

THE EVENING FARMER

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Low York Office, 220 Broadway, (9th Floor, Building) C. A. MENET, Representative.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1909.

MR. BRYAN'S EXACT POSITION

There have appeared in various newspapers alleged interviews with Mr. Bryan or his "personal friends," in which he has been represented as not a candidate for 1912 and also as a candidate under certain conditions.

In Munsey's Magazine for March, there appears an article by Mr. Bryan, in which, after a review of previous campaigns, he predicts a conflict between the progressive, and the reactionary elements in the Republican party that may result in the election of a Democratic House in 1910.

There is every reason to believe that a number of strong leaders will be developed, and that from these a Democratic candidate can be selected who, by the aid of events and with a united party behind him, can win a national victory.

Clearly, Mr. Bryan means that such a leader may develop in the contest between a progressive Democratic House and a reactionary Republican Senate, and as he is not likely to become a member of the House, Mr. Bryan's language practically eliminates himself from the Presidential list.

This is the first really authentic deliverance from Mr. Bryan as to the campaign of 1912, and it is as nearly conclusive as the existing conditions allow.

He is unquestionably correct in his prediction of trouble between the two Republican elements. It could not be otherwise after the campaign of conservatism in the East, and radicalism in the West, which resulted in Mr. Tamm's election. A clash must come; indeed, there are already indications to such effect.

Judge Wheeler of this city receives the strained compliment of special action by Gov. Lilley and the General Assembly in order to prevent any interference of office, and the Hartford Court, in announcing the fact, says "the public look to see the young (the Bridgeport) Wheeler go still higher before Gov. Lilley gets through with him." In other words, that Gov. Lilley will nominate him to the Supreme court bench. It would be a very popular appointment, except perhaps to lawyers who have been held strictly to rules by Judge Wheeler.

No one yet knows the sources, amount or disposition of the fund collected and used last year by the Republican Congressional Campaign committee, except the party managers. Probably the facts will never be made public. There was a suspicion, late in the campaign, that large sums of corporation-tainted money which could not be received under the law by the Republican National committee, were given to the Congressional committee and put by it where they would "do the most good." Certainly, the party showed no signs of being embarrassed by lack of funds, even though the National committee received much less than the usual amount.

That Bridgeport is not the only city which thinks well of the referendum and is willing to entrust the decision of public questions directly to the people, is shown by the fact that a special Hartford committee on municipal office building has recommended the submission to the people at the coming city election of the question of appropriating \$450,000 for the purchase of a site and the erection of a building.

Lent is now here and, though formally observed by only two religious denominations, it exercises a very material influence, particularly upon social life. Many men cut off, during the penitential period, one or more of what may perhaps be called their vices; many women abstain from society diversions—of course, they cannot observe Lent as do altogether too few men. It is well that such a period prevails; it would be better if all would give it some degree of observance.

The Farmer does not feel repentant over its policies during the past year, and yet it desires to temporarily abate some of the vices, of which it is accused by opponents of its policies. We have, therefore, decided upon a policy of silence for the remainder of the Lenten period as to the shortcom-

ings or evil deeds of local officials, but with this understanding, viz., that the Farmer staff, being but "weak and erring mortals," cannot reasonably be expected to withstand any exceptionally favorable opportunities—that is, our resolve of patient forbearance must not be abused.

Spring is coming, bluebirds and robins have arrived, hens are getting down to active business, and eggs promise to be, if they are not now, cheaper than the products of the Beef Trust. Thus, Lent brings compensations.

New Britain has a charter committee which voted, Tuesday night, that the Common Council should be empowered to enact an ordinance regulating sports and amusements on Sunday. This, if granted by the General Assembly, would practically give local option upon the Sunday law. There would be decided benefits. It would prevent disputes and litigation over the proper interpretation of the Sunday law, and it would enable local sentiment to determine precisely what degree of enforcement should prevail. Also, it would be in accord with a growing sentiment in favor of a more liberal Sunday than is now possible under the state law in localities which have, as in Norwalk, a specially active and vigilant Ministers' Association.

Cheapest accident insurance—Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil. Stops the pain and heals the wound. All druggists sell it.

THE STRATFORD

The Assembly Dance—Concert Tonight—Good Place to Loose Money—Great Devon Doings—On the Sick List.

The Assembly Dance at Red Men's hall on Tuesday evening, proved to be more of a success than could have been anticipated considering the awful downpour of rain, and the way the eaves of the Town hall dropped water in the passage way to the back door.

At the Burnell funeral yesterday afternoon Miss Florence Allen and Mrs. Frank Curtis sang "Lead Kindly Light" and "Jesus, Lover of My Soul," said to be favorite hymns of the deceased.

It is estimated that not far from 100 persons attended the entertainment at the Methodist church Tuesday evening by the Camera club. A net sum for the piano fund must have resulted.

There are people in town, it is said, who want a trolley line on Barnum avenue. Other folks think the town has too much trolley already.

Those who attend the concert this evening at the Congregational church will listen to the following program: A duet called "Wedding Suite," by Jensen, rendered by Mrs. Judson and Miss Felsler; "O'er the Moon," by the "Gaiety Band"; "Hendel's Minuet," sung by Miss Hogan and Mr. Calder; the following Irish folk songs by Miss Hogan—"The Harp That Once Thro' the Hall," Moore's "Irish Folk Song," "Paddy and Kerry Dance," by Molly; Mr. Calder will sing the following Scotch Folk Songs—"Jock O' Hazeldean," "The Braes o' Mar," and "Annie Laurie," and Miss Hogan will appear and sing "Eileen Alanna," "Terence's Farewell to Kathleen," and "Come Back to Erin." Mr. Calder will follow with "Loch Lomond," "I'm Wearing Ana," and "My Laddie." The concert will close with a duet, "Singing Lesson," by Miss Hogan and Mrs. Calder. Miss Letter Katherine will play the piano.

Chester Dunlay has secured work with the Harvey Hubbell Company. Monday evening C. D. Mills addressed the ladies at a meeting of the meetings. Future entertainments are being thought about.

More gentlemen have been appointed to positions in the Fire department. Frederick Schell, Stanley E. Beach, Yates, James Lally, Ed. Burrill, Fred Palmer and F. M. Beardsey.

The board of Relief has finally conducted its laboratory. A poor tramp came to town on Tuesday and begged for a night's lodging in the cooler. He was accommodated. Any port is good enough a storm.

ing to enlarge the fire house. More hydrants are to be placed in useful spots and altogether it is expected fire insurance rates will fall at least 10 per cent. And to add to the excitement a great many people crowded the club house on the eve of Washington's birthday and had a delightful "whist" besides coffee and sandwiches and cake. A few of those who won prizes were Mesdames C. O. Mathews, Judson, Miss Harris, Charles Everts, H. W. Baldwin, Louis Perry, Mrs. Miss Juniata Hines; also the following gentlemen: Raymond E. Baldwin, Mr. Forest, Mr. Hellman, Mr. Delmuth, A. E. Beard, H. E. Crab, and others. A list of the guests not mentioned mentioned were Mrs. Judge C. G. Root, Mr. and Mrs. George G. Secor, W. Mathews, Mrs. Josephine Hines, Louis E. Wehler, George Stevens, the Misses Forst, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Nettleton, Miss Judson, Mrs. Hazel Lewis, Hazel D. Beard, Grace Stevens, Mr. and Mrs. Hellman and Miss Helman, Mrs. Sidney E. Ober, E. L. Devere, Mrs. Judson, P. W. Baldwin, Fred Tyger, Mr. and Mrs. M. Fletcher, A. Burgess, W. E. Crofton, R. W. Tibbals, E. Lathrop, Mr. Sorell, Mrs. Clements, Mrs. Borough.

FAIRFIELD

The Jennings Estate—Miss Worstell's Lecture—A Runaway—Annexation Chat—Van Ness Funeral—Winter Birds.

Work has finally begun upon the Jennings estate on Main street in preparation for the building of the large Colonial mansion which Miss Anna E. Jennings proposes to erect upon the old homestead. The house which has stood many years next to the "Boxwood Cottage," is now being moved back upon the lot towards the Sound. It stands on rollers, and has already been moved from the cellar which was underneath. It was in the plan to demolish the other house, which has been stripped of its furniture, and this will probably be done as soon as the weather permits and the other building is placed.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry I. Flint, parents of our popular Town clerk, who have spent the past four months in Bridgeport will return to town and occupy their residence at the corner of Main and Broad streets, next Tuesday. Mr. Flint thinks he has had enough of city life, and says that if he had remained in town during the winter there would have been nine blizzards. On your life he will not leave his house next winter.

The lecture by Miss Worstell of New York, on the Zoological garden of that city, situated in the Bronx, proved to be very interesting, and drew a large house full of people. Even the rain was coming down in buckets.

Mr. Henry Burns, coachman for Mrs. Julia Morris Curtis, had a rather sudden and unexpected experience yesterday when his horse was driving took fright at an automobile which ran close to the team when nearly opposite the grocery store of Mr. Argentin Hall, near the corner of Main street, when the animal ran between the trees and the fence and smashed the wagon, and cleared itself from the wreckage by the fortunate escape of the coachman unhurt.

It is known that the Bridgeport Hydraulic Company who are now in this town, would welcome the annexation of Greens Farms as they could then extend their lines to the Farms, and thus have a system of lighting the residents with light and water.

The funeral of the late Peter Van Ness took place yesterday from the residence of his son Mr. William Van Ness, on Easton avenue, at 11 P. M. Rev. Mr. Olmstead the new pastor of the Greenfield Hill Congregational church officiated. The burial was in Oak Lawn cemetery.

There is a rumor in town that Miss Child, daughter of Rev. Dr. Child, will be married about the middle of April to Mr. Ellis, the engagement having been announced some time ago. The Justice McAlpine succeeded in attending, reaching the hostelry rather late after visiting a patient near Southport.

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As a wedding anniversary present to his parents in Scotland, a machinist of Alton, N. H., has had a photograph record of his voice, which they had not heard for 30 years, but recognized immediately.

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