

SOCIAL EVENTS.

Friends of George Wilkie gave him a genuine surprise party on Wednesday evening in honor of his birthday and his wedding anniversary...

On Monday evening Mrs. Lawrence P. Leach and her sister Miss Grace Mc. Lam, who was maid-of-honor at the Goodrich-Stanley wedding...

Mr. and Mrs. Josiah Reed entertained their children, grandchildren and two great grandsons, Thursday...

Mr. and Mrs. A. K. Johnson entertained 15 of the Hastings family at their home on Portland street Christmas day...

One of the largest and happiest family gatherings on Christmas is that held yearly at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Beck...

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Pythian Building, Sunday morning service, 10.45. Subject, "God." The reading room is in the same building...

The Christmas Sunday school exercises at the North Church were postponed on account of the storm on Sunday and will be held next Sunday afternoon at 4.30.

The Home Mission study class will meet at the North church Friday at three o'clock, subject chapter 6, Home Missions in Action...

Church of the Messiah, Boys' night Wednesday. All boys, big and little, young and old, wanted. Union Watch night service at the South church Friday...

Sunday morning, reception of church members, Sunday evening stereopticon lecture, "Niagara Falls," First Baptist church, Sunday subject, 10.30 a. m. "A Sack of Salt in the Race of 1916;" 7 p. m. the Sunday school will hold the Christmas concert...

The annual roll call of the church will be held on Wednesday evening. Supper will be served at 6.45 in the chapel and afterwards there will be reports of committees, calling of the roll of members, election of officers, and the observance of the Lord's supper.

A New Year reception will be held in the vestry of the South church on New Year's afternoon from four to eight to which everyone whether an attendant at the South church or not is cordially invited...

Miss Helen Boynton, violinist, will play at the evening service at 7 p. m. of the South church at the Globe theatre.

At the Advent church next Sunday the pastor, Rev. L. E. Peabody, will preach on Christian Baptism as Taught and Practised by Christ and the Apostles. Sunday school at 12. Prayer service in the vestry at 6.30 with preaching in the auditorium at 7.30 followed by quarterly communion service.

The Associated Bible Students will hold two meetings at G. A. R. hall.

Citizens bank block, next Sunday, Jan. 2, at 3.30, and 7 p. m. The meetings will be addressed by Pastor A. L. Huntley of Morrisville. A cordial invitation is extended to all interested.

The flowers at Grace Methodist church on Sunday were in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Cyrus Sargent and were given by Mrs. and Mrs. W. H. Sargent of Rutland.

SUIT AGAINST NEW HAMPSHIRE Vermont's Claims in Its Bill of Equity. The Evening Monitor of Concord, N. H., says: Copies of the bill in equity brought by the State of Vermont against the State of New Hampshire, in the United States Supreme Court, to determine the boundary line between the two States have been filed at the office of the attorney-general at the State House, together with an order of the court requiring New Hampshire to make answer to the bill on or before March 13, 1916.

The controversy between the two States has existed since the year 1792, and has now become acute by the action of the New Hampshire boundary line commission which reported to the last Legislature fixing the boundary at high water mark on the west bank of the Connecticut river, which would give to the State of New Hampshire a large amount of valuable property now paying taxes in Vermont into New Hampshire.

The contention of the State of Vermont is, as amplified in the bill, that the line is the western edge of the waters of the Connecticut river at its average annual stage during the year, without reference to extraordinary freshets or extreme droughts, and that such line lies to the east, in some places a few feet and in some places several rods of the location now claimed by New Hampshire.

Within the limits described there are many large and valuable manufacturing plants, according to the bill, and large amounts of other valuable taxable property which lies partly within and partly without the disputed territory.

The bill alleges that the right to tax property within the disputed territory has been claimed and exercised by the State of Vermont and the municipalities therein for many years, or since 1777.

Continuing, the bill says the right to tax property within the disputed territory on the Vermont side of the river is now claimed by the State of New Hampshire and the municipalities therein have lately assessed and are now attempting to collect by suits at law in the courts of New Hampshire, and by threatened sales of the land, taxes on property within the disputed territory, wherein for many years the owners have paid taxes in Vermont.

Neither the State of New Hampshire, nor any municipality therein, so far as the attorney-general of Vermont, prosecuting the suit, has learned, has ever taxed any property on the land west of the waters of the Connecticut until the year 1909.

The bill asks a decree from the court fixing the boundary line as the thread of the channel of the Connecticut river as it ran in the period of the year 1775, and to cause such boundary to be permanently located by monuments, and that the State of New Hampshire and its citizens be perpetually enjoined from disputing the sovereignty and ownership of the State of Vermont in the land and water west of the thread of the stream.

Papers will be served in the case on Governor Spaulding and Attorney-general Tuttle commanding them to appear in court on day to be later named.

Just how the suit will be handled at this end is not known as yet, but it is probable that the answer due on March 13 will be handled by Deputy Matthews and the office force. It is expected that the litigation will be long and costly to both parties, and that it will be some years before a decision is reached.

One of Falb's Predictions. In 1874 Professor Rudolph Falb predicted an eruption of Etna on Aug. 27. He offered a Vienna editor to write an account of it if the editor would send him 50 francs. Falb was commissioned. When he reached Etna there was not the slightest sign of disturbance. As the 27th approached Falb was tortured with anxiety and spent sleepless nights watching the volcano. Nothing happened on the 27th and 28th. The following morning the servant rushed into the professor's room shouting, "An eruption, a terrible eruption!" Falb saw the spectacle and sent off his dispatch.

PRESS COMMENT

Judge Ide Has A Place. Judge Ide, who passed out of the public eye when legislated out of office as ambassador to Spain with the loss of the Wilson administration, has again had a place in the sun as head of the Vermont League to Enforce Peace. With Judge Ide a resident of St. Johnsbury is likely that the headquarters of the Green Mountain aviators will be located in the "illy-white" burg on the banks of the Passumpsic.—Rutland Herald.

Cobb Had Right Spirit. It isn't the size of the gift that counts, it is the proportion as compared to means and the spirit that is back of it. The widow's mite, which was all she had, outweighed millions from other sources.—Robert Cobb, a colored barber, who died in St. Johnsbury last week, was a poor man, but he deserves to be ranked higher as a public benefactor than many men with great fortunes. It is rather pathetic to read of the way that he disposed of his savings, as follows: \$100 to the Sun-set home for aged women; \$100 to the Red Men; to be used for flowers for funerals of members; \$100 to the North Congregational church; \$50 to the St. Johnsbury cemetery association. When additional chapters of St. Johnsbury history are written the name of Robert Cobb ought to be perpetuated in them.—Brattleboro Reformer.

A Century of Thrift. The American Institute of Banking has proclaimed for 1916 a celebration in recognition of the one hundredth anniversary of the chartering of the first savings bank in the United States. The occasion is the subject of a campaign for the promotion of thrift.

New England has reason to be proud of its record in saving says Current Affairs, the bright weekly publication of the Boston Chamber of Commerce. While only eleven per cent of the population of the United States have savings deposits, fifty-two per cent of the residents of New England have money deposited in the savings banks. Not only is this percentage higher than that of any other section of the United States or of foreign countries, but the average individual deposit is higher. Not only are these relatively more savers in New England, but the New Englanders, individually save more money.

Back of the Workshop of America is a book of the greatest importance in industry and commerce—back of all that New England has done in business development, is this great foundation of thrift, measured by the more than three and a half million savers and their more than one and a half billion dollars of savings.

Celebrate the Thrift Centennial!—Burlington Daily News. Suffering From Unpreparedness. Lloyd George's speech, in which he bluntly told all Britain, the labor unions particularly included, that hope of ending the war in a victory for the Allies lay in further waiving of union restrictions on the manufacture of munitions, contained a repetition of much which he had said before, but which no doubt, he was moved to say again with added emphasis.

The sanguine souls, who have been looking for an early peace, can get scant comfort from the minister of munitions, contained a repetition of much which he had said before, but which no doubt, he was moved to say again with added emphasis.

Miss Alice Gibson of Lyndonville has been a guest of her sister, Mrs. A. Finley.

Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Phelps with Helen and James spent Saturday at W. M. Phelps.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Brown of Burlington are spending a week at Crested Bedell's, coming from Dunsteron Wednesday. They spent last week at Mr. Brown's home.

Mrs. E. L. Field has been visiting at C. A. Choate's at West Barnet.

Mrs. C. I. Smith and Henry and Julia spent Christmas day at Crested Bedell's, coming from Lyndonville. H. D. Chamberlin and family of Lisbon, N. H., were also there for the day.

Miss Madeline Chamberlin has been the guest of Miss Julia Smith a few days.

Mrs. W. W. Dow has been entertaining her sister, Mrs. Susan Harvey of West Barnet, and Mr. and Mrs. Whitney of Boston.

The students from Lyndon Institute have returned to their school. John Gibson is at home from Burlington for the holiday vacation.

Frederick Dimick of Groveton, N. H., was a visitor at D. M. Nichols' last Wednesday.

M. Moore and Miss Moore spent the week-end at Frank Chase's at Woodsville, N. H.

Last Tuesday evening was Master's Night. On account of bad going not as many were out as usual. All had a good time. The next meeting is installation of officers.

R. M. Johnson's family and C. B. Duncan's family spent Saturday at Henry Leighton's.

Mrs. Lydia Kimball is at Woodsville for a while.

Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Bedell entertained her mother and Eugene Bedell's family from Monroe, last Saturday.

Church Packed And Trees Loaded Christmas Night—Personals. (Mrs. J. C. McDonald, Correspondent) The Christmas tree exercises held at the church last Saturday evening proved a great success. The church was packed dunt leverly foot of standing room was taken. The two huge Christmas trees which reached from floor to ceiling were heavily loaded with glitter and beauty, also loads of everything useful as well as ornamental. The floor beneath as well as the tables and lines were heavily laden with presents from Santa Claus, who brought and distributed to the little folks toys and goodies too numerous to mention. The church was beautifully decorated with holly and green wreaths and with various Christmas decorations. The singing by the large choir was excellent and was never better. "The Star of the Ages," so beautifully rendered by the male quartet was greatly enjoyed and especial mention should be made of "Sleep Little Baby," prettily sung by Master McKeon, and the song given by Ella and Edward Hudson. "The Light of the Christmas Star," was beautifully given. Little Ruth Walker favored the company with the song "Just a Little Empty Stocking" and speaking by the children was fine and no special mention can be made as to who one did their instructor, Mrs. Katie Grant, great credit.

The friends of Rev. Leonard Fuller who is a student of Wesleyan university are pained to learn that he has a patient in Midgore an operation is being done as well as could be expected.

Mrs. Dora Grant has returned home from a three months' visit with relatives in Concord and Manchester, N. H., and Windsor. She was accompanied by her daughter Pearl who is attending school in Brattleboro.

Robert Grant, who has a position in a machine shop in Springfield, Mass., and who spent Christmas at home returned Monday.

Harry Sweet spent the past week with his parents in Sheldon.

James Adair, who is at work in St. Johnsbury spent Christmas at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Morton and two children of Concord were over Sunday guests of Mrs. Harry Sweet.

Billie Fairham of Sawyer's River, N. H., recently spent several days at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George King.

Harold Warren has returned home from a week's visit with relatives in Lyndonville.

Archie Weir has not been so well the past few days.

A Christmas tree and exercises were held in the school house at Miles Pond last Friday evening, which proved a success. The school house was well filled and all gave credit to the teachers and Miss Agnes Fisher, who supervised the entertainment.

Miss Isabel Briggs of St. Johnsbury is a holiday guest of her sister, Mrs. Harry Fisher.

Mr. and Mrs. William Simpson of Berlin, N. H., were guests of Mr. and Mrs. A. Smith from Friday until Monday.

Miss Lena King of Johnson Normal school is spending her two weeks' vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George King.

Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Congdon and son Clarence were entertained by their daughter, Mrs. and Mrs. Staples of Quebec Junction, N. H., from Friday until Monday.

Miss Fayonnie Elgison of Whitefield, N. H., is spending her school vacation with Mrs. J. C. McDonald.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Whipple and two daughters have moved to George Kenerson, Jr.'s house. Mr. Whipple has employment with the Kenerson Brothers Co.

Mrs. Melvina Steere of Easton, N. H., is stopping with Mrs. Henriette Whipple for a few weeks.

E. A. Grant who had his foot badly injured in the woods some time ago is now able to be out.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Carr of Littleton, N. H., were Christmas guests of Mrs. Carr's mother, Mrs. Curt Goodall.

The Ladies Aid society will hold a baked bean social at the church dining room on Wednesday evening of this week.

Mrs. Willie Fisher is the happy owner of a fine new piano, a Christmas present from her husband.

WEST BURKE (Mrs. H. L. Walter, Correspondent) Mrs. Mabel Dunton, who has been stopping with friends in West Burke and Sutton, has returned to her home in Cambridge.

Orange Spencer was taken much worse Thursday afternoon and has been in a very critical condition since. Mrs. and Mr. Ray Spencer were called home and are helping care for their father.

Mrs. Mary Walter of East Burke visited her sister, Mrs. Susan Smith last week.

Warren Fairbanks has returned to New York after spending Christmas here.

Rev. A. H. Bradford, pastor of the First Congregational church of Rutland, announced at Sunday morning's service the gift by ex-Governor John A. Mead of that city of the L. H. McInnis property at the south-east corner of Center and Court streets to be used by the young people of Rutland as a community center with club rooms, gymnasium, tennis courts, etc., and to be administered by the trustee and used as headquarters for various social and recreative activities under the general supervision of the Congregational church.

GIFT BY EX-GOV. MEAD Presents A \$50,000 Property To Be Used As Community Center. Governor Mead has had in mind for two years the gift of a parish house to the church and the idea gradually developed into a more extensive plan. It is planned to dedicate the property to the young people of Rutland and regardless of creed or church connection to make it of the widest scope.

The place, which is located only a few rods from the Congregational church, consists of a large three-story brick house, a large brick barn and half an acre of land.

The remodeling of the house and barn, the equipment of a gymnasium, the laying out of tennis courts, the establishment of social rooms with games and amusement, the location of committee rooms, dining room kitchen and an auditorium are among the things planned for the project, the entire expense to be borne by Governor Mead. The property will be deeded to the trustees of the Congregational church and it is estimated that the gift when the buildings are remodeled and equipped and the ground laid out will have cost Governor Mead \$50,000.

Although the church will be the responsible organization behind the plan for this community center, it is designed to place it under the direct management of a non-sectarian board with liberal powers.

Entertained His Choir. The choir and ushers of St. Aloysius church were tendered a complimentary banquet at the Avenue House last night by their pastor, Rev. Joseph Dwyer. Covers were laid for 43 and following the banquet an informal musicale was held in the hotel parlor, with vocal solos by Mrs. James Cosgrove and Miss Lena Brown. Instrumental numbers were given by Miss Elizabeth Peck, Miss Lillian Ryan, Miss Gilmore and Miss Alice Brown.

LOST Between Railroad street and Fairbanks Shops, \$16 in bills. Finder rewarded by leaving at Caledonian office.

BURNING AFTER SIXTY YEARS Now One Million Dollars Will Be Spent In Endeavor to Put Out Coal Mine Blaze. Engineers of the Leigh Coal and Navigation company are making strenuous efforts to extinguish the fire which has been burning for 60 years in a coal mine at Summit Hill, Pa. Seven mine locomotives and three steam shovels are in operation and a large force of men is at work driving deep holes into the earth, into which culm and water are being sluiced.

Millions of gallons of water are being pumped daily into crevices and holes, and the issuance of steam indicates that the fire is burning in spots which had long been considered burned out.

The gigantic effort the company is making to extinguish the fire for all time will probably cost \$1,000,000, but that sum is insignificant when compared with the damage the fire would do if it should spread into the valley and ignite the mammoth veins running throughout the Panther Creek valley. The fire had its origin directly west of Summit Hill, and was caused, it is believed, by forest fire. The flames have been gradually spreading westward, and have destroyed millions of dollars' worth of coal.

Give Home the "Once Over." Now is not too late to look over the house and see what is necessary to repair the ravages of the summer sun and dust. It is a good idea to clean the glass over pictures with a cloth wrung from hot water and dipped in alcohol. Polish them immediately until they are dry and glossy with chamols or tissue paper.

Rub leather chairs with a little fresh milk to prevent cracks in the leather. Do this about once a week. Whiting spread on a damp flannel cloth will remove all spots from painted wood without hurting the surface and without tiring the arm which applies it.

Often when a house has been closed all summer the iron sink becomes rusty. It can be cleaned with mutton tallow. Cover the tallow with quicklime and leave it on over night. The lime and tallow should then be rubbed off with an old sink broom and the sink should then be washed with hot soda water. The lime should not be allowed to touch the hands.

FACTS ABOUT CONCRETE. Tests made in the engineering laboratory of the Sheffield scientific school, Yale university, with varying percentages of water, showed that concrete with 27 1/2 per cent of water was stronger at the end of 30 days than mixtures in which other percentages had been used. These experiments indicate that, contrary to the general belief, there is a definite limit to the amount of water that should be used and that that limit is considerably lower than the percentage used in a large amount of concrete construction.

Wake Up and Advertise. The Mail Order House gets the trade that should be yours by Advertising.

REPUBLICANS CONFIDENT Expect Democrats Will Fall Down on Preparedness and Revenue. Republican cocksureness stalks the corridors of the capitol this holiday season. The minorities, who have not gone home to their constituents, look back over a fortnight of Congress, and see a rosy picture. They profess to see democratic disaster ahead in the quality of fiber on the dominant side of the House. And it certainly is the prevailing opinion around the capitol that one of the great leadership tasks of the session will be to hold the democratic forces of the House compactly on administration measures.

Perhaps the most unmeasured republican critic in the House the last year or two has been Representative William E. Humphrey of Washington state. He was so aggressive and outspoken that democrats laughed at him; but Mr. Humphrey has apparently talked himself into new favor out in his home ball park and is running like a scared rabbit now for the United States Senate. He spoke in this wise today of the outlook in the House: "I am giving notice that my friends Mondell of Wyoming has joined the mollycoddles and is against preparedness, as his speech in the House the last day before adjournment clearly indicated. But it did not escape me that when Mondell closed about 25 minutes ago, he was a speaker of the first class and cordially congratulated him. That shows the way the wind is blowing."

"I am very certain in my own mind that it will be dogdays before the preparedness and revenue bills are disposed of. I hardly expect the revenue bill to pass at all. There are a great many democrats who will never vote for the taxes on gasoline and automobiles proposed by the administration. It will be a very stormy session from January on to the end. You may rest assured of that."

The uprising among southern democrats against preparedness is vigorous. Perhaps these members can be quelled in due season, but some of them are open in their opposition. Representative Dent of Alabama, one of the senior members of the military affairs committee, was a speaker the other evening at the dinner of the Washington corral of the Carabao society. Mr. Dent talked there about preparedness. "I have had many letters from my district," said he, "and 95 per cent, I would estimate, are for preparedness."

There was a mighty cheer from the tables, many of the diners being army and navy officers.

"Hold on," interrupted the Alabamian, "I'll say through. I must say that I believe 95 per cent of my constituents do not know what preparedness means or what it will cost. I believe that is true of many who are shouting for it here at Washington."

"This Congress will vote some increase," Mr. Dent went on, "but I am convinced it will be less than in Congresses expected, yet enough to keep pace with the growth of the country."

Pessimistic views like these in December may not survive till February, but they indicate how congressmen are talking just now.

SOUTH WHEELLOCK (Mrs. Lucy E. Weed, Correspondent) Mrs. A. E. Weed visited her brother, B. L. Gerry, of Lyndonville, part of last week.

Harry Deems has taken the job to cut the lumber on the Meserve piece for Parker-Young Co.

The Buckley family and Martin Simon and wife spent Christmas at Barton.

Edward Randall and son Stephen and daughter Charlotte of Lyndon were at John Rock's Christmas.

Edward Reed was in Hardwick a few days recently.

George Rodgers and wife of Greenboro visited his brother, Fred Rodgers last week.

Juryman Fred Ganyo is having a short vacation until after New Year.

The 25 cent piece was made famous by the American Liver Tablets, the perfect laxative.

SOLEY CATHARTIC TABLETS Keep Stomach Sweet—Liver Active—Bowels Regular Caledonia Fairground Co. The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Caledonia Fairground Co., will be held at the Merchants National Bank, St. Johnsbury on Wednesday, Jan. 12, 1916 at 1.30 P. M., for the purpose of electing a Board of Directors and transacting any other business that may legally come before it.

FRED S. HARRIMAN, Secretary. St. Johnsbury, Vt. Dec. 28, 1915.

WARNING Annual Village Meeting The inhabitants of the Village of St. Johnsbury who are legal voters in said Village are hereby notified and warned to meet in the Town Hall on said Village on Wednesday, JANUARY 5, 1916 at 9 o'clock in the forenoon to act on the following articles:

ARTICLE 1. To elect necessary Officers for the year ensuing to wit: President, Clerk, Treasurer, Collector of Taxes, three Trustees to serve for one year, three Auditors and seven Fire Wardens.

ARTICLE 2. To see what action, if any, the Village will take in reference to appropriating for out door Band Concerts, as provided in House Bill No. 62, of the laws of 1916, and if so, how much.

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Village will vote to use the Australian ballot system at the annual meeting January 8, 1917.

ARTICLE 4. To see what action, if any, the Village will take in regard to paving the streets for the ensuing year, and if so what amount to appropriate.

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Village will vote to raise money on the Grand List of said Village to defray the current expenses for the year 1916, and pay the indebtedness of the Village.

ARTICLE 6. To transact any other business that may be done at said meeting.

Attest: FREDSON E. MAY, Village Clerk. St. Johnsbury, Vt., Dec. 22, 1915.

THE NEW YEAR will be a happy one to all smokers who patronize this Cigar Store. High qualities at low prices are our specialty. Brown's Cigar Store 49 MAIN ST. \$114.17 SAVED In December and January, I am returning the above amount IN DIVIDENDS on Mutual Fire Insurance Policies, being from 20 to 60 per cent on the original premiums returned, which in the majority were written at the exact Stock Rates, the balance at a small increase. Just barely possible that you might like to save dollars on your insurance; if so, better talk it over with me. Remember my motto? "Don't Take My Word for It, But Investigate" CHAS. S. HASTINGS, Agent Over Former Post Office 35 Years in Same Office St. Johnsbury, Vermont