

CHRISTMAS HAPPINESS

THE CHRISTMAS festival of all the holidays, appears the one that produces the most real happiness. There are some holidays which are better for sports because the weather is better. There are some which are pervaded with thoughts of patriotism. When Christmas comes, people lay aside their burdens, drop the tenaciousness of the daily struggle, and a spirit of true joy fills the heart.

In the rest of the holidays the prevailing thought is to have a good time. Men and women devote themselves to their customary sports and pastimes, and they please themselves by the wide variety of amusements which American life offers.

Christmas is the one holiday in which there is almost no self-seeking. It is the giving holiday. People stop thinking of themselves or what they can do to please their own desires, and start out to please somebody else. They think of their friends and how they can be made happy. Their pleasure comes not because they have lowered their golf score, or climbed some mountain they had longed to see, but because they have brought happiness into the days of their loved ones, because it gives infinite pleasure to see the children jumping up and down in sheer delight.

The whole show is an exemplification of the principle that it is more blessed to give than to receive. That old saying is commonly looked at as a kind of pious exhortation that is too idealistic to fit into old daily life. The Christmas experience shows that it is really true.

Probably the highest pleasure is given to people when they do things of which someone else gets the benefit. So in the spirit our people enter for a little into harmony with the life of Jesus Christ, who was born on that day and gave his life to the world.

SOUNDS GOOD

THE BOARD of Motion Picture Reviewers has made a point of recommending films that will stress social behavior and idealism of our youth. They desire future pictures to be "powerfully and artistically with the most social problems." There is a step forward in the film field. Great strides have been made to provide the public with fine pictures. There is criticism of the number of state boards of motion picture censorship who suppress films without just cause. The picture industry has its place in forwarding movements, be they of bringing nations closer, of national defense, or influencing the youthful mind. America strengthens her home ties through uniting people in the common bond of amusement and education. Lowell supports the betterment of social conditions and the lifting of American ideals through the film.

THEY GET THERE

OUR SCHOOL children in Lowell are fortunate in their easy access to school. They are protected by safety patrols of students in cities where there is danger in crossing streets and highways. Signs of warning have been put up to help slow down the careless motorist. But in many districts in the U. S. such an easy method for the transportation and protection of the school child is not possible. Perhaps you have not considered that there are other ways of going to school besides on foot or in school buses. Some children still ride horseback despite the popular mythology. In some of the large cities where children live far from the school parents must drive them back and forth and there is a taxi service that charges a school rate and takes the student and brings him home each day, for a considerable fee. In some districts, where homes are scattered through the wide spaces, some perhaps 200 miles from the school, the children live in dormitories which they can't go home to. Dog sleds, seating as high as 40 youngsters, are used in some of the snow-ridden districts. Others go to school in boats. There are a few children who live across a canyon and swing to school in a basket on a cable! But so important is education that we use all manner of ways to see that our nation's children get it.

ROOSEVELT ELECTED

STRANGE as it may seem to many people, Franklin D. Roosevelt was not legally elected president until Monday, December 16. On that date the electors in the 48 states met and cast a majority of ballots for him. Also, Henry A. Wallace was elected vice-president at the same time. The organization of electors, commonly called the electoral college, as originally conceived, consisted of a group of persons chosen by the people whose duty it was to meet and choose a president and vice-president, acting solely on their own initiative and judgment. It was felt that such a group of specially competent persons, using their own wisdom, could do better in making these choices than the people would if left to do the electing themselves. But it was not worked out that way. The people tall the electors at the November election what they have to do, and these electors so appointed meet and cast the ballots which the people ordered at the polls. It is proof that the people are the real rulers in this country, and they prefer to take the electing and governing business into their own hands.

Member When

The ambition of the average small boy had just about reached its height when he was permitted to march in a parade and help the bass drummer carry his drum? Spruce chewing gum could be bought at the stores in little sticks? At first it was not wrapped but later was wrapped in red, white and blue paper.

Advertising is "bread cast upon the waters."

Municipal Plant Had Beginning Here in 1895

Village Council Divided And Many Afraid of Issuing Bonds

The article in last week's Ledger reciting the fact that the Lowell Common Council in special session last week Wednesday night, had voted four to two to buy another Diesel engine for the Lowell Municipal Plant at a cost of about \$72,000, brings to mind the fact that in years gone by, the Common Council had held some interesting sessions, especially at the time the Village was considering the matter of establishing and owning its own municipal plant.

From the files of the Ledger, issue of Dec. 13, 1895-45 years ago this month—we find that the Common Council had held an extremely hot session regarding the proposal. The article reveals that the Council was divided, three for and three against, and that Chris Bergin, who was then serving as village president, was called upon to cast the deciding vote on more than one motion or resolution in connection with the matter.

The Council at that time was composed of Dexter G. Look, J. Edmond Lee and C. C. Winegar, who favored the new plant and Edgar R. Collar, Reuben Quick and Arvine P. Hunter, who were against the proposition. President Chris Bergin's deciding vote was in favor of the proposal. The passing of time reminds us that of the councilmen who wrestled with this problem 45 years ago, all have passed to the Great Beyond with the exception of Mr. Bergin who is still well and active and serving as village assessor.

In the Beginning

The story of the Common Council discussion 45 years ago as revealed by the Ledger makes most interesting reading as those proceedings led up to the beginning of Lowell's Municipal plant, which has carried on through all the intervening years for the advancement of the community. But to go back to a few of the highlights of those early day proceedings:

"Special meeting of the Common Council of the Village of Lowell, Dec. 9, 1895. "Roll Call. Present, Trustees Look, Lee, Collar, Winegar, Quick, Hunter."

"Meeting called for the purpose of hearing the report of the committee appointed to make estimate of the cost and expense of purchasing and constructing works for an electric plant."

"The committee begs leave to submit the following estimate of cost complete: "Cost of site, \$4,175.00; Cost of dam, wheel house and wheel, \$4,833.50; cost of shafting gear, etc., \$700.00; power house, wall, foundation, etc., 20 x 35, \$607.00; electrical equipment complete (giving 60 ac. 750 incandescents and 100 h. p.), \$10,887.50; allowance for incidentals, \$2,000.00; total, \$23,123.10."

"Report respectfully submitted.—D. G. Look, C. C. Winegar, E. R. Collar."

"Trustees Hunter moved that the report be laid on the table for one week."

"Yeas and nays voted called for by Look."

"Lost. Yeas, Collar, Quick, Hunter; Nays, Look, Lee, Winegar, and Bergin."

"Trustees Lee moved that the report of the committee be accepted and adopted. Yeas and nays called for. Carried. Yeas, Look, Lee, Winegar and Bergin; Nays, Collar, Quick, Hunter."

"Trustees Quick entered protest against the vote of the president on the above motion."

"Trustee Look presented the following resolution and moved that it be accepted and adopted. "Resolved, That the question of raising the necessary amount to wit, the sum of \$23,000 for the purpose of purchasing property and constructing works for supplying the village and the inhabitants thereof or either with electric or other lights be submitted to the electors of the village at a special election to be called by the council for that purpose as provided by the charter of the village."

"Adopted. Yeas and nays voted called for. Yeas, Look, Lee, Winegar, Bergin; Nays, Collar, Quick, Hunter."

"Trustees Look presented the following resolution and moved that it be accepted and adopted. "Resolved, by the council that a special election be and the same is hereby appointed to be held at Train's opera house hall in the village of Lowell on the 20th day of December, A. D., 1895."

"Yeas, Look, Lee, Winegar, Bergin; Nays, Collar, Quick, Hunter. "The president appointed as electors, commissioners W. Weekes, W. R. Blaisdell, M. M. Perry."

"Council meeting notice was signed by A. W. Burnett, clerk."

Against the Lighting Plant

The following excerpts are from a letter regarding the proposition in the Ledger signed by "W. J. A.": "I do not endorse the scheme to bond our village for lighting plant. Our burdens are already too heavy. Poverty, want and suffering starts many of us in the face and yet there are some that sit in our council that do not seem to care whether we prosper or are depressed, whether we stand up or fall down, survive or perish. Our business men and our laboring men feel the burden of the time in this time. Business may suffer, labor may fall in vain for work, but the taxes have to be paid or our wives and children must

leave their homes. Let us kick against the bonds and if possible keep kicking until the scheme is kicked into that place where we do not want to go. The scheme will be presented to you with a glove of velvet but inside is a hand of steel that will crush you into the dust. You cannot dodge the tax collector. Let us wait."

For the Lighting Plant

The following is from a letter to the Ledger signed by "M. M. P.": "The two honorable councilmen who are objecting most vigorously to a municipal plant claim that a plant cannot be built for less than \$40,000, while the committee appointed to investigate the probable cost, reported last Monday evening that a plant can be put in complete for less than \$22,000, as their report in this edition of your paper will show. We for several reasons believe that it is the duty of all electors of the village, who wish to see growth and prosperity in our village, to deposit their ballots, December 20, for bonding the village. After the vote is carried as we sincerely believe it will be, then the council can receive bids and if the plant can be built for \$23,000, or less, then issue bonds and go ahead."

"With a profit of \$2,550 yearly the plant will pay for itself in less than ten years. We have, within the last two months, observed what an organized corporation would compel us to pay for lights and power if they had us in their power, to wit, \$75 and should we contract with them at \$50 as now offered, and let our options on Flat River pass out of our hands, where would we find ourselves at the expiration of our contract? Perfectly helpless. Shall we let this chance slip? No! No! No!!! We are creditably informed that a party or parties in behalf of the present corporation have already made proposition for options to the same power we now have, in case we do not hold and occupy them."

Light or No Light

Quotations from another letter, signed "A Citizen" are as follows: "Light or no light. That is the question agitating the people of our village. We have no doubt and will not stop to argue the question that all or nearly all our citizens are in favor of some kind of artificial light for our village nights."

"Does anyone suppose or believe that any private corporation or company will furnish us lights without a profit? It follows as a matter of fact that by owning and operating our own plant, we save any and all profits."

"Now we claim that by the estimate that has been made, our village by paying this same amount annually that it has paid the last two years for lights, it can in ten years own its own plant, machinery and pay all running expenses and own and control the entire business to say nothing about supplying others with power, who might be induced to settle among us and engage in different kinds of enterprises where power is needed."

"The total assessed valuation of Real and Personal property of our village the last year was \$462,445. The total taxes levied upon this amount was \$6,067.50. The amount of tax paid during same time for electric lights was \$1,747.52, estimated amount paid by private persons for light at \$1,500 and estimated amount paid by private persons at \$500 and we have the annual sum paid \$3,747.52. This in ten years would amount to the sum of \$37,475.20. Take from this amount \$23,000, which is more than estimated cost of entire proposed works and we have a balance of \$14,475.20 or \$1,447.52, annually for repairs and running expenses."

"One consideration which we think of more importance than all others should be mentioned. That is if the village should allow this opportunity to pass to secure this plant, it will hereafter always be dependent and at the mercy of others, or have to resort to steam for power, which all know adds largely to the expense. Now is the time and the accepted time to secure our salvation upon the electric question. Let it not be said of us that we have snatched away the day of grace."

The Proposal Carries

In the special election for voting on the proposed bond issue, 431 votes were cast with 363 in favor and 68 against.



Christmas in the Old-time American Spirit

Good Will Toward Men

Some anniversary and one alone belongs to all the world. Each nation has holidays which celebrate its heroes and important events in its history.

But these are of human origin and are transcended by one event that is celebrated by all nations. Only once a year the whole earth echoes with tidings of joy sung by all peoples.

Ever since the Virgin Mother laid her baby in its manger deep in Bethlehem, Christmas has been God's gift to every home, the equal possession of all mankind. The day comes this year to a confused world which will receive the greeting of a Merry Christmas with eager hearts. It is at this season that we renew the hope for "peace on earth, good will toward men."

Christmas brings within the reach of men and women everywhere the blessings which no change of time or circumstances can take away. It lifts the eyes of men from worldly trials to the vision of a Living Christ, newborn at this time; it lifts man's mind to the knowledge of God's love. It brings us to that neighborly love which the small town and rural community best typifies today.

This newspaper, which has served this community with neighborly tidings, extends to you all the sincere wishes for a very Merry Christmas.

World-Famed Play Coming to Lowell Farmers' Week Set For Feb. 3-7

The "Passion Play," or "Life of Christ," is veritably a treasured heritage of the ages, to all Christian people, whose faith is anchored in the resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth. The dramatic versions given periodically in Europe, at Oberammergau and Freiburg, are visited by hundreds of thousands of Christian people, from all sections of the world, at enormous expense.

The public of Lowell is to be given the rare opportunity of seeing the world-famous "Passion Play" motion picture, based upon, and patterned after, both Freiburg and Oberammergau productions, and actually produced in Europe, the Holy Land, and Egypt, with special organ and choral music, on sound equipment, depicting many famous scenes in the Life, Crucifixion and Resurrection of Jesus, at the First Methodist Church, on Friday, Dec. 27, at 7:30 p. m. Every ticket is invited, and admission tickets are not necessary. A silver offering will be taken to assist in paying expenses.

Those who have attended in recent years and haven't been able to see the great evening educational and entertainment programs will have better opportunity to get in this year. These programs are scheduled for Tuesday and Thursday nights in the new field house. Additional programs are planned by the athletic, music and drama departments to take care of any crowd overflows.

Council Applies For WPA Project

The village council approved a WPA project last Thursday which will include 21 blocks of sewer, 9 blocks of curbs, gutters and blacktopping, at a total cost of \$58,400, out of which the village's share would be \$14,815. This project, if approved by Washington, will be carried on throughout the present winter and coming summer. Money for the village share will come from rented equipment and road money from the state. On account of shortage of WPA labor it is planned to use a mechanical ditch digger that will speed up the work considerably.

The streets to be curbed and blacktopped are: Elm St., 3 blocks; Chatham St., 1 block; Elizabeth St., 3 blocks; Broadway, 1 block; Hudson St., 1 block. The streets to have sewers are as follows: Suffolk, 3 blocks; Mercer, 3 blocks; Howard, 3 blocks; Kent, 2 blocks; Jefferson, N., 2 blocks; Jefferson, S., 1 block; Front, 1 block; Washington, N., 1 block; 3 blocks across lots on south side of East Main St.; Spring, 1 block; Vergennes Rd., 1 block. Another part of the project includes 50 blocks of sidewalk which would be installed for anyone in the village who would furnish the gravel and cement, the village to furnish the labor.

Classified ads bring results. Try one and be convinced.

Along Main Street

A home town thought: A good number of new residents have come into Lowell during 1940. Have their neighbors and all who have met them, done everything possible to make them feel at home?

The streets of Lowell have been a pretty sight during the holiday shopping season. In the picture created by decorated stores and homes it has been a pleasure to see the enthusiastic and happy people, who have found satisfaction in buying at the good stores of our community.

The first steps in connection with the establishment of a Lowell municipal plant were taken just 45 years ago this month. The story of the plant's inception as taken from the files of the Ledger is reprinted in this issue and makes interesting reading today. Be sure to read the old arguments and some of the dire predictions as to what would happen to the town if it voted for the \$23,000 bonding issue.

Looks as though Staal's Lunch was going modern, the long counter which has seen 22 years of service there having been replaced by a handsome new piece of furniture with a shiny top. The old lunch counter had quite a history. For nearly 30 years before coming in to Mr. Staal's possession, it was used in various local saloons. It was called a bar then and had a genuine mahogany top and a brass foot rail adorned in front. That was back in the days when Carrie Nation was wrecking saloon furniture. Wonder how many hamburgers and wedges of pie have been eaten at that counter during the past 22 years?

Jokes, jests, jabs and jibes just by Jeff: A friend is a very close acquaintance who has never tried to borrow money from you. A fortunate people, who can pet their dogs without figuring they might come to eat them. A wife sticks to you through thick and thin, and often enough she has been the cause of the thick part. What is world coming to. They report a lack of soda clerks in American drug stores. We wonder what the world coming to. They report a that used to cure all ailments. We often stop and wonder whatever has become of the old-fashioned people.

Silas Onlooker's Philosophy: One could not ask for a greater happiness, than to be able to sincerely say and mean, "Merry Christmas!"

Mrs. Opal Fineis Passes Suddenly

The holiday season was saddened for the friends, relatives and former neighbors of Mrs. Opal Fineis, 28, who passed away in Blodgett hospital, Grand Rapids, last Saturday following a short illness. Funeral services were held at ten o'clock Tuesday morning at the home in Hastings, the Rev. R. M. Barkadale of the Lowell Congregational church officiating. Burial was made in Bowne Center cemetery.

Mrs. Fineis was born the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Dintaman and had lived a good share of her lifetime in Alto. Following her graduation from Alto schools, she attended the Alba Beauty Academy in Grand Rapids. She had lived in Lowell with her husband, Gerald Fineis and their daughter, Sally. The family moved to Hastings only last July.

Men Finding Jobs In Private Industry

During the two weeks ending Dec. 14, the Michigan State Employment Service in Grand Rapids filled 327 jobs in private industry, leaving the active file at 8,512, a drop of 25% below this date a year ago. Benedict H. McGinn, manager of the local office, has announced. In the two weeks under consideration, the Employment Service also made 180 field visits to employers in an effort to locate jobs and received 475 original and 1,419 renewed applications for work from the unemployed.

Provisions of Wage-Hour Law

This is one of a series of articles presented in cooperation with the Wage and Hour Division, U. S. Department of Labor, describing the purposes and provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act.

General Coverage

Three general classifications of workers are covered by the Fair Labor Standards Act, also known as the Wage-Hour Law. They are: 1. Employees engaged in interstate trade, transportation or communication, such as persons employed in telephone, telegraph, radio, express, bus and trucking industries; warehouse employees and others who are an essential part of the stream of interstate commerce.

2. Employees engaged in the production of goods that move across state lines, such as employees of mining, manufacturing, processing or distributing establishments.

3. Employees engaged in occupations necessary to the production, mining or handling of goods which cross state lines, such as watchmen, stenographers, elevator operators, cleaners and others. "Goods" are defined in the Act as "articles or subjects of commerce and character." "Goods" include publications, pamphlets, or any other written materials. Accordingly, employees engaged in the collection and dissemination of information which is transmitted to other states in the form of publications, pamphlets or any other written materials are engaged in the production of goods for commerce even though the actual work of printing may be done by independent printing establishments. Typically this would apply to employees of organizations such as trade associations and research and compilation services.

(Additional information may be obtained by writing to or calling at the office of the Wage and Hour Division, 728 Standard Bldg., Cleveland; 348 Federal Bldg., Detroit; 211 Rowland Bldg., Columbus; 1312 Traction Bldg., Cincinnati; Room 2, Central Station Postoffice Bldg., Toledo.)

A New Column in the Ledger

With this issue the Ledger begins publishing a new feature, entitled "Grassroots" by Wright A. Patterson. The editor recommends the column to every Ledger reader. It is packed with ordinary "horse sense" interesting common-sense comment, authoritative, clarifying, sound, tempered by the perspective of a half a century of experience in the journalism of small town and rural America.

"Grassroots will be no ordinary column, because Patterson is no ordinary columnist! It has the ripe understanding of social, political and community problems which the years have brought to its editor. He is able to command a sweeping view of rural as well as metropolitan America, and to draw upon a wealth of reminiscence that will make his column doubly interesting and valuable.

Mr. Patterson is noted for candor of statement and sanity of outlook. The column will bring to our readers a more complete understanding of the role of the small town and the rural community in our national life. A thoroughly reliable and highly readable column by a fact-digging reporter.

Turn now to "Grassroots" which will be found in another column.

To Hold Open House On Golden Wedding

Mr. and Mrs. George Golds of Keene-tp. will celebrate their golden wedding anniversary on New Year's day with a family dinner and open house on Dec. 31 from 2:00 to 5:00 in the afternoon and 7:00 to 9:00 in the evening.

George Golds and Floy Wilkinson were married at the old Wilkinson farm in Keene by the Rev. Morris Townsend on New Year's eve, Dec. 31, 1890. Four children were born to this union, Myrtle being deceased. They have two other daughters, Mrs. Ulah Moore of Keene and Mrs. Russell Sterken of Grand Rapids and one son, Brayton of Lowell; nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

With the exception of seven years in the village of Lowell, Mr. and Mrs. Golds have always resided in Keene-tp.

Haner Opens New Flower Store Here

F. Earle Haner announces the opening of a new flower store here which will be operated in connection with his novelty line at 217 E. Main-st.

Mr. Haner states that the flower store will specialize in cut flowers and floral pieces for weddings and funerals, also a good selection of potted plants of all kinds. Telephone orders received and prompt delivery service.

More Room for Farmers' Week

Kent county farmers who plan to attend the annual Farmers' Week Program in February will be glad to know that the Michigan State College building program, that has been in progress the past few years will relieve the congestion of crowds particularly at evening programs.

The new college auditorium will be ready for use. Afternoon program will be held there with potato, grain and horticultural exhibits in the basement.

Demonstration Hall will be used for turkey and chicken exhibits with the tan back area housing a farm machinery show.

The evening educational meetings have been scheduled for Tuesday, and Thursday evenings in the new Jenison field house. Overflow crowds from these programs will find additional entertainment in the building.

The annual banquets for crop-growers, stock raisers and other groups will be held on Wednesday night.

Dairy breed associations will hold their meetings as usual on Monday. Dates for the annual Farmers' Week are February 3 to the 7th.

Christmas and Agriculture

In celebrating the Christmas season, and the birth of the Christ Child, we sometimes wonder how many folks realize the close relationship of this event and agriculture. The Shepherds, their flocks, and the manger are all so closely interwoven in the Bethlehem event nearly 2,000 years ago.

Precultivating industry of those countries. Wealth was measured in terms of herds, flocks and lands. Both the old and new testaments contain a full description of the agriculture of that time which in many places hasn't changed much to this day.

Services Tuesday for Mrs. Agnes Condon

Funeral services were held on Tuesday at the Alton Church for Mrs. Agnes R. Condon, 75, who passed away Saturday at her home on West Main-st., following an illness of some time. The Rev. R. M. Barkadale officiated at the services and burial was made in the family lot in Alton cemetery.

Obituary Sketch

Agnes R. Vandenberg was born February 14, 1862, the daughter of Rochus and Sophia Vandenberg, with a twin brother, Tommy who died in infancy.

She was united in marriage with William T. Condon on April 2, 1877 and following their marriage lived on a farm in Vergennes until 1913, when they moved to Lowell where they had since resided. Eight children, six boys and two girls, were born to this union, three dying in infancy, one at the age of eight and a daughter, Mabel in 1933. Mr. and Mrs. Condon happily celebrated their 50th and 60th wedding anniversaries, the latter in 1937. Mr. Condon died on January 15, 1939.

Surviving are three sons, Thomas L., Claud C., William H.; 13 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

The sincere sympathy of Mrs. Condon's many friends and neighbors is extended to the bereaved family.

Strand Calendar

Thursday, Dec. 26—"Meet the Wild Cat" with Margaret Lindsay and Ralph Bellamy. Added feature also to be put on your must see list, "One Million B.C." with Carole Landis, Lon Chaney, Jr. and John Hubbard. See this picture reproduced here and enjoy it.

Friday and Saturday, Dec. 27-28—"Knute Rockne" with Pat O'Brien, Gale Page and Donald Crisp and Ronald Reagan. Added feature, "Father Is a Prince" with Grant Mitchell and Nana Bryant; also News.

Sunday and Monday, Dec. 29-30—"Boom Town" with Clark Gable, Spencer Tracy, Hedy LaMarr and Claudette Colbert; also News and March of Time. Note: No Screen on Tuesday, Dec. 31.

Wednesday, Jan. 1—"Dancing on a Dime" with Grace McDonald and Robert Paige. Added feature, "Blondie Plays Cupid" with Arthur Lake and Penny Singleton; also News.

Thursday, Jan. 2—"Fugitive" with Ralph Richardson and Diana Wynward. Added feature, "The Villain Still Pursued Her" with Anita Louise and Richard Cromwell and Buster Keaton.

Classified ads bring results. Try

Add To Your Christmas Joy
 Wonderful Motion Picture with Sound Music
"THE LIFE OF CHRIST"
 From the Nativity to the Ascension
 Filmed in Europe, the Holy Land and Egypt
Methodist Church, Friday, Dec. 27
 7:30 p. m. Silver Offering

Hay Land Uses Depend on Need

"Hay and pasture on the average Michigan farm occupy more than half the land, yet get least attention and return lowest yields."
 That's a statement for a winter-long argument between statistical experts and those engaged in the problems of growing crops for feeding livestock.
 In the latter class belongs H. C. Rather, head of the Michigan State College farm crops department. Being practical, he admits that much of the state's pasture and haylands return some of the lowest incomes, largely because they occupy some of the poorest fields. Perhaps this is the best use for these poor type soils so that the soil stays tied down, he says.
 Improve what is needed of hay and pasture lands, suggests Rather, with the comment that the acreage improved should be in line with the quantity of livestock on the farm.
 For farmers who frequently purchase feed there would be economy in fertilizing and improving sufficient acreage to increase forage for hay, pasture and perhaps grass silage.
 It's true, says Rather, that if hay and pasture are to be the good income crops that they can be, good land and good farming practices are necessary. High yielding legumes and other forage crops, he says, need the same attention given to the best cash crops. When given this attention on comparable soil, forage and pasture crops are capable of producing as great an income as most tilled crops.

FALLSBURG & VICINITY
 Mrs. Wesley Miller

The Fallsburg school Christmas program was attended by a large crowd and all enjoyed the excellent manner in which the children performed their various parts. We are sure the children and their teacher, Miss Inez Frazee will enjoy their well earned two weeks of vacation.
 Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Lave Garfield were Mr. and Mrs. Baseline of Ionia and Mary Jones and Charles Foreman.
 Harry Vaughan, Jr. arrived home from Camp Beauregard, La. Monday for a holiday vacation. Gladys Vaughan will be at home until after Jan. 1.
 Sunday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Bradley, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Stauffer and son Richard and Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Tate and son Dean Trishler.
 Mrs. Emiel Stauffer came home last week Thursday from her weeks' stay with her daughter, Mrs. Pete Edinger and new grandson Donald Lee. Mrs. Edinger and baby are getting along nicely, her sister Mrs. Tom Chalmers and baby have been spending the week with them.
 Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Miller were entertained at a four-course dinner at the Plantation, north of Grand Rapids, by Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Boynton last Friday evening, the occasion being the 25th wedding anniversary of the two couples.
 Mr. and Mrs. Dave Garfield entertained Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Bradley to an oyster supper at their home Saturday evening, honoring the birthdays of Mr. Garfield and Mr. Bradley.
 Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Vaughan were Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Funk and Mrs. Rininger of Grand Rapids.
 Sunday callers of Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Miller and family were Mr. and Mrs. Walter Tower and children.

Welcome 1941 From Night to Dawn . . .
New Year's Eve Party
 Noisemakers Coniatti
 Balloons
\$1.00 PER COUPLE
 MAKE YOUR RESERVATION EARLY
RIVERVIEW INN

SEASON'S GREETINGS

Clara, Ed, Bruce and Lee

This and That From Around the Old Town

Erhard Nielsen of Ft. Collins, Colo., is a guest at the Art Hill home.
 Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Sweet of Ionia were Sunday callers at the Clyde Collar home.
 C. L. Curtiss and Mrs. W. H. Eno of Flint spent Friday with Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Washburn.
 Mr. and Mrs. Charles West are spending their holiday with their son and family at Flint.
 Mr. and Mrs. Lester Ross of Cass City are spending this week with Mr. and Mrs. Gus Wingerler.
 Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Plumb of Grand Rapids were Sunday dinner guests of Mrs. Fred Malcolm and Abby.
 Barbara and Sonny Washburn are spending a few days this week with their grandmother Wingerler at Alto.
 Mrs. Margaret Staal is spending some time with her daughter and husband, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Rivett in Detroit.
 Mrs. Minnie Johnson was called to Orono last week Friday by the sudden death of her aunt, Mrs. Effie DeVost.
 Mr. and Mrs. Bert M. Purchase and son are spending Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Hubbard in Grand Rapids.
 Miss Jacqueline Day of M. S. C. East Lansing, is spending the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Day.
 Mr. and Mrs. Martin Houseman and family are to be guests on Christmas of Mr. and Mrs. DeYoung in Grand Rapids.
 Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Runciman and Carlton, Jr., are spending Christmas with Mrs. Runciman's sisters at Saginaw.
 Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Hatch are spending Christmas with their son and family, Mr. and Mrs. George Hatch in Saranac.
 Mr. and Mrs. Orval E. Jessup and son are spending from Wednesday until Friday with Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Jessup in Rockford.
 Mr. and Mrs. Harry L. Briggs and children and Mrs. Howard Sur are spending Christmas with the H. J. Taylor family in Grand Rapids.
 Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Morse and daughter, Cecily of St. Louis, Mo. were guests of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Morse on Monday.
 Guests one day last week of Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Wadsworth were Mr. and Mrs. George Wingerler of Ionia and their daughter Ruth of M. S. C.
 George Gofredsen of the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, is spending the Christmas holiday with his parents, Dr. and Mrs. H. P. Gofredsen.
 Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Fryover and daughter Bernice of Portland and A. Shinnelberger of Crystal were Sunday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Fryover.
 Earl Doyle of Thompsonville is spending this week with his father, Benis Doyle and Rev. Thomas Doyle of Lanark, Ill., is spending a few days with his father.
 Mrs. C. H. Horn and daughter, Mary and son, Cas Horn and family of Lansing are to be guests of the J. W. Fryermuth's near Morse Lake for Christmas dinner.
 Guests for Christmas of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. P. Law will be their daughter and husband, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Young of Battle Creek and their son, Lyle of Lansing.
 The Misses Kathryn Schneider of Saginaw and Ardis Schneider of Ad. Pleasant are spending the Christmas holidays with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Schneider.
 Guests of Mrs. Elmer Pletcher and family for Christmas will be Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Roth and daughter Nancy of Vickeryville and Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Pletcher of Ionia.
 Christmas guests of Mr. and Mrs. Bert Sinclair will be Mr. and Mrs. Dan Sinclair and sons, Dan and Don of Flint, Mrs. Lulu Mackley of Grand Rapids and Gila Sinclair of Belding.
 Mr. and Mrs. Russell Carr of Lansing and Frank Carr of Chicago are spending Christmas with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Carr. Frank will remain for a few days' visit.
 Wesley Althaus of Traverse City spent a few days last week with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Althaus. Miss Ernestine Althaus of Kalamazoo is spending the holiday vacation with her parents.
 Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Washburn and Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Shear were Sunday callers of Mrs. Washburn's sister, Mrs. O. T. Hogar of Grand Rapids who has been quite ill and found her very slightly improved.
 The many friends of Mrs. L. W. Rutherford, who has been a patient in Stodgett hospital for about a week, will be glad to learn that on Monday was reported as somewhat improved.
 Miss Margaret Lalley of Grand Rapids, Jack Lalley of Dowagiac, William Lalley of the University of Michigan and Robert Lalley of Leeper are all spending their Christmas vacation with their mother, Mrs. John Lalley.
 Mr. and Mrs. George Ingersoll of Cascade entertained at a Christmas breakfast last Friday morning for Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Gould, Mrs. Linda Loucky and their house guests, Mrs. Don Powell and son, Leo of Toledo, Ohio.
 Mr. and Mrs. Fred Kenyon of Grand Rapids were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Burke Kenyon. Mr. Kenyon and evening visitors were Miss Jerry Atkinson and Burt Kenyon of Grand Rapids and Mr. and Mrs. Howard Newton of Hastings.

HICKORY CORNERS
 Mrs. Ethel Yelter

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Yelter spent Sunday with their aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Claude Loring and daughter, Mable of LaBarge.
 Miss Pauline Yelter spent Sunday with her mother, Mrs. Ethel Yelter and sons.
 Kenneth Yelter spent Saturday afternoon with Junior and Bobby Lacey and accompanied them to Lowell Saturday evening and attended the show.
 Mrs. Charles and John Timpon and children of Alto, Mrs. Paul Hillton, Mrs. Bob Yelter and Mrs. Marvin Huver and children called on Mrs. Frank Transue of Mapee district Wednesday afternoon.
 Mr. and Mrs. Frank Transue spent Thursday in Grand Rapids.
 Mrs. Ethel Yelter and sons Edward and Kenneth and Mrs. Ila Yelter attended the Christmas exercises at the Morse Lake school Thursday evening.
 Kenneth Yelter spent Friday with Leslie and Arnold Hoag of Morse Lake.
 Mrs. Robert Yelter entertained Mrs. Chas and John Timpon and children of Alto, Mrs. Marvin Huver and children and Mrs. Frank Transue and sons of Mapee district and Mrs. Paul Hillton to a 4 o'clock tea last Friday afternoon.
 Mr. and Mrs. Joe Schwab of South Boston entertained their cousins, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Yelter and Harold Schwab and Miss Beulah Kain of Clarkville last Saturday evening.
 Mr. and Mrs. Joe Schwab of South Boston called at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Yelter Sunday morning.
 Mrs. Ethel Yelter and daughter, Miss Pauline and Mrs. Ila Yelter accompanied Mrs. Letha Blough of Clarkville to Grand Rapids last Thursday.
 Edward and Kenneth Yelter attended the show in Lowell Sunday evening.
 Mr. and Mrs. Bob Yelter called on their grandmother, Mrs. Lucy Duell at the home of Mrs. Jennie Yelter Tuesday evening.
 Just as a traveler was writing his name on the register of a Leavenworth hotel, a bedbug appeared and took its way across the page. The man paused and remarked:
 "I've been bit by St. Joe fleas, bitten by Kansas City spiders, and interviewed by Fort Scott gray-backs; but I'll be darned if I was ever in a place before where the bedbugs looked over the hotel register to find out where your room was."
 An Epitaph
 "Here lies the body of William Jay, who died maintaining the right of way.
 He was right, dead right, as he sped along.
 But he's just as dead as if he were wrong."
 An Argentine actor is gaining a large following in Uruguay and his motion pictures always attract crowds.
 Guests for Christmas of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Althaus will be Mr. and Mrs. John Burgess of Battle Creek, Dr. and Mrs. C. W. Perry and daughter and Miss Ann Althaus of Kalamazoo. Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Welch of Grand Rapids and Frederick Althaus and family of Lowell.
 Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Gould drove to Lansing Sunday where they were met by Gould Rivette, who returned home with them, remaining until Tuesday when he left for St. Johns, N. E. Canada, where he will spend the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Court, and sister, Zeona Rivette.
 Among the National Guards who arrived in Grand Rapids Sunday night are the following ones from Dewell: Lawrence Armstrong, Roland Acheson, Jerry Wood, and George and Adelbert Simington. The boys are spending Christmas with their parents and will return to Camp Beauregard, La., on Dec. 31.
 President Rudolph VanDyke of the State Savings Bank returned Monday from St. Mary's hospital where he had been under observation for two or three days following an attack of acute indigestion. He is recovering nicely and expects to be about as usual within a couple of days.
 Wm. Christiansen, Jr., and Hugh Young arrived here Monday morning from Glendale, Calif., to spend the Christmas holiday with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Christiansen, Sr., and Mr. and Mrs. Kenyon. The boys are studying Christmas seasonals in Glendale and plan to return there next week.

Coming Events

"The Life of Christ" in films will be shown at the Methodist Church Friday, Dec. 27, at 7:30. Everyone is invited. There is no admission.
 Dance at South Boston Saturday night. Bollock's Orchestra. Everybody welcome.
 Euchre party sponsored by Rebekah Lodge Friday evening, Dec. 27. Everyone invited.
 The New Year's Eve party for the South Lowell Extension members and their families will be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Anton Wingerler.
 The next regular meeting of the Child Study Club will be held Monday evening, Dec. 30, at the home of Mrs. Carl Fryermuth.
 The date of the annual dinner of the Vergennes cooperative Club is Jan. 2, 1943. The place is Lone Pine Inn, 7:00 o'clock. The husbands will be guests of honor. All come and be prepared to answer roll call.

Up and Down

Kent County Roads
 (Continued from page 1)
 Nest Eggs for College
 More than a third of the students enrolled in agriculture and home economics in the Land Grant Colleges are former members of 4-H Clubs, boys and girls. The club programs of "learning by doing" stimulate ambition to learn more under formal instruction. Extension workers have observed, also they help to make college courses possible. Thousands of 4-H Club members have adopted the habit of saving the proceeds of their 4-H activities, turning them into the kind of nest eggs from which college courses can hatch, with or without the supplementary aid of parents. Some club members manage to finance college completely with savings and current earnings. Others are able to make a start that encourages parents to help along when help is needed.

Record Tree Planting

Michigan farmers set a record for tree planting this past year. According to figures from the forestry department at Michigan State College, 5,200,000 seedlings were sold to farmers, schools and communities. Add to this 1,200,000 sold to the same groups by the Department of Conservation.
 School forests now number 200 in the state. They planted about one million trees.
 Ten counties planted 50 per cent of all these seedlings.

Experimental Pollen Trap

A chap on the west coast was curious about how many loads of pollen bees carried each day. A pollen trap was devised to estimate the number of loads brought back to the hive.
 From February 15 to November 1, one colony averaged nearly 8,000 visits to a tray of about 23 of a million blossoms visited each day. One day during apple blossom time this colony brought in 29,000 loads of pollen or made visits to 2 1/2 million apple blossoms.

6,000,000 NEW JOBS
 DURING THE NEXT YEAR

In the coming months our defense program will create new jobs more quickly than ever before in the history of the Nation. Not only more actual defense jobs and factory jobs but all kinds of work will be created.
 Lyle M. Spencer, famous employment authority, tells why in an article everyone should read. Watch for it in This Week, the color-garage magazine with next Sunday's Detroit News.
 On sale at Christiansen's or phone for delivery.

P & P Bridge Club

The P & P Bridge Club held their Christmas party last Thursday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Roth. Santa Claus bridge gifts were given to Mrs. Clyde Collar, Art Hill and L. O. Altenburger.
 Your eyeglass is priceless. Arrange for a thorough eye examination by Dr. Paul Stammen, optometrist since 1902, at Kent Jewelry Store any Saturday.

2228 PEOPLE LOST THEIR RIGHT TO DRIVE LAST YEAR

Protect yourself with insurance.
 Call 357
H. J. RITTENGER, Agt.
 LOWELL, MICHIGAN

STRAND
 FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, DEC. 25-26

YOU'LL WANT TO KISS 'EM - AND KISS 'EM!
 A MENU TO REMEMBER!
 "MATE ROCKNE" AN AMERICAN PAT O'BRIEN
 LATEST NEWS
 with GRANT MITCHELL, MAMA BRYANT, JOHN LITEL, GEO. NEEVES-JAN CLAYTON
 SUNDAY, MONDAY AND TUESDAY, DEC. 28-30-31

GABLE TRACY LOIBERT LAMARR
BOOM TOWN

MARCH OF TIME - NEWS
 WEDNESDAY ONLY
HAPPY NEW YEAR
DANCING ON A DIME
 and
BLONDIE PLAYS CUPID

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«Announcement»
HAVING taken over the store formerly known as Coles' Candyland, we wish to take this opportunity of extending to the people of this community an invitation to call and see us and get acquainted.
 We intend to conduct a first-class
Confectionery Store
 and Ice Cream Store
 A full line of candies, cigars, cigarettes and tobaccos, popular magazines and newspapers.
New, Fresh Stock
Mr. and Mrs. Lorenzo Parsons
 Phone 9101 Proprietors 113 E. Main
 Public Telephone Booth

BAILEY CORNERS NEWS
 Mrs. Adelbert Odell

The Vergennes Co-operative Club will hold their annual party at Lone Pine Inn on Thursday, Jan. 2nd at 7:00 o'clock. All members planning to attend, please make reservations with Mrs. Bailey or the committee by Monday, Dec. 31.
 Mr. and Mrs. M. B. McPherson spent Saturday evening with Mr. and Mrs. Russell Davis of Lansing. Ralph Roth who is attending M. S. C. at Lansing is home for the Christmas vacation.
 Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gross spent Tuesday afternoon and evening in Grand Rapids.
 Church services which were held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Ford were well attended. About 35 were present and enjoyed a period of hymn singing and the splendid sermon by the pastor. After the service, Mrs. M. B. McPherson, in behalf of those who were there, presented Rev. Ratcliffe with a Christmas donation of farm goodies, in appreciation of his splendid work and interest in the Vergennes Church. Next Sunday the services will be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Roth.
 The Fred Ryder family are getting nicely settled in the Odell tenant houses.
 Mr. and Mrs. Theo Bailey spent Tuesday in Grand Rapids.
 The Bennett school closed Friday for Xmas vacation with a dinner for the parents and children. A fine program arranged by the teacher, Miss Tiffany, was given. A Christmas tree and gift exchange was enjoyed by all.
 Miss Marian Roth is home for the Christmas vacation. The Roth family are having their usual Christmas dinner Tuesday evening. Twin girls, weighing 5-lbs. each, were born Thursday to Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Francisco.
 The many friends of Mrs. Carl James will be glad to know that she is home from the hospital.
 Mr. and Mrs. Sam Ryder spent Monday in Grand Rapids.
 Lester Bailey's school closed on Friday for a two weeks' vacation.
 Mr. and Mrs. Merritt Miller of Lowell called on Mrs. Alice Gott at Lone Pine Inn Sunday.

ALTON-VERGENNES
 Mrs. Clyde Condon

Greetings to our Editor and his staff of helpers at this holiday season.
 Alton school had their program Friday evening.
 Mrs. Clare Culver will spend Christmas in Wisconsin at the home of a sister, where her father is visiting and has been ill there.
 Mr. and Mrs. Peterson spent overnight Thursday with their aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Kirk Ford of Bitley.
 Mr. and Mrs. Walter Wittenbach were Sunday guests of their parents here.
 Ol Condon is in Lowell taking care of Mrs. James Mead.
 Aunt Aggie Condon, 75, passed away Saturday at her home in Lowell after a fourteen day illness which started out in the form of a gall bladder attack and late uremic poisoning developed. She had long been a member of the family since Wednesday noon. She was born here in Vergennes township on Feb. 14, 1862 and has always lived here and in Lowell. Her whole life has been one of kindness, sympathy and doing for others. She had been afflicted with arthritis for many years which hindered her influence and the friendly chat with her will be missed by us all.
 Mr. and Mrs. Fred Blaser were in Hastings Wednesday calling on their sister and brother. Her infected finger is some better but has been having it lanced.
 Mrs. Ida Beckwith has been with relatives at Orleans for a few days. Freeport will entertain Christmas Day for the Blaser family. Pet Peterson's will have their family Mr. and Mrs. Dave Garfield, Id. Beckwith and Dorus Church. Mr. and Mrs. Dick Baird will have their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Geiger of Archie Condon, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Condon will entertain their children, Libbie Carr, Fred and Georg Roach.
 Lynn Mason was taken back to Blodgett hospital last Thursday aft or having hemorrhages. Asel and Pets Kollig both gave blood transfusions.
 Mr. and Mrs. Fred Ricker spent the week-end with their parents in Grand Rapids.
 Mr. and Mrs. Azor Parker of Sand Lake were dinner guests Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Witter back. In the afternoon they went on over to Keene to see their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dell Lee and their aged grandmother who is ill.
 Mrs. James Baird did not come home from St. Mary's hospital Sunday as she expected. Maude Sage continues getting along as well as can be expected.
 Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Baird and children were out from Flint over the week-end and called on their mother Sunday afternoon at the hospital.
 Christmas program at the Alto church was very good Sunday evening with some special music and singing. Next Sunday evening Paul DeKoning, a graduate of Moody Bible Institute, will have charge of the services. About 100 were present for the program.

MARTHA WASHINGTON'S RECIPES FOR MODERN COOKS

An article reporting how a cooking expert, with a practical viewpoint of a modern homemaker has experimented with quaint old recipes in the historic cook book used by the original First Lady of the Land, will be found—with instructions on how to prepare some authentic colonial dishes—in The American Weekly with the December 29 issue of The Detroit Sunday Times.
 Phone Parsons' news stand for delivery.

BIRTHS

To Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Bliss (nee Dorothy Minge) of Harbor Springs, on Dec. 17, a 6 1/2 lb. daughter, Bonita Joan.
 New government price regulations are forcing one-third of the 5,000 confectioners of Tokyo, Japan, out of business.

START A FIRE
But Once a Year
 With The
Warm Morning Coal Heater
 Heats Day and Night Without Refueling
 —Holds 100 pounds of coal.
 —Semi-automatic Magazine Feed.
 —Burns Any Kind of Coal, Coke or Wood.
 —No Clinkers.
 —Holds Fire 24 to 36 hrs. in Coldest Weather.
 —Steady, Even Heat, Easy to Control.
 With This Stove It's Warm in The Morning
SEE THIS STOVE AT OUR OFFICE
 Let us explain how you can heat at low cost.
C. H. RUNCIMAN
 Call 34 Lowell, Michigan Call 152
 Also—Call 1-3125, No toll charge.