# BRIDGEPORT EVENING FARMER

(FOUNDED 1790.)

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MONDAY, DEC. 31, 1917.


## THE NEW NAME

BEGINNING TOMORROW The Farmer will become The Bridgeport Times and Farmer. The change has been long contemplated, but is reluctantly accomplished, because of associations and traditions attaching to the old name, which has been carried for more than a century.

The Farmer was begun to give effect to the principles of Jeffersonian Democracy. Jefferson was a farmer, as most of the founders of the nation were, and his statecraft was largely directed to increase the material well being of the farming class, which in his day constituted the great bulk of the American people. Fairfield County was a farming community.

It was natural that a newspaper published to give expression to such views, should take the name of the class it intended to represent.

Time has worked many miracles. Fairfield county is no longer an agricultural, but an industrial community. The interests of Fairfield county are no longer parochial, they are world wide. The old name had become too exclusive, a caste name, so to speak, and it is increased by the addition of a name which indicates more accurately the function of this newspaper.

When The Farmer was started, advertising was purely a local matter. It is not so now. The advertising columns of a modern daily newspaper contain the communications of advertisers doing business in all parts of the United States.

In dealing with this great business interest, the old name had become misleading. It was difficult for strangers to associate the fact of a widely read daily newspaper, printed in a great industrial center, with a title suggesting a purely agricultural and specialized circulation.

Under new name, as under old, this newspaper will do its level best to represent the people. It will be true to their interests, loyal to the truth, devoted to the interests of city, state and nation, and zealous in collecting, printing and interpreting the news. The Times and Farmer extends to its readers its best wishes for a Happy New Year.

## HELP FROM THE HELPFUL

A FEW DAYS ago the negro Dive Keeper, Baby Doll, found himself in the middle of a riot and about to be apprehended, following a murder. In his hour of trial he called upon Mr. King for help.

Saturday a Bridgeport industry came into court. It needed reorganization and Mr. King was appointed receiver. The court called him to help.

Mr. King is not a dive keeper, and he is has no experience in operating dives. He is not a policeman, nor a prosecutor, nor a court, yet he has gifts which made it seem to Baby Doll that he could help.

Mr. King is not notably a manufacturer. He is not especially known as a lawyer. Yet he has gifts which made it seem to a court that he would be a good man, or acceptable, to take charge of a considerable industry.

What are the talents in a man that command recognition from sources so widely separated. Said Mr. Kipling, "The colonel's lady and Judy O'Grady are sisters under the skin."

Mr. King seems to be a sort of universal brother. They all want him when there's a job to be done.

## ATTACKING FARM LOAN BANKS

THE EAST has no body of men who make a specialty of loaning on farm land. But the south and west are well supplied with land loan sharks who practice usury in the good old fashioned way. This interest is preparing to make an attack upon the farm loan banks, when the loan law comes up for amendment, as it will soon. Their method is very simple. They will claim an impairment of capital.

The farm loan banks started, each with $750,000 capital, six or eight months ago. They had to pay organization expenses, buy furniture, pay for the appraisal of land upon which they made loans and incur all the expense of getting ready. These sums came out of capital, and constitute technically an impairment of capital. The banks are now just receiving their first payments on loans, but the interest account represents almost entirely sums not due.

Yet the actual capital of the banks is about $1,000,0000 greater than when they were started, due to the subscriptions for stock made by farm loan associations.

The farm loan banks are a useful institution, not yet tried out here. But they have been most helpful throughout Europe, and will be even more helpful in America.

## ONE BENEFITS

UNIFICATION OF resources on the New England lines will, it is said, permit 500 tons more of coal per day to be brought into New England. The amount is probably underestimated. Yet it will take time to make a smoothly working mechanism out of the disjointed railroad systems of America. Plans must be devised. In some cases new men must be found. There will be some backing in the traces. But within a comparatively brief time the country will begin to feel the good results of a more scientific and more harmonious method of railroad operation.

## LICENSING ENEMY PATENTS

THE GOVERNMENT has begun the policy of licensing the use of enemy patents to Americans who make proper application. The first license is for the preparation of a German synthetic drug used as a narcotic. The government requires five per cent of gross sales to be paid to the custodian of enemy property fund. It reserves the right to inspect and prescribe the quality and to fix the price. If the war should last for some years longer it may be expected that all really useful chemical processes, and inventions described in the patent office will be in American use.

# LIBERTY BOND LESSONS

By HOWARD SPEER
Of Hincks Bros. & Co.

Lesson No. 21.

See! Saw! Margery Daw!

Today it was a woman. Yesterday it was a young man. The day before it was an older man. And all last week and each week for a month or more it has been a fairly steady procession of people who come in, timid or confident, and go out again, perhaps satisfied, perhaps puzzled, but doubtless feeling a bit uncertain abut things in general.

Who are they? What do they want? And what puzzles them?

They are owners of Liberty Bonds. They want to sell their bonds. They are puzzled to learn that they can't get as much for their bonds as they paid for them. They thought they could get the full amount of cash for a Liberty Bond at any time because they understood it to be a promise of the United States and just like money. And yet at the time this article is being written a $100 Liberty 3½ per cent. bond can be sold for only $98.40, and a 4 per cent. bond for only $97. Naturally they are frightened and puzzled and even indignant. What is the matter?

In the first place they are mistaken in thinking of Liberty Bonds as just so much money. Last June and October a great many comparisons were made in speeches and advertisements between Liberty Bonds and money. The writer of these articles made such comparisons, but always to illustrate how safe an investment Liberty Bonds were. Both bond and dollar bill are promises of the same government, and therefore one is as the safe as the other. Each is sure to be paid. But the bill is payable on demand, while the bond need not be paid until 1942 or 1947. The bill, being mere money, payable on demand, gets no interest. The bond receives 3½ per cent. or 4 per cent. interest regularly until it is redeemed, but if the holder wants to cash his bond before it is due, he must look to some private buyer and not to the government. There are plenty of such buyers, but because they are human beings and because a new set of conditions exist also at every day, they will offer different prices at different times.

Here is the whole thing in a nutshell. Suppose John D. Rockefeller owed you $200. Suppose he should ask you to take $100 in cash and his note for the other $100, payable one year from today, with interest at 4 per cent. You agree. But in spite of the fact that that note is perfectly safe and sure to be paid, do you think it would be as easy for you to change it into cash as it would be to change your $100 bill into 20 five-dollar bills? You could take the note to a bank and they would pay you something less than $100 in order to compensate themselves for tying up their money for a whole year. There might be times when the bank would pay you the full $100, or even more, for the note, depending upon what interest rates they were able to lend their money at.

In other words, any investment which comes due at some later date will go up and down in price according to the rate of interest it bears, how long a time it has to run, and how much of a demand there is for that kind of investment.

And in a sense, everything in the world is a sort of investment—books, jewelry, real estate, machinery, clothing, skates, as well as stocks and bonds and mortgages. Take furniture, for instance. Compare the price you paid five years ago for that diningroom table with the price you would have to pay today, and you will realize that you made a good investment. Or take your grandmother's wedding furniture. The family was ready to chop it up for kindling about 20 years ago, and now collectors are going around the country paying high prices for that very model. A tandem bicycle or an old high-wheeler—they used to cost two or three hundred dollars. You couldn't give one away today. Skates—you can sell a second-hand pair in winter for more than you will have to pay for new ones in summer time. Or how about old false teeth? Throw them in the ash barrel, of course. And yet a company was trying to buy them last summer. The platinum that fastened them together had become so valuable since the war that it was worth reclaiming.

And so it goes, See, Saw, Margery Daw, Teeter, Totter, Bread and Water, Up and Down, Down and Up, Prices, Values, backward, forward, changing, changing, all the time. There is nothing in the wide world that you can buy with absolutely certain knowledge that you can get back the exact price you paid for it at any time you wish.

"Oh, yes, there is," you say. "How about money?" I can always get five dollars for a five-dollar bill. Wouldn't I have been better off if I had kept my money in a bank instead of putting it in Liberty Bonds that are selling now for less than I paid for them?"

You have touched upon a big subject that is directly connected with all of this misunderstanding about Liberty Bond prices. We shall discuss it next time and try to show you that even money is no exception in this little game of See Saw and Tetter Totter.

## HARBOR OF N. Y. FROZEN, FAMINE IN COAL FACED

New York, Dec. 31.—Nothing to indicate a moderation of the intense cold that has held the city in its grip for the last two days greeted shivering New Yorkers this morning. Not in 20 years has this city suffered as it did Saturday and yesterday.

At 6 a. m. thermometers registered seven degrees below zero. Directly or indirectly the cold yestreday resulted in seven known deaths. The city's millions are face to face with a coal famine that makes the outlook even more cheerless. Rivers and the harbor clogged with ice made it difficult to bring coal and food into the city.

The weather man announces that the coldest day in the year is in store for New York city on the last day of the day.

## He Knows All About Government Finances


Joseph S. McCoy, United States government actuary, is the only treasury department employe for whom Secretary McAdoo has asked raise in salary. McCoy has an encyclopedic knowledge of government finances and is always consulted by the ways and means committee of the house when appropriation bills are being framed. The government has been paying $2,500 a year for his expert services, but Secretary McAdoo has asked that he be promoted to $4,000.

## NEW YORK 1918 PARTIES WILL BE "A LA HOOVER"

New York, Dec. 31—The new year will be welcomed in New York after the fashion of former years that has made the celebration an event of international interest, except that tonight the war promises to place its stamp of moderation on the conviviality of the celebrants.

Hotels and restaurants will entertain just as many guests as in times of peace, but the menu cards in most instances offer nothing that does not bear the stamp of the food administration's approval, and the high prices prevailing for wines and the 1 o'clock closing order indicate that the New Year toasts will be drunk in less generous proportions.

Watch parties and entertainments for soldiers and sailors have been arranged in greater number than before America entered the war.

## ALL NEW ENGLAND IN GRIP OF COLD

Boston, Dec. 31.—New England was still suffering today from the most severe cold wave ever officially recorded in this section. In this city the temperature remained below zero all night, and to make matters worse the dawn brought a stiff northwest wind. The minimum temperatupre was eight below and at 8 a. m. it was still five below.

Reports from New England stations included Portland, 16 below; Concord, N. H., 16 below; Hartford, 14 below; Burlington, Vt., 24 below, while Nantucket Island resistered 10 above.

Watertown, N. Y., Dec. 31.—The worst cold wave that this section has felt in a score of years continues, the official minimum temperature in this city being 19 below zero early today. Yesterday's minimum was 22 below. The official thermometer has ranged frm 7 to 22 below for the last 84 hours.

## CONLIN & GREEN INC.

On January 1st, Conlin's Paint Store at 70 Elm street, will incorporate under the name of Conlin & Green Inc. The company will consist of James J. Conlin, the founder of the business, who has successfully carried on the business for the past seven years and who is well known in business, fraternal and political circles, the other member of the organization is Frank J. Green, formerly with Harvey Hubbell Inc. in the capacity of purchasing agent and also in the manufacturing department. He is a member of the board of apportionment.

The object of the new incorporation is to permit the extension of the business, among factories and suburban trade, the present quarters of the concern are to be greatly enlarged to meet the needs of this rapidly growing business.

## EMPIRE

When Robert Judson, an expert in criminology, begins to unravel the mystery of "The Devil Stone," in Geraldine Farrar's Artcraft production of that title, he undertakes his investigation with an apparent disinterest in the persons whom he is interviewing while he seems to be deeply absorbed in the scrutiny of a miniature ivory idol on his desk. After a few minutes contemplation, Judson startles his interviewers with an almost uncanny disclosure of circumstances in the investigation which have been revolving in his mind.

The ivory trinket is owned by Cecil DeMille, director general of the Lasky forces, and producer of the picture, who values it at one thousand dollars. "The Devil Stone" will be the attraction at the Empire theatre today and tomorrow.

J. C. Mayers, an officer of a steamer in Halifax at the time of the great explosion there, said he was blown half a mile from his ship.

Farmer Want Ads. One Cent a Word.



## WHAT IS A PRO-GERMAN?

(By Herbert Quick, United States Farm Loan Commissioner.)

A pro-German is a man who, by private or public utterances, stands in the way of a whole-hearted prosecution of this war and the defeat of the German will to conquer.

He may do it by finding fault with the conduct of the war. He may do it by impracticable peace arguments. He may do it through a mistaken policy. He may do it because he is in the pay of the German government. He may do it because he has been befooled and bamboozled by those who are in Germany's pay.

The German will to expansion by conquest must be broken by defeat. If that rapacious will be not broken, the war will not give us peace. In all the history of the world there never existed a conquering nation less fit to rule others than are the Germans. This is true because the German policy is so brutal, so cruel, so scientifically exterminating. In the streets of every town in German Poland children are failing and dying of starvation. Children 8 to 12 years of age are being carried through the streets by their parents because they are too weak to walk—because of starvation. The Poles are being exterminated as fast as the Armenians—the oldest Christian nation in the world—are being exterminated by the Germans and Turks. Why? Because Germany wants the property of the Poles for Germans after the war; and because they want the property of the Armenians for the Turks and Germans after the war.

Their will can and must be broken by defeat. It is not the will of the individual German. It is the bloody, brutal, cruel, devilish will of the German government and the German ruling class, miseducated in the school which believes that war is the summation of human good.

A pro-German is anyone who stands in the way of our successful prosecution of the war. Every word that falls from the tongue of any American or is written by him carries with it a responsibility greater than ever existed in the history of this nation. Look well to what you say or do.

Germany has in this country hundreds of papers printed in the German tongue. Whether this ought to be or not is a grave question. If any of these papers are loyal, I do not know of them. Some of them may be, but I have not heard of them.

These and others papers and many individuals say they are for America, but none of them say they are against Germany.

He who is for us is against Germany. He who is not against Germany, tooth and nail, in this war is not for America.

You can tell the pro-German by another test: If he is against France, or against Italy, or against Russia, he is pro-German.

The armies and navies of these powers are fighting our fight. They are dying by thousands every day to make the world safe for democracy. If we win, we must win because they do most of the fighting and dying, while we only do some of it.

The enemy of Great Britain is pro-German.

The enemy of Russia is pro-German and anti-democratic.

The enemy of Italy is against America.

The enemy of France is lost to every claim of patriotism.

Do not let these pro-Germans poison the atmosphere in your locality by slandering our allies without challenge. It is time to call down the man who fights against our armies with tongue or pen, no matter what flag those armies are fighting under.

Words are things. In such a crisis they are dreadful things, portentous things, things which can not be allowed to pass as of no account.

Germany is penetrating every country of the world with her hired spies and traitors. She disorganized the Russian army through traitors after the revolution. She knew the plan of Russian battle beforehand through traitors. She has filled this country with spies and traitors. She has financed the I. W. W., without a doubt. She has destroyed property and debauched our citizens.

Is there any American who does not long for peace? Not one! Neither is there a Briton or Frenchman or Italian or Russian. But it must not be a German peace, leaving the great spider in the center of his web waiting for another chance. It must be a real peace. It must be made with the German people or with a ruined Hohenzollern—one or the other. But he who talks peace as if he only longs for it, as if he only were commissioned to make peace, must want a different sort of peace from the sort we must have. Distrust him. He may be sincere, but he may not be.

The world has in the past been conquered by traitors—oftener than it was ever conquered by arms. The Mexican people fought each other into slavery to Spain. Let us not be bought by German gold into slavery to Germany.

## WAR INSURANCE FOR LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE OF U. S.

The Treasury Department has advised Secretary Redfield of the Department of Commerce that the personnel of the lighthouse service transferred to the service and jurisdiction of the War and Navy Departments by executive order are within the terms of the war risk insurance act of October 6, 1917.

This decision was rendered by the Bureau of War Risk Insurance, after submitting the matter for the views of the Judge Advocate General of the War Department, and will apply to over 1,100 officers and employes of the lighthouse service who have been transferred to the service of the War and Navy Departments by the President's order.





## RUSSIANS PLAN TO GIVE BACK SEIZED VESSELS

Amsterdam, Dec. 31—Fourteen Austrian steamers seized by the Russians in the course of the war will be restored to their Austrian owners in keeping with an agreement reached at Brest Litovsk, according to a dispatch from Vienna. The total gross tonnage of the steamers is about