum".

Contractor W. A. Stagg was busily engaged in his shop on Harris street just before noon yesterday when the auto-chemical and a crowd of firemen rushed in and notified him that the upper floor of the building was on fire. The fire was so hot that the matter for when the door was opened the second floor was roaring like a furnace. Two lines of hose were laid to the nearest hydrant and the chemical stream turned into the building.

It raged fiercely for an hour and the firemen exerted themselves to the utmost. Wooden buildings surround the shop in close proximity, among them half a dozen residences. Should the flames escape from the shop it meant a big conflagration. By strenuous work the flames were subdued after the roof had been burned off. The damage is estimated at about \$400. The firemen have received many compliments for their good work. Mr. Stagg asserts that no department in the country could have done better work and few in professions are appreciated by the boys who worked like beavers till the fire was under control. Editor Peck of the Times discovered while smoking while consulting the ambient ether in search of editorial matter for tomorrow's edition. He notified Chief Judson that there was fire but he did not know where. A telephone message located the flame and the rest was easy.

The Board of Trade postponed its meeting which was advertised for last night till Thursday of next week, when it is expected that some authority will talk on the commission form of government. That the board of ash cans has so far omitted President Stagg from the list of speakers on the Board of Trade from its list of speakers is raising some comment. Possibly Mr. Stagg's English is not so good as he is of interest to the town. He is close by and well acquainted with conditions here. He has been very successful in his work for the city of Bridgeport, and is full of ideas gained by long experience in improving municipal conditions. Because he does not come from New Orleans or Chicago or Podunk he should not be ignored. Distance seems to lend an emphasis to the speakers brought here. Ignorance of local conditions seems to be a necessary condition in a speaker to obtain an audience in the town. The easiest, cheapest and simplest way to overturn the bunch of stragglers who have robbed the town is to become a part of the city of Bridgeport. After all the discussions and propositions have been sifted they come right down to the one result, that of maintaining the present clique in control of the business of the town. While the better part of the community understands this and would like a change, business interests, family connections and personal friendships prevent any one taking an active part in this matter, and the consequent hedging, ducking and dodging of the main issue which is an evident change in the method of managing town affairs. Many have been converted to the idea of annexation in the last few weeks by the very discussions which have taken place to produce an opposite result.

Every road is still impassable for a goodly portion of its length, and travelers are obliged to use the Longbrook avenue or any other old lane to avoid the muddy and rocky areas that was to have been a good State road two years ago. The paraphernalia of the contractor taking on the job at night without any warning lights, and some damage suits against the town are expected on account of the negligence of the men in charge of the manner in which this job has been done has disgusted the whole town with State roads.

Trenton—For the first time in the history of New Jersey, state roads are being repaired by convict labor.



**Santa Claus and The Surprise Store  
Are Partners in a Conspiracy**

We have conspired together to bring happiness to thousands of men folks and boy folks on the twenty-fifth of this month. He has provided a great lot of pretty holiday boxes of all sizes, innumerable suggestions as to what thing will please, and best and greatest of all the spirit of good will and confidence that go with every transaction in this store. We have provided a wonderful assortment of truly useful gift things in the form of up-to-date stylish wearing apparel ready for your selection. Won't you join Santa and us in our conspiracy? Come to the store tomorrow and remember that our generous Xmas guarantee prevents disappointment. "If after Xmas any gift has been duplicated, return the one bought at The Surprise Store and we shall gladly exchange it or refund the money."

**CHRISTMAS SPECIAL SALE OF BOYS' CLOTHING**

**Chinchilla Overcoats**

Blue and gray chinchilla check lined overcoats, sizes 3 to 10. Have velvet collars and emblem on sleeve. Special..... **\$2**



**2 Pair Pant Suits**

Full cut, well made and durably lined double breasted knicker and Norfolk suits with extra pair of knicker knee pants to match. Sizes 7 to 16. Special..... **\$3.50**

**Boys Suits**

Finest all wool suits in Norfolk and double breasted models. Sizes up to 18 stout to fit great big boys. New mixtures and plain blues. Special..... **\$5.00**



**Indian Suits**

Warrior play suits complete with feather head dress, shirt and pants. Special..... **50c**

**Play Suits**

Indian chief suits consisting of fancy shirt and pants and big fancy feather head dress. Special..... **\$1.00**

**Play Suits**

Indian suits with beaded trimmings and 8 piece cowboy suits trimmed with imitation leather and big nickel spangles. Special..... **\$1.50**

**Cowboy Suits**

Coat and pants cut and trimmed cowboy style. Special..... **50c**

**Play Suits**

8 piece Cowboy suits consisting of Hat, Shirt, Pants, Belt, Lasso, Fancy Handkerchief, Holster and Revolver. All complete. Special..... **\$1.00**

**Cowboy Suits**

Made of genuine Khaki and trimmed with real leather. Complete 8 piece suit, gum and all a very special value at..... **\$1.50**



**School Overcoats**

Boys' long fancy mixture school overcoats. Heavy weight, durably lined and nicely tailored. Sizes 10 to 16. Special..... **\$2.50**

**Norfolk Suits**

All wool pure worsted Blue Serge Suits and attractive fancy mixture suits in latest style Norfolk models. Special..... **\$3.50**

**Boys Suits**

Norfolk, double breasted knicker and Russian blouse suits in plain blues and fancy mixtures. Special..... **\$2.50**



**Bath Robes**

Always a welcome and sensible gift. Here are the new styles made of German blanket. Big variety of light and dark colorings. To select from. Special values at..... **\$2.50, \$3.50, \$4 and \$5**

**Overcoats**

A big assortment to fit boys from 3 to 18. All the season's newest styles. Chinchillas, fur collar, astrakhan collar and fancy Russian overcoats and fancy plaid back long school overcoats. Special..... **\$5.00**

**School Suits**

Dependable and stylish suits of blue cheviot and fancy mixtures in Norfolk and double breasted models, sizes 7 to 16. Special..... **\$1.50**



**Overcoats**

Long school overcoats in attractive gray, brown and tan mixture materials, sizes 10 to 16. Special..... **\$3.50**

**Fur Collar Overcoats**

Made of heavy blue melton. Have wide fur collars. Also overcoats trimmed with astrakhan collars and cuffs and fastening with silk braided frogs, sizes 3 to 10. Special..... **\$3.50**

**House Coats**

Some call them smoking jackets—a great line of fancy plaid double faced cloth jackets, finely tailored and handsomely trimmed, all sizes..... **\$3.50**



**Men's Gloves**

A department full of gift suggestions. Squirrel lined gloves, driving gloves, silk lined gloves, dress gloves, wool gloves, etc., etc. Special—gray and tan walking gloves, worth \$1.50 a pair. Special..... **\$1**

**Silk Mufflers**

Cold weather necessities. Also dress mufflers of silk in the new shapes. Also knitted wool mufflers. Prices from..... **25c & 50c to \$3.50 & \$5**

**Silk Neckwear**

The season's newest effect in knitted and cut silk four-in-hands. Separately boxed in holiday carton. Special..... **50c**

**Men's Underwear**

A Surprise Store underprice special. Best 50c quality men's ribbed or fleece lined shirts and drawers, a garment..... **39c**

**Men's Pajamas**

Good for gifts. Very fine quality, full cut and well made. Nicely finished in every detail. Special, a suit..... **\$1**

**Men's Shirts**

Plain and pleated shirts in new desirable patterns. Also the new semi-stiff dicky bosom shirts, a late invention. Guaranteed fast color. Regular \$1 value. Special..... **79c**

**Men's Suits and Overcoats**

Guaranteed clothes for men and young men, representing suits and overcoats in the latest styles and positively the best values in the city. All wool suits and overcoats that are \$15 quality in every detail. Special..... **\$10**

**Men's Suits and Overcoats**

Custom quality suits and overcoats in the wide range of the latest models and colorings. See them on display in our windows. Special..... **\$15**



**Tuxedo and Full Dress Suits**

The latest style evening clothes, full silk lined and silk faced, just as illustrated, the new model dress clothes. Complete suit, either Tuxedo or Full Dress. Special..... **\$15**



**SILK HANDKERCHIEF, SCARF AND SUSPENDERS**

The biggest value ever. 50c silk handkerchief, 50c silk four-in-hand to match, 50c suspenders, neatly boxed in holiday box, all complete. Special..... **75c**

**SILK HANDKERCHIEF AND SILK SCARF**

Large silk handkerchief and four-in-hand scarf to match. All plain colors. Special..... **50c**

**SILK SOX, SCARF AND HANDKERCHIEF**

All perfectly matched in color and shade. Smart dressers will appreciate a gift of this kind. Special..... **\$1**

**ARM BANDS AND GARTERS TO MATCH**

Practical, pretty and sure to be appreciated. Finest quality. In handsome holiday box. Special..... **50c**

**Matched Sets In Holiday Boxes**

To insure perfect matching and absolutely satisfactory merchandise we made up these sets ourselves. You can rely on every one being right in every particular. A dozen different combinations to choose from, among which these four are the most popular.

**The Surprise Store**

1119-1123 Main St. Security Building  
OPEN SATURDAY UNTIL 11 P. M.

**POPE'S BLESSING SENT TO LUITPOLD**

**ERE REGENT DIED**

Munich, Dec. 13.—Prince Ludwig, eldest son of the late Prince Luitpold, today was regent of Bavaria, while preparations were made for the funeral of the dead regent, who passed away early yesterday, at the age of 28.

From Berlin came word that Kaiser Wilhelm, accompanied by rulers of all of the kingdoms and principalities of the German empire, would attend the funeral, the exact time of which had not been definitely fixed. It is said Luitpold died with a Prussian bullet in his body which he received in 1866. ROGERS CLOTHING COMPANY. The Rogers Clothing Company have leased as a temporary store, while

their own location at 861 Main street, recently damaged by fire, is being modeled, the place formerly occupied by W. H. Gardner, the druggist, at 215 State street, Court Exchange building, and will be open tomorrow with a fine new line of clothing. Read their advertisement today. Deal Beach, N. J.—The automobiles of Bertha W. Reid, actress, and Albert Plaut, president of a drug concern, collided. Miss Reid sustained injury to her right eyelid and got a verdict for \$7,200 damages.

**AUSTRIA-HUNGARY BACK OF ROUMANIA'S DEMAND**

Budapest, Dec. 13.—It was said today that Roumania's demand for representation in the forthcoming ambassadorial conference in London had the backing of Austria-Hungary. Roumania desires a part of European Turkey because she remained neutral throughout the Balkan war. The Austria-Hungary government, it is said, told Roumania the only way to get consideration for her demands was to attend the London consultation. EARL REAGAN'S DEATH. Investigation into the death of Earl Reagan, the ten-year-old boy who was drowned at Greenwich last August, was made yesterday by Coroner J. J. Phelan. It is the opinion of the coroner that death was accidental and not due to negligence as had previously been reported.

