

WEST POINT PARK

January 5, the Ladies Community Club meets with Mrs. Charlotte Wolfe. Join the club and be present at their first meeting in the New Year.

Ernest Turner, who has been ailing for some time, was taken to the hospital at Ann Arbor where we hope for his recovery.

Mrs. H. F. Davis and daughter June of 868 Glenn court, Detroit, were guests of Mrs. Margaret Davis, Christmas day.

Mrs. William H. Zwahlen is on the sick list with the flu.

Little Morris and Kenneth Wolfe have the whooping cough.

The regular meeting of the Parent-Teacher Association Friday, January 7 at 8 o'clock sharp. Now start the new year right by filling our school room. We always have a good program, so you are missing something by staying away.

Wednesday, December 29 the Ladies Community Club met at

the home of Mrs. Mary Wheeler for a good time. Games were the chief feature of the day and refreshments were served by the hostess.

Mr. and Mrs. John Hill and son William are spending the vacation week with Mrs. Hill's parents at Marine City.

We were glad to have Rev. Lester Ault of the Pittsburg Conference preach our Christmas sermon last Sunday. Mr. Ault is here visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Ault.

Dr. and Mrs. B. C. Thomas and nieces had Christmas dinner in Detroit with Mrs. Thomas' brother.

Mr. and Mrs. Bryan Hudson were guests of Mrs. Charlotte Wolfe last Sunday.

A. Owen's car was about wrecked last week when he ran into a tractor on the Seven Mile road. Mr. and Mrs. Owen and Mr. and Mrs. Austin Ault were all thrown out and suffered some bad bruises.

Using Mountain Streams

Following the example of Norway the French government is harnessing all available water power for the production of electricity. In time it is expected that these French hydro-electric developments will provide sufficient electricity to operate all of the French railroads and still leave enough for the electrification of the republic's industries.

Veterinarians Aided

To meet the demand for trained veterinarians in the Philippines and to furnish protection for live stock in the islands a scholarship of 35 pesos monthly, as well as exemption from matriculation and laboratory fees, is offered by the Philippine government to students in veterinary science.

Squaring the Circle

John Hockin of Lynn Valley, a suburb of Vancouver, B. C., has evolved a new method of squaring the circle. He says for the first time a principle has been established by which the circle can be unfolded and laid out in a straight line with an ordinary square and compass. The new process is said to amaze geometers and mathematicians who have tested it and found it correct.

Advertise in the columns of The Enterprise.

Jack, the Tightwad

By H. IRVING KING

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OUR friends and acquaintances form a jury before which we present a trial, and their verdict is generally a just one, however much we may protest against it. The verdict in the case of John M. Codington was: "Jack would be a first-rate fellow; but he wasn't such a tightwad." Jack had made his money himself—his forebears had done that. But it was working for Jack; and he saw to it that it worked. There were no vacations, or sick-days, or anything of the kind.

So when it got about that Jack Codington was engaged to Elsie Capron, people laughed and wondered, and even sneered. "Well, that would be a marriage made in heaven," said Capron. "She'll make his money fly for him." And another said: "What can Elsie be thinking of? He'll half starve her and never let her have a decent dress to her back." While still a third opinion—and this was the one generally held by the men—was that Elsie's father, Cyrus, was at the bottom of it all, to get his daughter as a bait to try and get some of Jack's hoarded wealth coming into the hands of the family.

This added greatly to the suspicion of Mr. Capron's sincerity. None but a desperate man would ever undertake such a desperate enterprise. Elsie knew what was being said; Jack knew, and Cyrus knew.

Elsie was greatly annoyed; Cyrus chuckled over it. It didn't mind a bit; Jack brooded over it. For the first time in his life he had a real case of introspection. Between him and Elsie there had been no financial thought. Elsie had knocked Maxson for it the night before. With her, Jack's penuriousness was merely prudence. Still, she did wish that he would commit some act of covert generosity. "Just to show people." First she thought she would hint at something of the kind to Jack. Then she thought she wouldn't; he might think she believed the things people said about him. Once she thought of asking Cyrus if he really was in financial difficulties—but she knew too well what he would say. He would tell her to "mind her own business." Altogether, Elsie was about as unhappy as a girl can be who is still engaged to marry the man of her loves and to whom she is engaged.

As for Jack the sufferings he endured from his attack of introspection were something awful. No one who has not had an acute attack of the same kind can realize what he went through. He had known, of course, before this, that he was generally regarded as a "tightwad"; but it had not bothered him at all. Now it did; for he saw that he was one that Elsie had come to look upon as one that

One of Jack's first moves after his transformation was to visit Mr. Capron in his office. "I have heard that is, there is a rumor," he began in an embarrassed manner, "that you are in financial difficulties. Mr. Capron. I have come to say that if I can be of any assistance my fortune is at your service." "Hal' ha!" laughed the old man, "that's a good one! So I am in financial difficulties and Tightwad Codington is ready to loosen up! 'Who'd 'a' thought it! My dear young man, I am no more in financial difficulties than you are. There's a gang been after my scalp and thought they had it. But I've been playing 'possum on them. I've helped spread those rumors of financial difficulties myself—it worked in with my plans. I caught 'em napping and have just given orders to my hangers who will make that gang of highlanders come across with several hundred thousand dollars before the exchange closes. Thank you, just the same. I'll tell Elsie about your offer; it will tickle her."

Reaching the office building, which he owned and where he had his headquarters, Jack gave Tony, the boot-black in the lower hallway, fifty cents for shining his shoes and told him to keep the change. Under pretense of a delayed Christmas present he bestowed five dollars on the elevator man who took him up. He sent for the janitor to come to his office and told him to announce a 10 per cent raise in the pay of all the employees of the building. An impromptu meeting of the employees was held and grave doubts were expressed as to Mr. Codington's sanity.

"Aw, 'tain't nothin'," said Tony, the bootblack; "the guy's goin' to get married—that's all."

That night Jack appeared at Elsie's with a bouquet of orchids and a five-pound box of candy.

"Oh, you dear, old Jack," cried Elsie, "father has told me all about you; but I always knew those horrid people when they called you a tightwad."

The Kern Baby

Amongst the many quaint customs connected with the legions of the harvest in England, not the least curious is that associated with the crowning of the "Kern Baby."

This consists of a doll-like figure, formed of the last few sheaves of corn decked with ribbons. Borne aloft on a pole, it is carried in procession to the barn, where supper is served, and placed in a conspicuous position at the head of the table.

Antiquaries are in this a relic of paganism, the doll being intended to represent Ceres, the Roman goddess of agriculture.

Banker "Saved" Money for Farmer Brother

"We helped them, but they let us down."

President O. E. Bradfute of the farm bureau federation was talking about a political deal that had miscarried.

"The farmers were rushed into the thing against their will," he said, "and they got nothing out of it in the end. I'll tell you a story."

A farmer at a state fair was on his way to the bookmakers with a five-dollar bill in his hand when his brother, a country town banker, snatched the money from him and said:

"Let me put that five-spot on for you, Jim. I've got a sure tip on this race. Lightning's bound to win."

"The banker dashed off with the five-dollar bill before Jim could open his mouth, and Lightning, sure enough, came in an easy winner—a thirty to one shot, too. Of course Jim was delighted."

"His banker brother returned with a large and handsome roll of bills, peeled one off and gave it to him."

"There's your five-spot back, Jim," he said, "You'd have lost it if it hadn't been for me."

A TERRIBLE FRIGHT



He—Tom looked scared at his wedding.

She—Yes, he sure got a terrible fright when he took that girl.

Early Greek Bathtubs

Bathtubs were a rarity in America as late as the Victorian era, but they had them in Nemea, Greece, centuries before Christ.

Big stone affairs were the Nemean tubs and they probably were used by athletes participating in the Nemean games, which were com-

parable to the famous Olympic contests.

A University of Cincinnati expedition, which has been excavating at Nemea, has found several bathtubs and a great quantity of other relics of the times, according to word received by the university.—New York World.

Japan Improves Highways

The home department of the Japanese government has decided on a tentative construction program for the improvement of highways, particularly for motor traffic, the cost of which is estimated at about 160,000,000 yen, to be spread over a period of about ten years. The government will contribute toward this fund approximately 50,000,000 yen, the remainder to be supplied by the prefecture and cities benefiting.

Gasoline Does All Work

Tom Gray, a farmer, near Hutchinson, Kans., raised a 1,760-acre crop of wheat this year, with gasoline power exclusively. There is not a horse or mule on the farm. Gasoline tractors pulled plows, drills and disks across the fields. Four big tractors and three combines cut and threshed it. A fleet of motor trucks hauled the grain to market. The total yield was more than 45,000 bushels.

Salvaging German Fleet

By slow and methodical degrees Scapa Flow is being made to give up the vessels of the sunken German fleet. Most recently salvaged was the destroyer G-104, lifted to the surface by means of floating docks. This is the twenty-fifth vessel raised in the last two years. The battle cruisers Hindenburg and Seydlitz are still at the bottom, as is also the light cruiser Bremen.

Family of Postmasters

The postmasterhood of Potosi, Wis., has been held by members of the Kaltenbach family of that village for the last eighty-nine years. The present postmaster is the daughter-in-law of Celestine Kaltenbach, who was appointed to the office in 1837.

Remember the Needy

Remember the ones whom Santa is likely to forget.

Soup and Nuts Together

A soup of sweet almonds and cream is a Christmas dish in Spain.

WALLED LAKE

Mr. and Mrs. George Campbell are spending the holidays at Port Huron with Mr. Campbell's brother.

Mr. and Mrs. Marley Bachelor and family spent Christmas at Irvin Knapp's at West Farmington.

Dr. and Mrs. Martindale who went to Boston, Mass. to attend their son's wedding, returned Tuesday.

There will be no Civic Welfare Club meeting this week on account of the holidays. The next meeting will be on the second Wednesday in January at Mrs. Brown's when officers will be elected.

Mr. and Mrs. Marley Bachelor and family spent Sunday with Mrs. Bachelor's mother at Farmington.

A number of relatives of Mr. and Mrs. Carson Coe attended their golden wedding anniversary Tuesday which was held in the Masonic Hall at Commerce. Seventy-five invitations were sent out. Their five children and grandchildren participated the dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Reimer spent Christmas with Mrs. Reimer's sister at Brightmoor.

A large number of people attended the Community Tree at Walled Lake School house Wednesday. All children in the school district were remembered. The High School girls made dresses for the poor girls and baskets were sent to some of the needy.

Within two years the number of telephones in New York City has increased about 15 per cent.

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MID-NITE SHOW NEW YEARS EVE
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NEXT WEEK THURSDAY TO SATURDAY
Florence Vidor in "You Never Know Women"
AND KEITH VODVIL



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Have We Reached The Danger Line in Taxation?

AMERICAN railroad taxes are mounting to new Alpine heights this year, the latest estimate for 1926, being that they will aggregate somewhere between \$400,000,000 and \$420,000,000, which may be expressed in various ways, although meaning the same heavy load:

- That they will average from \$1,005,800 to \$1,150,675 a day.
- That they will involve a charge per hour between \$45,659 and \$47,943.
- That from six cents to six cents and four and a half mills out of every dollar taken in will go towards taxes.
- That the railroads in 1926 will have to devote more than the net earnings of one mile out of every four for the payment of taxes.

The national government has cut down the national debt from January 1, 1920, to January 1, 1926, by about \$4,250,000,000—four and a quarter billions.

In the same interval, the debts of state and local governments have increased by about 6 1/2 billions—\$6,750,000,000.

During this period of federal debt reduction, the state and local governments have been incurring obligations 20 times as fast as they paid off the old debt. During this same period, debts of state and local governments combined have been incurred 4 1/2 times as fast as they were before the war.

The total public debt of all forms of government in this country is higher than at the peak of the war debt in 1919.

The national debt is being reduced at the rate of three quarters of a billion dollars a year—\$750,000,000.

State and local debt is being increased at the rate of more than a billion and a quarter dollars a year—\$1,250,000,000.

From January 1st, 1920, to January 1st, 1926, national government expenditures were reduced about two billion dollars—\$2,000,000,000.

During the same period current expenditures by state and local governments increased more than two billion dollars a year—\$2,000,000,000—and they are still increasing.

Rising taxes are one of the initial moving forces of the vicious circle of rising costs. Labor asks for higher wages, Producers and distributors pass along the accumulating burden to swell the family budget of the ultimate consumer. This, too, involves higher rents (or home ownership cost), higher food, fuel and clothing costs, etc.

After all, railroads are like any other industry. The farmer does not look forward to his tax bill with more anxiety than does the railroad.

Have we not reached the danger line?

Is it not time to retrench state, county and local expenditures?

MICHIGAN RAILROAD ASSOCIATION