

FRENCH ATTACK HERZSTEIN

German Official Statement Does Not Give Outcome of the Offensive

FRENCH TELL OF ARTILLERY FIGHT

Along the Whole Front in the Vosges Russians Claim Success

Reconnaissances by allied aviators over the positions occupied by troops of the central powers across the Greek border reveal that there are apparently no preparations in progress for an advance on Saloniki, according to Athens advices.

Petrograd reports a successful naval operation of Bulgaria's Black sea coast and declares it has reason to believe that one or two submarines that attacked a Russian destroyer were sunk.

To-day's French official statement describes an artillery engagement of great activity over the whole front in the Vosges. The German headquarters statement to-day says the French have attacked the German lines at Hirsstein, but the details of the outcome of the attack are lacking.

VICTORY IN PERSIA.

Russians Claim Opposing Army Suffered Heavy Defeat. Petrograd, via London, Dec. 28.—The defeat by Russian troops in Persia of a formidable force among which were several thousand Persian insurgents is reported in an official statement issued yesterday by general headquarters.

"South of Rasoul, the Germans attacked our trenches under the cover of gas. On the Dehank front the Germans repeatedly tried to leave their trenches, but were easily driven back.

ITALY'S MONARCH REPORTED INJURED

But Despatch from Berlin Says That Report Is Sensational Rumor—King Victor Is Said to Have Been Wounded by Grenade.

Berlin, via Sayville wireless, Dec. 28.—A report that King Victor Emmanuel of Italy was wounded by an Austrian grenade and is in a hospital was given out to-day by the Overseas agency, which describes the report as a sensational rumor.

LOCHNER HAS SECRET TO SURPRISE WORLD

Admits That Certain of the Belligerents Are Desirous of Negotiating for Peace—Enthusiastic Meeting Held at Stockholm.

to negotiate for peace, the meeting became tumultuous. "It would astonish the world," said Lochner, "if we had known at this time what influences are at work for peace. We have every assurance that the project will meet with favor, although at this time it cannot be said what is behind the movement."

BRITISH-INDIAN CORPS LEAVES WEST FRONT

Destination of the Soldiers is Not Revealed—King Sends Message to Them Through the Prince of Wales.

London, Dec. 28.—A British Indian army corps left France for another field of operation, it was officially announced last night. At the parade of the Indian army corps before it left France, the following message from their king and emperor was delivered to the men by the Prince of Wales:

"More than a year ago I summoned you from India to fight for the safety of my empire and the honor of my pledged word on the battlefields of Belgium and France. The confidence which I then expressed in your sense of duty, your courage and your chivalry you have nobly justified.

"I now require your services in another field of action, but before you leave France I send my dear, gallant son, the prince of Wales, who has shared with my armies the dangers and hardships of the campaign, to thank you in my name for your services and to express to you my satisfaction.

"You leave France with just pride in honorable deeds already achieved and with my assured confidence that your proved valor and experience will contribute to further victories in the new fields of action to which you go.

DEAF MUTES IN TRAGEDY.

Man Then Shoots His Wife and Kills Himself. Olean, N. Y., Dec. 28.—George Peck committed suicide last night after shooting his wife. Mrs. Peck will recover. The shooting occurred in the presence of their 11-year-old son. The boy said his father and mother who were mutes quarrelled in the sign language over Mrs. Peck's desire to bring her mother to Olean.

MONTEPELIER

Herman Colson Ordered Committed to State Hospital for Three Months. As the result of a hearing held yesterday afternoon before Probate Judge Frank L. Martin, Herman Colson of Barre was ordered committed to the state hospital at Waterbury for a period of three months.

Carroll Doby left this morning for St. Albans, where he commenced his duties as advance agent for the Lyceum Comedy company, a stock company playing through New England and New York state.

James Doyle returned to Winooski last night to resume his studies at St. Michael's college, after a few days' visit with his mother on Kent street, this city. William Milo went to Burlington this morning to attend the two days' tournament and annual meeting of the Vermont checker league. Several other local members plan to go to Burlington to attend the meeting to-morrow.

Miss Irene Rooney left this morning for her home in Enfield, having passed a few days in the city as the guest of Mrs. R. W. W. Worcester of Hollis, N. H., arrived in the city last evening on a week's visit at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Dutton, of College street.

At a meeting of the Montpelier Business and Professional Men's club last evening a traveling bag was presented to Rev. Homer A. Flint, former secretary of the club, who recently resigned as pastor of Christ church to go to Uxbridge, Pa. The presentation speech was made by Wm. C. Kelly, Theistick.

MAY PROVOKE OPEN BREACH

Austro-Hungarian Reply to American Note on Ancona May Stir Resentment

UNCONFIRMED ADVICE TO PARIS HAS IT

Diplomatic Rupture Said to Be Expected in Vienna Government Circles

Paris, Dec. 28.—Unconfirmed advices from Vienna, published by Petite Journal, say the impression prevails in Austro-Hungarian government circles that the forthcoming reply to the second American note regarding the Ancona incident will bring about a diplomatic rupture between the two nations.

The Journal's dispatch, forwarded from Geneva, says: "According to advices from Vienna, the Austro-Hungarian answer to the American note was the subject of a long discussion Sunday night between Premier Tisza of Hungary and the Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, Baron Von Burian. The foreign minister also conferred with Dr. Dumba, the former ambassador at Washington. Although no definite decision has yet been reached, the impression in governmental circles is that the answer will bring about a diplomatic rupture."

AMERICAN MAIL WAS SEIZED

By British Government from Steamships on Way to Holland—Despatch Not Clear as to Whether It Was First-Class Matter.

Berlin, via Sayville, wireless, Dec. 28.—The seizure by the British government of American mail from two steamships on the way to Holland was reported in a Rotterdam dispatch given out to-day by the Overseas news agency. According to the news agency, the steamers were the Dutch steamship Nieuw Amsterdam and the Norwegian steamship Christian Michaelson, both bound from New York to Rotterdam.

MUCH SHIPPING DESTROYED.

Tentonic Submarines are Renewing Their Activities.

London, Dec. 28.—The French steamer Villa De La Clotat, proceeding from the far East for Marseilles with many passengers aboard, has been torpedoed in the Mediterranean. The loss of life among the passengers and crew is estimated at eighty. The survivors being picked up by a British steamer and taken to Malta. The official announcement of the attack from Paris says that the vessel was sunk without warning.

CASHIER FOILS BANK LOOTERS.

Slips Bonds and Shoots Men Escaping with \$4,000 in Funds. Grant, O., Dec. 28.—After having been thrown into the bank vault with his hands tied by two youths who yesterday robbed the bank of Grant of \$4,000, Cashier Welch slipped out of the vault, intercepted the bandits and shot and badly wounded both. The robbers, whose names officers give as Claude Jones, 23, and Arthur McFarland, 17, were taken to jail at Hugo last night. Physicians said Jones probably would die.

A confederate who was in the bank when the robbers entered was driven with the cashier into the vault, the door of which the youths could not lock. Welch loosened his hands and as the bandits left the building he pushed out the vault door and obtained a shotgun. Taking a short cut to the railroad station Welch concealed himself behind a pile of ties.

FOOTED DEAD IN HIS HOME.

Peter Willett of Burlington Had Been Living Alone. Burlington, Dec. 28.—Peter Willett, aged 35, was found dead this morning in his home on Murray street. He had lived alone and had been dead since midnight, the cause of death being heart trouble. Willett was employed as a mill hand.

PAWTUCKET FIRE CAUSED DEATH

John Kelley Victim and Three Others Badly Hurt, One of Whom Will Probably Die.

Pawtucket, R. I., Dec. 28.—John Kelley is dead and three other persons were injured, one of them probably fatally, as the result of a fire in a restaurant under the New York hotel on Broadway early this morning. They with others were carried from the building by policemen and others who volunteered in the rescue.

TEN GUESTS TAKEN FROM SIXTH FLOOR

When Fire and Smoke Cut Off Exit by Stairways, Janitor in B. A. A. Building, Boston, Ran Elevator Up Twice Through Peril. Boston, Dec. 28.—Ten guests who were sleeping on the upper floors of the Boston Athletic association building on Exeter street early this morning were cut off from escape by the stairways when fire was discovered in a kitchen on the sixth floor. The night watchman rescued them, however, by making two trips with the elevator through blinding smoke. The flames were confined to the sixth floor.

ORANGE COUNTY COURT ENDS.

Many Advices Granted—Assistant Judge Buell Dead. Chelsea, Dec. 28.—In the case of Helen V. Robinson vs. Elsie Thelgen, or Elsie Thelgen Roberts, which was heard in Orange county court last week, the jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff to recover \$500 for alienation of affections. The defendant, who is a New Jersey lady, sued to recover \$5,000. William S. Pingree of White River Junction represented the plaintiff, and John N. Harvey of Barre and William H. Sprague of Chelsea appeared for the defendant. Exceptions were taken by the defendant, and the case may go to the supreme court.

Richard Druge vs. Edith C. Druge, bill granted for adultery. S. C. Wilson appeared for the libellant.

Lucy Prescott vs. John Prescott, bill granted for neglect and refusal to support, and libellant given the right to resume her maiden name. D. S. Conant appeared for the libellant.

Joa May Scott vs. Will A. Scott, bill granted for intolerable severity. William C. White of Northfield appeared for the libellant.

Gertrude M. Tucker vs. Charles C. Tucker, bill granted for intolerable severity, and custody of two minor children decreed to libellant. W. H. Sprague and F. S. Williams for libellant.

May Merritt vs. Oscar N. Merritt, bill granted for neglect and refusal to support and custody of two minor children decreed to petitioner. D. S. Conant appeared for libellant.

Henry Rhodes vs. Clara Rhodes, bill granted for desertion. S. C. Wilson appeared for libellant.

Nellie M. Sargent vs. Charles J. Sargent, bill granted for intolerable severity and petitioner granted right to resume maiden name. E. W. Smith appeared for libellant.

Elizabeth C. Sanborn vs. John W. Sanborn, bill granted for intolerable severity and petitioner given right to resume maiden name. D. S. Conant appeared for libellant.

Lillian E. Coffin vs. Lafayette L. Coffin, bill granted for intolerable severity and custody of one minor child decreed to plaintiff. John N. Harvey for libellant.

Frank H. Hazleton vs. Alta H. Hazleton, bill granted for willful desertion. S. C. Wilson for libellant.

Daisy Page vs. Otis Page, bill granted for intolerable severity and custody of one minor child decreed to libellant. George W. Pike of Lisbon, N. H., appeared for libellant.

Clio A. Donohue vs. George H. Donohue, bill granted for intolerable severity and petitioner granted right to resume maiden name. R. A. Hoar appeared for libellant.

Lora H. Wilfore vs. Titus H. Wilfore, bill granted for intolerable severity and libellant granted right to resume maiden name. R. A. Hoar for libellant.

Anna Harvey vs. John Thelgen. This was a hotly contested case, which lasted two days, and as there were property rights involved which might have to be determined by proceedings in chancery, the case was entered with the court. Wallace Bateholder appeared for the libellant and John N. Harvey and W. H. Sprague appeared for the libellee.

This completed the work of the term, which took its final adjournment on Friday morning. Just prior to its adjournment, news was received of the death of the junior assistant judge, Samuel H. Buell of Stratford, and upon its receipt the following was introduced by Stanley C. Wilson, which was adopted in open court.

"It becomes my sad duty to inform you that the Hon. Samuel H. Buell departed this life at 8 o'clock, Dec. 24, 1915. As a member of the bar, I know that I express the feelings of the other members of this court, of every attorney and officer thereof, and also of all the citizens within this county, who I say it is with great sadness and sorrow that we note the passing of Judge Buell. He was a man whom we all held in the highest esteem as a judge, whom we honored as a citizen, admired as a man and loved as a friend."

"His death removes one of the foremost citizens of Orange county. In order to express in some slight degree the feelings of this court, its attorneys and officers, I move that the clerk of this court be directed to spread upon the records the slight tribute to the memory of Judge Buell, and that he be directed to forward to the family of our deceased brother a duly certified copy of the same."

Make no other engagement for Jan. 1. The annual dance given by the ladies of the Universalist church is to be held on the date in Newland hall. This is the date of the session. A larger and better time is being arranged by the committee in charge.

FOWL QUALITY THE FEATURE

At the Tenth Annual Show of the Vermont Poultry Association

FINE AGGREGATION OF BIRDS DISPLAYED

Gymnasium on Church St., Barre, Is Scene of Exhibition

A crowing and a cackling, the one of chancier and the other of the aristocratic duck, ushered in the 10th annual exhibition of the Vermont poultry association in the Church street gymnasium this forenoon. Rarely in the history of the association has a more pretentious exhibit been staged anywhere in Vermont. Quality birds predominate and careful observers are as one in the opinion that a finer aggregation of birds was never assembled in the state. The floor at the gym. has been divided into avenues with a thoroughfare for nearly every species of poultry common and uncommon in Vermont.

Older members of the association, and the show has drawn on its membership from far and near, say that no show in 10 years has approached the 1915 exhibit in point of quality. Breeders apparently have shown a predilection for exhibiting only their finest fowls, and with scarcely an exception, birds have been thoroughly groomed before the keepers were permitted to exhibit them on the floor. This year a juvenile department is proving a popular feature and the introduction of young poultry breeders to the class of exhibitors has already justified the step taken in behalf of the youngsters by the association at its last annual meeting.

Judges George P. Coffin of Freeport, Me., and George W. Weed of East Lee, Mass., arrived in the city last evening and are staying at Hotel Barre, where a majority of the out of town exhibitors are registered. The judges were on the floor early to-day and by 10:30 o'clock they had begun their work. Barred Plymouth Rocks were the first objects of their scrutiny and by noon that breed had been effectively judged, so effectively in fact that several breeders were rejoicing in being the first to receive their awards. The work of judging involves considerable time and even though the greater part of the afternoon was given over to examining the birds on their merits, it was announced that all awards will not have been made before to-morrow noon at the earliest. Possibly, if the influx of birds continues, it will be near the end of the second day of the show before the last award is made.

Directors of the show are earnestly hoping that the public will show its cooperation by visiting the gymnasium early and often. Every effort has been made to arrange the exhibition floor for the convenience of visitors and no pains will be spared to extend to all visitors every courtesy. A small admission fee is charged for children and youngsters. To-night Judge Coffin, who has familiarized himself with poultry breeding throughout the East, is to be the speaker at a meeting of all persons interested in poultry. The court room at city hall has been reserved for the meeting and the lecture will begin at 7:30 o'clock.

Winners in Barre Plymouth Rock Class.

At noon to-day the judges announced the following awards to cover entries in the Barred Plymouth Rock class: First cock, Edwin Keast; 2d cock, Charles Oliver; 3d cock, William Oliver; 4th cock, Frank Perry. First and 2d hens, J. Frank Perry; 3d hen, Charles Oliver; 4th hen, Edwin Keast; 5th hen, William Oliver; 6th and 7th pullets, William Oliver; 8d and 9th pullet, Edwin Keast; 10th pullet, J. Frank Perry.

First pen of chicks, Charles Oliver; 2d pen, Edwin Keast; 3d pen, William Oliver.

Special on color, male, Charles Oliver; special on shape, male, Edwin Keast; special on color, female, J. Frank Perry; special on shape, female, William Oliver.

POULTRY SHOW NOTES.

Prin. Charles Pampel of the free evening drawing school created the life-like rooster which adorns the show board at the corner of Washington and Church streets.

Alberran Edwin Keast drew the first blood of the exhibition. Mr. Keast, who is one of the wheel horses in the state association, had scarcely stepped inside the gym, when a full-grown rooster pecked him viciously on the left hand.

Judge Coffin's address in the city court room this evening is worthy the attention of every poultry breeder in Barre. He speaks at 7:30 o'clock.

See Charles Oliver is one of the busiest men on the floor. And to-day was one of his busy days.

The American Poultry association, with which the state association is affiliated, offers a silver medal for the best cockerel in the show and diploma for the best male under one year old, in all standard varieties, competition being open to all A. P. A. members.

Hotel Barre is located conveniently near the show hall and its proximity is appreciated by a number of breeders who are making the hotel their headquarters. The association does not permit the birds to be handled in the rooms, except by the judges, owners, or by permission from the secretary or his assistant. All birds at the gym. are receiving the best of attention. They are combed, accustoming to, fed and watered right on the grounds. An exhibit of Maine birds, some of them colored as high as \$25 and \$500, is on the show floor. Ducks and squabs are shown in one corner of the gym. No one is allowed in the aisle while the birds are being judged. Judges Coffin and Weed are unanimous

In praising the quality of the birds exhibited.

All birds in the show are disinfected with carbolic by an expert representative of the Barre Manufacturing company of Boston. Special prizes have been offered by the Moxie company, through its local distributor; by A. W. Allen & Co., the Barre Savings Bank & Trust Co. and others.

JOSEPH A. DeBOER'S FUNERAL TO-DAY

Bishop A. C. A. Hall of Burlington Was Officiating Clergyman—Bearers Were Former Associates in the National Life Insurance Company.

The funeral of Joseph A. DeBoer, president of the National Life Insurance company, whose death occurred at Montpelier Saturday morning, was held at Christ Episcopal church in Montpelier this afternoon, following a prayer service held at the DeBoer residence, corner of State street and Western avenue.

Bishop A. C. A. Hall of the Vermont Episcopal diocese officiated at the services, being assisted by Coadjutor Bishop G. Y. Bliss and Rev. Homer A. Flint, rector of Christ church. Charles F. Lowe of Montpelier sang "Crossing the Bar." The honorary bearers were officials of the National Life Insurance company, Vice-President Fred A. Howland, Treasurer Harry F. Cutler, Clarence E. Moulton, Dr. B. B. Bisbee, Dr. E. A. Colton, George Briggs, Frank A. Drinell and Frank K. Goss. The pall bearers were Charles M. Bennett, Henry Holt, Dorman B. E. Kent, Frank M. Bryan, Vernon E. Doty and A. B. Shepard, all employees of the institution. Interment was in Green Mount cemetery.

Among those who attended the funeral were: Senator William P. Dillingham, ex-Gov. Samuel E. Pingree of Hartford, ex-Gov. W. W. Strickony of Ludlow, State Treasurer Walter F. Scott of Brandon, Gov. C. W. Gates of Franklin, George Dewey of Portland, Me., a former resident of Montpelier, Henry Gutchell of Albany, N. Y., former alderman in Montpelier, Charles W. Gammons and Charles C. Gilman of Boston, Judge L. P. Slack of St. Johnsbury, Harry Blodgett of St. Johnsbury, A. G. Sprague of St. Johnsbury, Max L. Powell of Burlington, Olin Merrill of Enosburg Falls, W. J. Breen and John Branch of St. Albans, Speaker and Mrs. J. E. Weeks of Middlebury, John G. Sargent of Ludlow, ex-Speaker Thomas C. Cheney of Morrisville, C. W. Brownell of Burlington, H. L. Ward of Burlington, J. E. Cushman of Burlington, Henry Shaw of Burlington, Prof. J. W. Votey of Burlington, W. H. Crockett of Burlington, Azro M. Aseltine of Burlington, Thomas Magner of Burlington, Pres. John M. Thomas of Middlebury, D. B. Burditt of Pittsford, C. P. Smith of Burlington, Frank Plumley and Charles A. Plumley of Northfield.

All the banks of Montpelier closed during the afternoon and many stores closed during the time from 2 to 4 o'clock, while others drew the shades in their windows.

NATIVE OF STOCKBRIDGE.

Julius C. Newton, Prominent Resident of Putney, Dead.

Brattleboro, Dec. 28.—Julius C. Newton, 77 years old, a prominent farmer, stock raiser and member of the Vermont legislature and a Civil war veteran, died at his home on Putney road last night. He was born in Stockbridge June 22, 1838, and when about four years old was taken to Enfield, N. H., where he lived until he was 18 years of age in the Shaker community. He came to Putney, where he lived three years before enlisting in Company A, 3d Vermont regiment, with which he served about one year.

From 1874 to 1891 he was manager of the large Bradley farms and then he went to Fishers Island, N. Y., where he lived 10 years. In 1901 he returned to Brattleboro and purchased the farm on Putney road where he had since lived. While living in the town of Dunham he held several town offices, being town representative in 1886. He was master of Protective grange of Brattleboro at one time and a member of Sedwick post G. A. R. Wainwright lodge of Odd Fellows and the Center Congregational church. He was twice married, his first wife being Kate Burke of Putney, who died Sept. 3, 1893, leaving one son, Carl Newton of Dunham. His second wife was Kate Gilchrist of Fishers Island, who survives him with two sons, Julius Newton and Stanley Newton, who live at home. The funeral will be held at the home at 2 o'clock Wednesday afternoon and the burial will be in Prospect Hill cemetery.

ACCUSED MAN GETS BAIL.

Harlow Hatch Released from Caledonia County Jail.

St. Johnsbury, Dec. 28.—Harlow Hatch, held for the murder of Sumner J. Brown in the former's post room here last July, was released yesterday under bonds of \$5,000 furnished by several of the young man's friends. He has been in jail since he was captured by deputy sheriff two days after the crime was committed.

A grand jury in Caledonia county court indicted Hatch for manslaughter two weeks ago and bail was fixed at that time. As no motive can be established for the crime bail is allowable. It is expected that Hatch's trial will begin early in June.

DID NOT RETURN WITH CHANGE.

Complaint Against Burlington Hackmen by Steve Men.

Burlington, Dec. 28.—Albert Furtin, a hackman, was arrested early yesterday morning by the police on a warrant issued by State's Attorney Hopkins, charging him with enticement. Later in the day he was given a hearing before Judge C. S. Palmer in city court and held for trial at the next term of county court. He was fined at \$500 which he was unable to furnish and was taken to jail. At a late hour Friday night, Furtin took Julia Landsett and Victor Dumasness of wives to a home in the north part of the city and received a two dollar bill from Dumasness with instructions to return later with the change. This it is alleged, he failed to do, and the warrant was issued for his arrest.

DEFENDANTS' MOTION DENIED

William Rockefeller and Ten Other Former New Haven Directors Must Be Tried

JUDGE HUNT RULES IN COURT TO

Men Are Charged with Conspiracy to Monopolize New England Traffic

New York, Dec. 28.—Judge Hunt today denied the motions of the defense to dismiss the case against William Rockefeller and 10 other former directors of the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad who are on trial on the charge of conspiracy to monopolize the transportation traffic of New England. Judge Hunt also denied the motion to strike out the testimony relating to the Metropolitan steamship deals which involved Edward D. Robbins.

PROMINENT NORTHFIELD MAN.

George H. Richmond Died Last Night—He Founded Northfield News.

Northfield, Dec. 28.—George H. Richmond, a native of Northfield and who had spent nearly all his life here, died at 4:30 last evening following a long period of ill health. He had severe sickness a year ago and was not in good health since that time until three weeks ago when his last illness came upon him. He was 69 years of age and leaves his wife; one daughter, Mildred, wife of Fay Graves, of Springfield, Mass.; a son, Ralph Richmond, of Springfield, Mass.; and one brother, Carl S. Richmond of Northfield. With the exception of a few years spent in New York state, Mr. Richmond had always resided in Northfield and during most of the years of his business life he had been connected with printing work. He established the Northfield News and was its first publisher back in 1878. He served for more than sixteen years as postmaster here, retiring from the office in June, 1914. Since that time he had given his time more closely to his private business, which included the National Memorial company, producers of memorial cards, and the Direct Advertising company.

Mr. Richmond was a member of the Masonic, the Odd Fellows and the Woodmen's lodges and was also a member of the Methodist church.

The funeral will be held from his late home, corner of Main and South streets Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock and interment will be in the cemetery at Northfield Center.

TALK OF THE TOWN

Old and new dances will be in order at Howland hall Jan. 6. A good time for all—adv. Glen Merrill, who is employed in Boston, is spending the holidays at his home in this city. Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Collamer and Miss Laura Collamer, who have been visiting at the home of George H. Collamer, returned to-day to their home in Shelburne. Mrs. Arthur McNeil and little son, Lawson, of Hill street left to-day for Waco, N. H., where they will visit Mrs. McNeil's sister, Mrs. Edwards, for a week or more.

Miss Bernice Whitcomb, who has been passing a few days with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. N. Whitcomb of Beacon street, returned yesterday to Essex Junction, where she is employed as a stenographer in the office of the secretary of state.

Miss Vera Bjork entertained a party of her friends at her home on West Patterson street last evening. The evening was spent in playing games, both vocal and instrumental music being also a part of the entertainment. A guessing contest was won by Miss Alma Eriksen. Light refreshments were served.

A hearing was set for this morning in city court in the case of A. Tomasi vs. Mrs. Josie Robinson, a suit to recover the value of pigs said to have been transferred to Mrs. Robinson by the plaintiff. Magistrate H. W. Scott was ready to hear the evidence, but inquiry revealed the information that the defendant was absent from home. The case was continued until next week.

The Sunshine Workers' class of the Hedding church met at the home of their teacher, Miss Elvies Parks of King street last evening for a Christmas party. During the early part of the evening a program arranged by the entertainment committee, Misses Emily Dodge, Ethel Young and Lily Little, was given, as follows: Piano solo, Miss Ethel Young; reading, Miss Ruth Butler; vocal solo, Miss Martha Chalmers; piano solo, Miss Ruth Warden; reading, Miss Emily Dodge; vocal duet, Misses Martha Chalmers and Madeline Selliers. After the program came the distribution of gifts from the Christmas tree, each guest being several packages addressed to her. The evening was closed with a closing talk by the pastor.

Tonight the aldermen held secret sessions at city hall for the last regular session of the year. Little business other than that of a routine nature is to be transacted, according to tradition, although it is probable that a conference will be arranged between the city council and the recently incorporated Barre Historical society, which is making a bid for the use of the old church, situated southeast of city hall. And now the report of the secretary in the name of the aldermen's property committee. The first meeting a 1916 will be held next Monday evening, when departmental reports on the year will be read and the secretary of the annual city report in the middle of February.