



Would you walk a couple steps to save a \$5 Bill? Of course you would. That is practically what it amounts to, if you are thinking of buying a New Suit or Overcoat right now.

While Our Sale Is On

We are located just a step from Front Street, at 19 Somerset Street, next to the United Thrift Store, eliminating the high rents and many overhead expenses. We are in a position to sell our Suits and Coats much lower than a store in town.

Please consider this as a personal invitation to visit our New Men's Store. Note our low prices and see the line of dependable merchandise we feature at lowest prices in town.

- | | |
|---|---|
| Reductions on all Suits and Overcoats on Sale at \$10.00, \$12.75 & \$14.50 | 'Nobby Men's Winter Top Coats, Pinch-Back or Plain at \$12.50 & \$14.00 |
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- | | |
|--|--|
| Full Line of Boys' Suits, Mackinaws and Overcoats From \$3.50 to \$10.00 | Full Line of Men's Furnishings, Underwear, Sweaters, Dress Shirts at Lowest Prices in town |
|--|--|

ROSEBUSH BAZAAR

19 Somerset St

WHERE FOURTH STREET CAR STOPS. LOOK FOR THE ELECTRIC SIGN.

IN ORDER TO INTRODUCE OUR SHIRT DEPARTMENT

WE MAKE THE FOLLOWING REDUCTIONS ON ALL ADVANCED SPRING STYLES

Regular Price	Introductory Price
\$1.50	\$1.15
\$2.00	\$1.50
\$2.50	\$2.00
\$3.00	\$2.50

PRICES REDUCED ON ALL SUIT LENGTHS IN STOCK

H. J. HOOK & CO

120 North Ave

OBITUARY

Ex-Mayor Clark's Funeral Tonight

The funeral of Robert Clark, Jr., aged seventy, formerly Mayor of North Plainfield, who died at his home on Jackson avenue Wednesday afternoon after a two weeks' illness with pneumonia, will be held at his late residence tonight at 8 o'clock. Rev. John V. Brook, pastor of Trinity Reformed church, officiating, assisted by Rev. Charles M. Anderson, rector of the First M. E. church. The interment will be made tomorrow in Hillside cemetery.

Mr. Clark's death followed that of his wife by one week, the shock of her death coupled with a severe attack of pneumonia, helping to hasten the end. He was first taken ill with cold several weeks ago, which later developed into pneumonia. He was one of the most widely known men in this vicinity and his death, following so closely that of his wife, was a great shock to his many friends.

He first came to the borough in 1888 when he moved to a farm on the outskirts. Throughout his entire residence in North Plainfield he took a great interest in civic affairs and a number of things that were of great benefit to North Plainfield are credited to him. He first entered borough politics when he became a member of the Board of Education early in 1900. Several years later he was elected a councilman and for five years served on that body as a member of important committees. In 1912 he was elected Mayor of North Plainfield.

After a lengthy illness with complications due to the influenza of 1918, Mr. Wade died at his home on Jackson avenue Wednesday afternoon after a two weeks' illness with pneumonia, helping to hasten the end. He was first taken ill with cold several weeks ago, which later developed into pneumonia. He was one of the most widely known men in this vicinity and his death, following so closely that of his wife, was a great shock to his many friends.

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FRATERNAL ACTIVITIES

Contributions and Reports From Plainfield Lodge Circles

JERUSALEM LODGE HAD GALA INSTALLATION EVENT

Two days ago was a gala occasion for the members of Jerusalem Lodge, No. 1, and A. M., for at the meeting held on the 28th, the new officers were installed with all due ceremony. The appointive officers were also named by Worshipful Master Le Roy DeCamp. Past Master Samuel Collyer was the installing officer, assisted by Past Master Henry G. Klene and Past Master William G. Hutteroth. The officers installed were: Worshipful Master Le Roy DeCamp; senior warden, William Reynolds; junior warden, Robert H. Barnard; treasurer, William McDowell Corbett, P. M.; secretary, Robert Kenney, P. M.; chaplains, the Rev. George H. Hutteroth, the Rev. Charles E. Hutteroth, and the Rev. Dr. Charles E. Hutteroth; senior deacon, Alfred H. Hutteroth; junior deacon, William D. Anderson; senior master of ceremonies, William G. Hutteroth; junior master of ceremonies, Alfred Hutteroth; senior steward, Robin C. Brown; junior steward, Ellis J. Carman; marshal, William G. Hutteroth; organist, George A. Fulkens; tyler, George Hutteroth; doorkeeper, George Hutteroth; secretary, Harry L. Davis; trustees, L. H. Woolston, R. A. Meeker, P. M.; and Charles H. Hutteroth, P. M. The lodge is a member of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, and the lodge is a member of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, and the lodge is a member of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey.

Word has been received in this city from Monroe, N. Y., of the death of William C. Stephenson, a Plainfield resident. Fifty-five years of age, he had enjoyed excellent health until he suffered a stroke last Saturday, which was made more acute by bright disease. The funeral services were held at his home Wednesday and were in charge of the Rev. Dr. Charles E. Hutteroth. Mr. Stephenson left this city about ten years ago to reside in Monroe, N. Y. He was well known in Plainfield and while a resident was an active member of Anchor Lodge, No. 1, of this city. He is survived by seven children, they are: Mabel, Albert, and William, all of New York; John, of New York; and George, of New York.

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Lodge Schedule

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|---|---|
| Tonight. | Columbia Lodge, No. 58, A. O. U. W. |
| Benevolent Council, No. 256, Jr. O. U. W. | Somerset Council, No. 104, Jr. O. U. W. |
| Perseverance Lodge, No. 74, K. of P. | |
| Saturday. | Old Glory Council, No. 63, D. of A. M. |
| Monday. | Plainfield Lodge, No. 64, I. O. O. F. |
| Carletoe Lodge, D. of A. M. | Plainfield Lodge, No. 292, Jr. O. U. W. |
| Plainfield Lodge, L. O. M. of A. M. | Clan Mackenzie, O. of C. |
| Tuesday. | Court Plainfield, D. of A. M. |
| Friendship Lodge, L. O. O. F. | Anchor Lodge, F. and A. M. |
| Greenbrook Council, R. A. M. | |
| Wednesday. | Trailside Lodge, O. of St. G. |
| Quintessence Tribe, No. 118, I. O. R. M. | Queen City Lodge, No. 226, I. O. O. F. |
| Enlight Lodge, I. O. G. T. | Masson's Hall Assoc., F. and A. M. |
| Masson's Hall Assoc., F. and A. M. | |
| Thursday. | Central Lodge, A. O. U. W. |
| Jerusalem Chapter, F. and A. M. | Franklin Council, No. 41, Jr. O. U. W. |
| U. W. Lodge, K. of P. | Plainfield Council, R. A. M. |
| PYTHIAN KNIGHTS. | |
| At the meeting of Perseverance Lodge, No. 74, K. of P., which will be held in Knights of Pythias Hall on Friday night will be installed. A social hour will follow the installation. The officers elected were: Master, Peter Strain; re-elected, the position of outer guard made his thirty-fourth consecutive year in this position. The following officers were elected: Master, Peter Strain; re-elected, the position of outer guard made his thirty-fourth consecutive year in this position. The following officers were elected: Master, Peter Strain; re-elected, the position of outer guard made his thirty-fourth consecutive year in this position. | |

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NEW OFFICERS INSTALLED

The newly elected officers of Franklin Council, No. 1, of A. O. U. W., were installed at last night's meeting. The first and second degrees were conferred on a number of candidates, and after the meeting a social hour was enjoyed and refreshments were served. The officers installed were: Master, George Smith; vice master, George Olson; recording secretary, George Olson; treasurer, George Olson; secretary, George Olson; and other officers.

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WANTED—10 men to work in road yard. Apply to Joseph Harris, 40 Somerset street, Phone 111 & 112.

WANTED—Men to buy 115, 120 and 125 Suits and Overcoats at 1/2 price. Guaranteed best bargains in Plainfield. Sample Clothing Store, 13 Somerset street. 11 13 17

WANTED—Antiques bought and sold; auctions executed; contents of houses for cash; will pay good prices. P. N. Holgate, 208 Watching avenue. Phone 2693.

WANTED—The public to know we do high grade job printing at reasonable prices. When in need of printing call the Central Publishing Co., Phone 1932, 193-195 North avenue.

AUTO REP. AND SUPPLIES. CALL a Green Taxi for the best taxi service in Plainfield. The Green Taxi Co., Harry Huff, 1001, 159 North avenue. Phone 1113.

AGENT for Knight Tires, Blackstone Tires, the perfect traction non-skid tread and Silver King tubes, the best guaranteed tires. Tubes, also expert automobile repairing, supplies and storage. The garage that does things right. John J. Cline, 138-140 East Second street. Phone 2665. 11 10 17

AUTO Tires, one-man tops, open tops and covers, seat covers for open and closed cars, cushions, upholstery, J. H. De Lay, 34 Somerset street, French's Building, Phone 665. 11 17

FOR SALE—50 acre farm, located in the heart of Hunterdon county's farming district; 3 room house, a 3-4-6-10 outbuilding. For particulars apply to Plainfield Record office.

QUEEN CITY GARAGE. EXPERT AUTOMOBILE REPAIRING. Reliable and Quick Service. 209 East Fifth St. Cor. Watching Ave. John D. W. DeForest, Prop. Telephone 2332.

Repairing of Ford Cars Given Special Attention. Delco Starters Specialized. 11 17

TRY Our New BOX BALL ALLEYS. The Best Recreation Known. Watch for Something New in our ad. Next Week.

The Box Ball Alleys. Over Adelberg's Store EAST FRONT ST.

Phone Connection. West End Storage Warehouse 212 LEE PLACE. JOHN WINZENRIED, Prop. MOVING VANS GENERAL TRUCKING Second Hand Furniture Bought and Sold. Residence, 312 Lee Place.

L. Moraller & Sons. Watchmakers and Jewelers. Has that watch or clock or any other time piece that you need? Bring in and let us repair and put it in order for you. We make a nice clock or watch for you. Prices Reasonable. 217 Park Ave. Phone 1785. 11 17

NEUMANN BROS. CO.

Success does not depend on how much business you do but how you handle business you receive. Good business is obtained through honest straight-forward dealing with the public. Our success has been built on just this principle and our many customers have yet to complain on our methods. Efficient and rapid delivery service to all parts of the city; courteous attention to each patron.

Pillsbury, Heckers, Gold Medal Flour

\$1.35 Per 24 1/2 Bag—\$10.50 Per Barrel 196 lbs

MAPLE FLAKE

THE CRISPY, BROWN, ALL WHEAT BREAKFAST FLAKE—READY TO SERVE FROM THE PACKAGE

2 Packages 25c

COUPON IN EACH PACKAGE REDEEMABLE FOR PREMIUMS.

Little Boy Blue or Muller's Macaroni or Spaghetti, made in America—fresh, clean stock.	Leggett's Premier Jams—Fine fruit, new goods. Assortment includes Strawberry, Raspberry, Peach, Red Currant, Blackberry, Apricot, Orange Marmalade.	Honey—Buckwheat or White Clover—absolutely pure.
3 packages 25c	\$2.30 per doz.; 20c a jar	Buckwheat (comb) 20c
Extra Large Peeled Peaches—the finest pack we have ever been able to secure of these goods.	Fancy California Prunes—Fine fresh, meaty fruit—	White Clover (comb) 25c
24c lb., 10-lb. boxes \$2.30	50.00 per lb., 13c; 5 lbs. 60c	Strained, in bottles 25c
Premier Brand Shrimp—finest quality. Special at—	40.50 per lb., 15c; 5 lbs. 70c	
Small cans, 12c; 2 cans 23c	30.40 per lb., 18c; 5 lbs. 85c	
Large cans, 18c; 2 cans 35c	20.30 per lb., 22c; 5 lbs. \$1.00	
	Real New Orleans Molasses—the only kind for cakes and cookies—	
	75c Per Gallon	

FRUITS—	Dover Del Brand Tomatoes—solid pack Red Ripe Tomatoes. At this price they are very reasonable; quality the finest. 85c 1-2 dozen; dozen \$1.65	VEGETABLES—
Malaga Grapes Tokay Grapes	Extra Fancy Head Rice, 3 lbs. 25c	Fancy Table Celery New Beets
California Oranges	6 lbs. at 45c	Cauliflower Egg Plant
Yellow Bananas Pineapples	Genuine (Imported) Swiss Grutgers Cheese—	Green Beans Head Lettuce
Tangerines Fancy Grape Fruit	50c each 50c each	Endive Spinach
Fancy Table Pears Spitzenburg Apples	Fancy Selected Eggs—	Cucumbers Brussels Sprouts
Delicious Apples Jonathan Apples	dozen 35c	Oyster Plant Tomatoes
		Bunch Carrots White Squash
		Hubbard Squash Mushrooms

Noted "Pro" Try This in Your Gymnasium; 'Twill Make You Forget Woes

The recently completed Shackamaxon Country Club, located in the Willow Grove section of Fanwood, and which includes many Plainfielders among its membership, is already beginning to make plans for next season, the first since its formation. Although musicals and week-end parties have been arranged for during the present winter the club officials are looking forward mainly to the coming of summer.

The first step toward next summer's activities was taken last week when it was announced that Cyril Walker, club professional, of Indian and known in golfing circles all over the country, had been appointed as the club professional. Mr. Walker has competed in a number of national tournaments and hereafter will do so under the Shackamaxon colors. It would not be surprising to see that a number of important matches are played on the club's superb eighteen-hole links during the coming year. Fresh from Sivanoy, where he won several hard matches in the Professional Golfers' championships, Mr. Walker will be at the club as soon as the weather permits the use of the links to start preparing his pupils for several tournaments.

At present workmen are engaged in putting the finishing touches to the various improvements included among the club's features. By the coming of warm weather it is expected the addition to the clubhouse will be completed. The grounds around the clubhouse are also being improved. The shores are being walled with cement and a driveway will circle the pond. One section is to be made suitable for swimming and a number of summer and rest houses are to be scattered over various parts of the course.



Car Made Here For Auto Show

For the first time since the automobile made its advent as a medium of travel, Plainfield is to be represented in the New York Motor Show which opens tomorrow in the city of a car that is made in this city. Work was completed this week on the building of an exhibit model of the American Motors car at the corporation's factory on West Point Road and has been shipped to New York. It will also be entered in the Chicago Motor Show which will be the latter part of the present month.

The completion of the car to be entered in the two cities shows makes a new episode in Plainfield's industries. The American Motors car, which is being produced on a regular schedule and it is expected that orders will be received at the motor show to keep the factory busy for some time. Because of the lack of experienced help, the output at first will be small but each season will see an increase until the demand is satisfied.

Although it was the original intention to sell the car, the officials of the concern have fixed the price at \$1,125 and the figure is intended to produce a car that will compare favorably with any on the market. Containing a cylinder motor, the machine will embody all the features on other cars and several new ones.

Shirley Mason, McClure star, of the seven luminaries in the Seven Deadly Sins, the new McClure series of five reel features, never asks anyone to do anything that she won't do herself. She advises daily gymnastic work to improve the figure and to keep one's spirits cheerful.

Every day Miss Mason exercises in the tiny gymnasium that has been built up for her in one corner of the McClure studio. The equipment is meager, consisting of a mat, a box and a chair. Anybody can do the same exercises in his own home.

of our extensions have been financed by our earnings and not by paper in the banks. That is a factor that cannot be ignored.

Codington Again County Attorney

William R. Codington, of the local law firm of Codington & Blatz, was reappointed county attorney by the Union County Board of Freeholders Saturday, as opposition to him was withheld because of an understanding that he will resign in a few months. Mr. Codington said it seemed to him as though the reappointment signified a renunciation of the Board's confidence in him. He declared that the county attorney should be available to the members for legal advice and urged that certain terms or half days of the week be set aside for that office to be in the court house for the purpose of advising freeholders.

Mr. Codington's suggestion is looked upon as one of several of the beneficial results of the Surrogate's investigation of county affairs in the past it has been difficult for a member of the Board to get legal advice from Mr. Codington at Plainfield. A resolution by Freeholder Krouse fixed the salary of the county attorney at \$3,500 a year, this amount to cover all office expenses. The county attorney, however, has received \$600 annually for office expenses in addition to his salary of \$2,900 a year, so the resolution really means a cut of \$100.

MANUFACTURERS FIND TOOLS IN GOOD SHAPE. LITERARY CLUB FOR BORN HIGH STUDENTS.

The opening of the new year finds an excellent condition among manufacturers here. The new year orders are booked heavily, delivery in many cases being for twelve and fourteen months. Motors are on a par with the old, delivery of new Shells and munition machinery has been somewhat, and some have found its way into the second-hand market.

Steel is still tight and manufacturers are worried somewhat about the delivery of their orders. Labor scarcity has not shown any sign of decrease, skilled men bid off by munition plants having found work immediately in the non-munition plants where a great shortage had existed for months.

"Peace talk has had no effect on us," says one business man, "we have not a man out of work here yesterday. Our orders are heavy and are all for domestic consumption. We had some war orders, but we never made a cent out of them. That is the experience of a lot of other, too. So, as our business grows, we let the war orders go entirely. I hesitate to say what effect peace would have, but I am sure it would be better. We have some war orders in the East. When foreign shipments start to this country there might be trouble in the way of a panic, but I think we are ready to meet it. Remember, most

As suggested by Principal Albert Early, of North Plainfield High School, a Literary Club has been formed by the student body of that institution. A similar organization was started about three years ago by instructor Paul Merts, but owing to lack of interest, was not a success. A general meeting was held yesterday and every indication points to success.

Although the greatest rivalry along athletic lines has existed between Plainfield and North Plainfield High Schools there has been but little antagonism along literary lines due to the fact that Plainfield High School was the only institution in which debating and other forms of public speaking flourished. Now that a Literary Club has been formed in the borough, it is thought that a debating battle, as well as a basketball contest, will be waged by the students of the two schools.

Miss Julia Rowley, of Grove Street, has returned to Syracuse University, after spending the holidays at home.

Andrew McDonough, of Fairview Avenue, is detained at home by injuries sustained in a recent basketball game.

A CLEARANCE SALE OF FURS

A REMARKABLE OUT PRICE SALE THAT PRESENTS TO YOU THE BEST OPPORTUNITY OF THE YEAR TO BUY FURS.

EVERY PIECE MUST BE SOLD. The name KURTZMAN is synonymous with FURS in Plainfield. When you think of FURS, the name KURTZMAN immediately follows.

It is not necessary to go into detail about this store. Nine years of satisfactory service to the Plainfield public is our best recommendation. At this season of the year we offer exceptional opportunities to our patrons, in order that our stocks may keep fresh and up-to-date, and to make room for the new stock which we make on the premises, during the warmer months. You owe it to yourself to investigate NOW.

At This January Clearance Sale Prices Have Been Slashed Relentlessly

Every kind of Fur, HUDSON SEAL COATS and MUFFS, Alaska, Sable (Skunk), Seta, Lynx, Mink, Natural Foxes, Red, Gray, Cross Fox, Tab Fox, Crenchitzky Fox, etc.

CLEARANCE SPECIALS

Lynx Sets	Hudson Seal Coats
Genuine Lynx Sets that sold for \$75 and \$85. At This Sale—	Trimmed on collar, cuffs and bottom with skunk. Sold for \$165 and \$175. At This Sale
\$52.00	\$115.00
Other Lynx Sets, \$35 up.	
Genuine Black Iceland Fox Sets	Odds and Ends in Muffs
Guaranteed for years. This is positively one of the best bargains offered. At This Sale—	Clearance of all Muffs that sold at \$9, \$10, \$11 and \$12. If you need a Muff get it now. At This Sale, Each—
\$15.50	\$5.50

EASTERN MINK SETS HALF PRICE

ODDS AND ENDS IN SINGLE SCARFS HALF PRICE

Charles Kurtzman
178 East Front St Next to Dr. Pitts' Office

RELIGIOUS

MISSIONARIES SPEND FURLONG IN THIS CITY.

Rev. J. W. Crofoot and Mrs. Crofoot, missionaries of the Seventh-Day Baptist church, this city, are spending sometime in this city on a furlough from their work in the Far East. The couple were tendered a reception in the church Sunday afternoon at which the members of the congregation were present to wish them a welcome after their long absence at Shanghai, China.

Saturday morning Dr. Crofoot occupied the pulpit and interestingly described some of his experiences during his sojourn in China. Rev. and Mrs. Crofoot will probably not return to their charge before early spring and during the intervening time Dr. Crofoot will frequently occupy the pulpit of the church, especially until another minister is secured to fill the vacant place caused by the resignation of Rev. Edwin Shaw.

FINAL MEETING TONIGHT. The week of prayer at the Crescent Avenue church will be concluded tonight, when James Kimball will have charge of the meeting. The subject will be "The Christian Involvement: Families, Schools, Colleges and the Young." Starting Tuesday night the meetings have continued nightly and have drawn large numbers.

RECEPTION TO PASTOR. Rev. Edwin Shaw, formerly of the Seventh-Day Baptist church, and Mrs. Shaw were tendered a reception New Year's afternoon at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William C. Hubbard, of Fifth street. After occupying the pastorate of the church for many years, Mr. Shaw's resignation, took effect Monday and it was in honor of the couple that the affair was arranged. Mr. Shaw's resignation, took effect Monday and it was in honor of the couple that the affair was arranged. Mr. Shaw's resignation, took effect Monday and it was in honor of the couple that the affair was arranged.

HOLY CROSS SERVICE. The services at the Holy Cross Episcopal church on Sunday will be as follows: 7:30 a. m., Holy Communion; 9:30 a. m., Sunday-school and Bible class; 11 a. m., 7:45 p. m., evening prayer and a short address. The Woman's Auxiliary will meet on Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock and St. Agnes Guild will hold a meeting on Friday afternoon, January 12, at 3 o'clock.

PASTOR'S "AT HOME." Rev. and Mrs. John E. Zelle held an "at home" for the members of the Crescent Avenue Presbyterian church on New Year's afternoon. About three hundred members of the congregation took advantage of the occasion and met with their pastor and his wife a happy and prosperous New Year.

Norman Conover, of Jackson Avenue, North Plainfield, is detained at his home with a broken collarbone and arm, sustained while skating on New Year's Day.

H. K. DOANE HERE.

Hervey K. Doane, son of former Fire Chief and Mrs. T. O. Doane, is visiting his parents in this city. He will remain here until March. Mr. Doane is a civil engineer, located at Dallas City, Missouri, for nine years. Mr. Doane and his wife have been spending the past year in the West. Mr. Doane and his wife have been spending the past year in the West. Mr. Doane and his wife have been spending the past year in the West.

—Read the Record.

PLAINFIELD RECORD

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PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY, JANUARY 5, 1917.

MAYOR'S MESSAGE TO PLAINFIELD CITIZENS.

Mayor Leighton Calkins has once more placed before the citizens of Plainfield an intelligent, comprehensive and matter-of-fact survey of existing conditions, together with an exhaustive collection of recommendations designed to better the various departments of city government and civic welfare. In his annual message he deals with topics pertinent to the demands of the twentieth century progressive community and to the mind that has the interests of the municipality and its inhabitants at heart. His resume and criticisms are indicative of an intimate acquaintance with the machine that directs the local government and of a personal and impartial probe of all that concerns Plainfield. His initial term as mayor has been marked by strides of progress in all directions and the time and energy he has devoted to the office has made his administration one of noteworthy accomplishment. Fortunately, indeed, has Plainfield been in having the advantage of two years in this man's busy life and that the citizens at large have learned to place implicit confidence in him as an expert handler of the reins of municipal government is certain.

Every taxpayer owes it to himself to carefully read Mayor Calkins' message published elsewhere in this paper. Those in whose trust has been placed the discharge of city office duties should familiarize themselves with the level-headed suggestions he has to offer and put them to the acid test. Anyone who has entertained the slightest doubts regarding the quality of service rendered by Mr. Calkins needs but to scan this document to rid himself of the greatest or most meager misgivings. The time devoted to compiling a report of this calibre is but a passing example of the sacrifice Mayor Calkins makes 365 days out of each year to the direction of city affairs.

The Research and Advisory Commission, as suggested by Mayor Calkins when he first took office, recently became a reality. That this body will render a service of unlimited value, in the performance of the two duties the name of the combine suggests is a foregone conclusion and the one regret centers around the fact that the appointments were not made a year or two ago instead of during the past two weeks. There are municipal topics that require careful investigation and attention such as members of the Common Council for reasons cannot devote. Oftentimes these issues are carried over from the terms of a faction of councilmen who support them to the terms of new and unfamiliar incumbents. The result is either a time wasting rehash or a curtailment of interest that eventually spells death for the propositions. It is proposed to make the life of the commission personnel a perpetual one insuring continued and connected fostering of all public questions. Much is expected of the capable talent appointed by Mayor Calkins.

The Park avenue widening topic needs no introduction to Plainfielders and Mayor Calkins makes plain his views on the subject. He classes it as an imperative community need and declares that there is no time like the present to make the improvement.

That certain projects considered by the Common Council should be submitted to the people for endorsement or rejection is the opinion of the mayor as well as a majority of taxpayers and he suggests the amendment to the election law providing the referendum as a remedy. The expense thus incurred would be money well spent, the results would be conspicuous at the outset.

Taken in its entirety the message of 1917 is self-explanatory; it deserves community endorsement. It sets a precedent for Plainfield mayors' messages.

PUT THE COUNTY PRISONERS TO WORK

Supplementing the measures so often advocated by City Judge William G. DeMeza, Miss Harriet Townsend, superintendent of the Elizabeth Charity Organization Society, suggests a plan by which prisoners in the Union county jail may be put to work. For years past the confinement of criminals in Elizabeth has been more or less of a "tea party." Eating, reading, sleeping and calisthenics compose the day's program. Actual work is as foreign as snail on toast to the inmates. The problem of putting criminals to work has long been considered but it has been mighty slow in going into effect in this county.

To be sentenced to a term in Elizabeth is much to the liking of some prisoners who come before Judge DeMeza in the Plainfield police court. Particularly in the fall season of the year is it welcome for the culprit in the assured of warm lodging and good meals during the cold days of winter. The shiftless idler looks upon the jail as a haven against wintry blasts and the gripping hand of starvation.

To put these offenders to work shoveling snow, cleaning streets, repairing roads or in other lines that would be beneficial to the county would relieve the congestion in the jail. It would transform the celled building in Elizabeth from a winter's refuge for satisfied parasites on county funds into something more or less to be shunned by the ordinary police court frequenter.

Miss Townsend and Judge DeMeza are champions of the work idea and they should be given the support of the entire county in bringing about a transformation. Miss Townsend describes her plan as follows:

"Back of Westfield there is a range of hills where a

prison farm and a stone quarry could be established. Without a quarry I doubt whether a prison farm could be successful, for it is only during certain seasons of the year that the prisoners can do farm work. But with a quarry to be worked in conjunction with the farm Union county would soon find that a big saving could be effected.

"Now, if the man in jail should be put to work to support himself, and if the State should see to it that part of his prison earnings went to the feeding and clothing of his family, much of the present wretchedness could be avoided. As it is, the prisoner is getting comfortable board and lodging and a lot of warmth and sleep these cold winter days. And he does mighty little in return for all this from the State, while his wife and children appeal to the city for support.

"The freeholder have gone on record as favoring the project of a prison farm. The next step is for the county to secure a site. The best, I think, is at the foot of the hills back of Westfield, where a prison farm and quarry could be jointly operated."

SUFFICIENT GROUNDS FOR A PRESENTMENT

According to the testimony of County Register Frank H. Smith, of Plainfield, given on the stand in connection with the Union county probe of financial matters on November 16, Walter L. Hetfield, Jr., also of this city, advised Henry Krouse, chairman of the Freeholder roads committee, that he saw "nothing wrong in the freeholder becoming financially interested in a concern in the position to supply materials for county road work." Supreme Court Justice James J. Bergen, in charging the January Grand Jury last Monday, declared: "Under the law no member of the Board of Freeholders has a right to be interested, directly or indirectly, in a company furnishing materials to the county."

Mr. Hetfield may not have known at that time that the concern in which Mr. Krouse contemplated purchasing stock, and in which both Mr. Hetfield and Mr. Smith are stockholders, would either then or eventually sell materials to the county but it is now record that it has done so and that Mr. Krouse was "interested." The Lawrence Cement Company has contracted and received money for county road work and if Mr. Smith's testimony is to be taken at its face value Mr. Krouse was badly misguided by the advice he is alleged to have received from the Plainfield lawyer, who was at that time assistant Union county prosecutor.

This is but one of the developments of the investigation now before the Grand Jury but it is a significant one and should at least result in the future assurance that no Freeholder will place himself in the same position as Mr. Krouse has.

"If you find anything irregular you should make a presentment," Justice Bergen charged the jury. "And if you find anything wrong you should present an indictment."

Whether a presentment or indictment will be the outcome remains to be seen but no matter how the Grand Jury acts the probe has accomplished its primary end in checking up county affairs and bringing county officials to their senses.

PARK AVENUE WIDENING SHOULD BE ATTENDED TO

Now is the opportune time to launch a favorable strike on the Park avenue widening project. At no period in the history of the city has the improvement been in greater demand and if present conditions are allowed to prevail for another year those responsible for the delay will have the results of their neglect forcibly thrust upon them.

The sale of the "Kenney Corner" and the probabilities of altering the building thereon located should encourage whatever sentiment there has been in favor of the move. The cost would be comparatively small but the benefits derived from a wider Park avenue would be manifold. A firm interested in statistics recently made a personal count of the people passing certain corners of the town during the busy hours of a day and the total at the intersection of Park avenue and Front street eclipsed all others by a wide margin.

Those owning buildings along the affected territory could easily be made to see the ultimate value of remodeling the thoroughfare. The proposition is one for the new city Research and Advisory Commission to ponder over and we are confident that its reception will be marked by unanimous approval.

But a glance at the district mentioned will convince the most cautious taxpayer of the advisability of immediate action. Under existing conditions it is practically impossible to establish traffic regulations that will have the desired effect.

BUSINESS STREETS ARE NOT GARAGES

Certain Plainfield autoists who persist in making garages out of the city's business streets should be given to understand that they are making nuisances of themselves and their cars and at the same time breaking the law. There are any number of machine owners who leave their cars on Front street or Park avenue for hours during the busiest periods of the day and evening. Oftentimes these same autos remain at a curb point for the entire day and part of the night. Other machines have to be driven around the obstacles and chauffeurs and drivers are compelled to jockey for positions in which to stop.

It is not sufficient to have traffic restrictions which force drivers to leave their vehicles on the right hand side of a thoroughfare; they should be given to understand that no special spot in the road belongs to them for car storage purposes. This also applies to the out of town shopper who brings his horse and wagon to the city and leaves it tied to the same pole seven or eight hours at a time.

Such conditions also emphasize the need of a city stable or storage shed where visiting autoists or horse drivers may leave their vehicles while attending to business in the city section. The farmer comes here to patronize Plainfield trade and his visits should be encouraged to the extent of providing a shed for his steed or car. It would be to the best interests of the merchant to see that such a convenience is provided and the Business Men's Association should find some effective manner in

which to dispose of the subject.

TWO PLATOON SYSTEM SHOULD BE ADOPTED

There has developed in Plainfield an opposition to the two platoon system for the local fire department as suggested by the Record several weeks ago, mainly on the ground that it will increase the tax rate. Those inclined this way, however, may rest assured that the very slight increase will not be of sufficient consequence to over-balance the good which will come from the adoption of the plan that has been tried and proved to be a remarkable success in other cities.

It will not be long before Plainfield will fall in line with other cities and put the question to the test and it is almost sure that the vote will be one decidedly in favor of putting our firemen on a platoon system; incidentally increasing the department efficiency. The improvement is now being adopted in Newark; Pittsburgh has had it in force sometime, as have also Minneapolis, Kansas City and Buffalo. All of these cities are considerably larger than Plainfield but the manner in which the system has worked out in these places is proof that it is adaptable to any department.

POLICE CALL BOXES BEHIND THE TIMES

Police signal boxes that offer all of the modern advantages of such department necessities have long been needed here and it now seems likely that the Councilmanic Police Board will take the matter under advisement and provide for their installation before the end of the present year. Mayor Calkins strongly recommends replacing the present boxes with modern ones and it will probably not take much to convince the Board members that the ones now in use are antiquated and unfit for use in the twentieth century police department.

At present the patrolman registers at regular intervals through the call box but these intervals are the only times at which he can be communicated with by headquarters. In other words he can call the station house but the station house cannot call him. A flashlight or whistle system will make it possible to summon him to the nearest box at any time in case of emergency. The present system could probably be brought up to date at a small cost.

BIG SUM PAID BY LOCAL COMMUTERS

Plainfield's \$85,000, and possibly more, paid to the Central Railroad each year in commutation money is in excess of that contributed by any other town along the line for the same kind of service. This city has been classed as the "hotel" for New York's professional and financial leaders and well it might. Few individuals have probably ever stopped to consider the round figures but when all things are summarized it is likely that the revenue from this source runs the \$100,000 mark each year.

In return for this sum Plainfield's commuters have a right to expect service par excellence and all the comforts to make the twice daily trip as easy as possible should be forthcoming. For the most part the schedule of commuters' trains is maintained as regular as possible but the Central Railroad officials should be responsible for their "on the minute" slogan at all times save when climatic conditions or emergency instances prevent.

WELL BALANCED COMMITTEES APPOINTED BY PRESIDENT BLAIR

Plainfield councilmanic committees as selected by President Francis J. Blair bid fair to accomplish the ends desired during the ensuing year. Particularly noticeable is the personnel of the license committee, one member of which has made positive his stand against the granting of any license. The same policy predominates throughout the remaining units and the general makeup is indicative of much time and careful consideration given by the Council president.

During the coming year many important problems of vital concern to the community will be offered to the Common Council for settlement and it is essential that well balanced committees be available for handling them.

During the past week the question of forum letters has been brought to the Record office on several occasions, the queries centering around the publication of the same. The Record will be glad to give prominence to all communications providing the name and address of the sender accompanies them. This information is merely for the benefit of the editor and the name of the senders will not be made public if the request to keep them out is made. Discussions on topics of interest to the community at large are solicited but letters dealing with personalities and matter of an objectionable character must be withheld for reasons obvious.

Just why a brick building that has been in the course of construction for more years than the average citizen can recall off-hand is allowed to remain an eye-sore to the public is hard to realize. Such a structure was started sometime ago on West Front, nearly opposite Grove street, by a prominent Plainfielder and has arrived by snail-pace stages at a point where it is nothing more nor less than an object having a degrading influence on the appearances of all surrounding business properties. Personal pride in his own city, if nothing more, should prompt the builder to hustle the work along.

Peculiar it is that certain Plainfield merchants who speed a portion of their time rooting for home trade have formed the habit of taking their circular printing to Westfield and other nearby places to be done. Insofar as their personal interests are concerned these businessmen are loyal supporters of the "Shop in Plainfield" slogan and they rise up indignantly at the mere suggestion of local residents trying the metropolis first. Printing in Plainfield is done at a price just as reasonable as can be secured elsewhere and the results are admittedly as good, if not better.

And the United States may have to call upon Villa to ascertain the exact location of General Pershing when the time comes for recalling the American expedition leader.

THE WEEK'S REVUE

THIS DATE IN HISTORY.

Today marks the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Ambrose O'Shaughnessy. He was the first native Plainfielder who agitated the subject of a municipal collection of garbage. He died before his cherished object was attained.

At the annual convention of the American Junkmen's Association, held in Chicago recently, it was stated that the value of waste material in the United States each year has reached the enormous total of one billion dollars. It is understood that half this vast sum represents the energy expended by Plainfield people in trying to have a Board of Health do something with Tier's lake.

With the holiday spirit still in the air we hate to bother you with business matters but lest you may not have heard of it we feel it our duty to remark that Francisco Villa declared war on the United States the week before Christmas.

If a peace conference is held and the delegates make Germany give up all the London Spectator demands, the Kaiser will have to borrow cash to get home after he has "hooked" his helmet for a square meal.

Just at a time when Wall street is in a state of trepidation over peace negotiations, along comes a pessimist who knocks everything into a cocked hat by asserting that all is now on the decline and the natural supply of the United States would give out in 138 years. If John D. had a weak heart the unguarded statement might have resulted seriously.

The same day that Paul Haffer's sentence of four months' imprisonment for saying the first President of the United States was a drunkard was upheld by the Washington Supreme Court. Dr. Chalfant Robinson, professor of Princeton, informed a gathering in Cincinnati that "Louis XI was a victim of epileptic kleptomania which made him rob men's pockets." By all that is right and consistent, should not Professor Robinson be turned over to the French authorities for summary punishment?

Because she alleges her beautiful golden tresses were ruined by a hair dye she purchased in the hope of becoming a brunette, a New York girl has lodged suit for \$5,000 against a druggist. All of which is proof that the "artist" who was experimenting with this hair dye should have tried it on a bald headed man first.

A Trenton man boasts the record of working fourteen days in seven years and he's just succeeded in landing a "soft" job with pay enough to support his needy family. The "soft" job was secured for him in a rubber mill by a magistrate and will last just as long as he abstains from getting "lit up."

Because the question as to whether or not a city of 2,000 should have a jail with more than two cells has been placed forcibly before him, the mayor of Ithaca, N. Y., has suggested that the city furnish each prisoner with a room and bath in the municipality's leading hotel.

Why not add a bell hop and make the offer attractive enough to demand the attention of the corps of bums who annually look to the city jail as a haven against wintry winds?

Our "Mush Diet Squad" has been increased this week by the names of former Councilman Richard A. Claybrook, John E. Nicol, secretary to Congressman John H. Capstick, and several others less notable but not less enthusiastic. Requiring Officer John A. Gaffney reports scores of other applications pending and declares that results have proven the mush diet to be nutritious and muscle building. See Gaffney for rules and regulations.

All this talk about the State militia being a failure reminds us of the fuss made over these same guards last June. They were "all to the mustard" when they sacrificed good positions to protect Uncle Sam's interests along the border line and now that they have returned to hunt new work certain regular army "soreheads" are passing the sob story around.

We have our own opinion of a human who will pay \$150,000 in cold cash for a vest pocket portrait.

"Wilson's note immortal," says T. R. Just think, he might have been writing them if Charlie Hughes was elected.

One solution to the "shop at home" question would be to cut off the "shopper's special" the Central Railroad so proudly boasts of.

Watch for your picture in the Record's cartoons. If it doesn't get there it's because you never do anything worth while.

New York's volunteer workers are clearing the decks for "Billy" Sunday. Pears to us as though the evangelist would have had more to work on if he blew into the skyscraper village around New Year's instead of at a rapidly approaching "quiet season." But even Billy may have been charitable enough to have allowed the amusement magnates to reap their harvest while reaping was good.

See by the paper where Petrova had a close call in a film blaze yesterday. Although it might have been a press agent plot we have heretofore been of the opinion that the business of movie actresses was to have close calls. The fact that she lost a \$25,000 wardrobe is incidental.

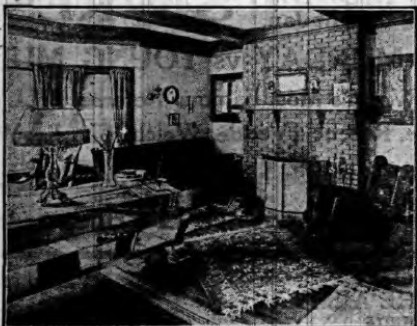
Fads, Fancies and Suggestions for Women Folk Who Practice Economy in the Home.

A COMMODIOUS LIVING ROOM.

Design 973, by Glenn L. Saxton, Architect, Minneapolis, Minn.



PERSPECTIVE VIEW—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.



INTERIOR VIEW—LIVING ROOM

The living room shown above is about 32 feet wide and 14 feet across. Beams 9 inches wide and 8 inches deep run lengthwise across the room. The fireplace is 7 feet wide and laid up out of tapestry brick; plain mantel shelf. A battery of windows across the front, with projecting bay and artistic art windows alongside the fireplace, add to the beauty and light of this room.

Upon receipt of \$1 the publisher of this paper will furnish a copy of Saxton's book of plans, "American Dwellings," which contains over 200 designs costing from \$1,000 to \$6,000; also a book of interiors, \$1 per copy.

STYLE TIPS.

What to Wear Tooked into a Nutshell.

Empire skirts are here. A popular design is in three pieces. The skirt extends three inches above the waist line. There is a wide front breadth, cut circular, with a side plait on each side. The back is plain, cut circular, and has a seam down the center.

Plaited skirts are in style. They are introduced to give a straighter figure line without cutting out any of the fullness at the skirt edge. There are loose plaits, pressed plaits, side plaits and banded and narrow box plaits. Some skirts are made with yokes, or the plaited effect is sometimes broken by a panel. Plaited plaid skirts are worn with tailored jackets of plain cloth, and velvet jackets are worn with plaited skirts of satin or broadcloth.

The fashionable princess dress is sometimes plaited from neck to hem with a loose belt at the sides. Other princess dresses are made with organ plaits at the sides, the plaits arranged at a point just halfway between the waist line and the knees. They are belted in front.

A novel blouse is the chorboly chemise made of bay patterned Chinese silk. It has long sleeves of soft silk and is worn with separate skirts. Other new blouses are of transparent material, such as silk voile, chiffon and tulle, made over another transparent material in a different color.

This is a season of combinations in fabrics and colors. Navy blue and gray are smart, also electric blue and black. Fawn, beige and butter color are used with chestnut brown or black. Green, brown are fashionable. There are cinnamon, tabac, beaver, chestnut and a warm golden brown. Burgundy, grape, prune, maroon, rubber gray, mist, taupe, navy blue, Dutch blue, electric, horizon, Japan and old China blue are among other colors.

Knife plaited colored tulle tunics, loosely belted, are worn over white satin skirts.

Many imitations of fur are to be used in trimming dresses and coats. Colored silk voiles are seen striped with imitation fur in a contrasting color.

Metal embroideries on gold, silver and copper, singly or in combination, are smart. Novelty levers are embroidered in shining arabesque on delicate grounds. A fascinating fancy is to have a gown trimmed with lead embroidery and to match it for the wrist bag.

Some of the new coats are modeled after the coats worn by men, such as long directors coats and short coats worn by valets.

Fascinating collars in white organdy, crepe or silk are worn with blue, rose and coffee costumes.

Many gowns are made with open sleeves, with full tulle undersleeves banded into dainty wrist ruffs. A new seam is made of three colors twisted together to form a belt, terminating in long knotted ends. Cream pale blue and pale green, also rose mauve and cream color, are combined. Black, red and orange look well with a white dress.

Velvets and smooth cloths trimmed with fur are the smartest tailor suits.

THIS BOLERO.

Fetching Gown For Three-year-olds Is This Design.

A fine quality of pique is cut in a straight one piece, with two small plaits laid from shoulders to skirt bottom for



FASHION INDEXED.

fullness. Over this is worn a tiny bolero of acropoled edges and hand embroidered front picked out with dainty white pearl buttons.

Styles in Suits.

The suits that are now being put up for winter are made with coats reaching to the knees and sometimes below that point. A few shorter lengths are also included in the models. Many of the coats are in fitted effect above the waist, with a considerable flare below that point. Others, however, are made on straight lines. A few of the more extreme suits are in moynen age effect, with the fullness set on at a very low waist line, on account of the length of the jacket the skirts of the suits are made on straight, simple lines. Many show plaited effects. Novel pockets and belts appear on some of the skirts.

Grape Ketchup.

For grape ketchup weigh the grapes and allow two pounds of sugar to ten of grapes, a pint of cider vinegar and an ounce each of mace, cloves and cinnamon. Boil the sugar and vinegar for fifteen minutes and add to the pulp and skins, which have been heated, rubbed through a colander to remove seeds and cooled; then boil all together twenty minutes and bottle. Boil slowly, and if too thick add a little more vinegar.



THIS NOVEL COMFORT.

This garment is cut something like a breakfast jacket, only the material is seal, skunk trimmed. The big muff is union shaped, with faring ends. Elbow sleeves are a novelty in fur.



VELVET LEADS.

For all luxurious suitings velvets in dark shades are still the favorite fabrics. This trim suit is put up in black, cut with a high waist line and a full skirted three-quarter cut, set off with steel ball buttons. Squirrel heads on collar and cuffs.



TWO IN ONE.

Old rose velvet trim and a pale pink felt crown make up this handsome tricorn. We must not overlook the gorgeous rose of gold thread embroidery. The collar and cuffs are lined hand embroidered.

THE PLAINFIELD TRUST COMPANY

1902-1917



Capital and Surplus
\$600,000.00

Total Resources
\$8,000,000.00

In the years that are past The Plainfield Trust Company has striven to faithfully and efficiently serve the people of Plainfield and to build up a banking organization that would be a bulwark of strength to the community.

In the year that is to come, its object will be to further improve its service and to make the facilities of its Banking, Special, Trust and Safe Deposit Departments meet every need of the banking public.

DEPOSITS

December 31, 1907	\$1,834,142.00
December 31, 1909	\$2,815,203.00
December 31, 1911	\$3,812,904.00
December 30, 1913	\$4,359,156.00
December 31, 1915	\$5,873,952.00
December 30, 1916	\$7,364,833.00

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Young Men's Suits

Spring 1917 Models

Now \$15.00

Some Bargain

Winter Overcoats

PRICE REDUCTIONS

\$15.00 Overcoats	-	-	-	\$13.50
18.00	"	-	-	16.20
20.00	"	-	-	18.00
22.00	"	-	-	19.80
25.00	"	-	-	22.50

Schwed Brothers,

Front Street, Opposite Park Avenue.

Over Thirty-One Years Right Here

You Save by Buying Lumber at Home

YOU save the necessity of paying for lumber you have not seen—save waiting—save freight—save uncertainty and get known quality. Our reputation backs every bill of lumber we sell and our experience is included at no extra cost. Immense stock of all desired materials enables us to make delivery the day you order. Look us over—get our prices—see how we save and serve you.

Special: Those who know the genuine WHITE PINE will be glad to learn we carry a select stock of this "old reliable" wood—most satisfactory and economical for all approved purposes.



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Plainfield, N. J.



HER CHOICE.

Midnight blue gabardine cut Russian blouse and skirt to show tops gives this maiden's suit. Black bone buttons give a chic finish, and the white satin collar is detachable. Two poppies trim the sailor.



THIS HAT IS A CHIC ONE.

Gold colored velvet set in tiers, a huge brim and two ribbon "fancies" held by a pair of gilt ornaments—such are the materials the fashion this smart sailor.



THE LATEST FAD.

For sport coats are all the "go." This picture is cool, hip length, with slit pockets, muff cuffs and high stand collar in leather. Nothing could so smarten up a winter wardrobe as this garment.

FUR COATS.

Velours coats are among the handsomest winter models, especially when they are trimmed with seal skin. There are two bands of seal skin at the foot and a single band around a deep cape collar. Above this is a high turnover also. Even the buttons are of seal.

What Has Been Accomplished During the Past Two Years and Recommendations for Future Betterment

Two years ago it was my privilege to submit to your honorable body a program for greater efficiency and economy in the administration of the affairs of the city. That program, a large part of which had already been carried out a year ago, has now been completed with the survey of departments and the appointment of a Research and Advisory Commission as an aid to the Council in the formulation of plans for the future development of the city. I am indebted to you for your approval of my suggestions and for your hearty co-operation in giving full effect to them. It may not be out of place at this time to review briefly what has already been accomplished under this program, and what we may hope further to accomplish by adherence to it.

Pending the completion of the survey, the sole purpose of which was to check our machinery for the transaction of business by expert comparison with the best modern practice in the management of municipal affairs, we directed our attention to what may be termed the high cost of living as applied to public affairs, and sought to reduce it by the application of the strictest economy consistent with the reasonable requirements of the public service. To that end we appointed on the Finance Committee the chairman of the committee administering the important departments, centralizing fiscal responsibility and making it easier for each department to acquire a better knowledge of the needs of the others. For the same reason close business relations were established with the Board of Education, and the school and city budgets were prepared in joint conference. We also provided a budget system, not very scientific it is true, but at least better than none at all, which resulted in much more carefully departmental estimates and more accurate information as a basis for fixing appropriations. The chairman of Council committees co-operated with the heads of departments to the fullest extent in our effort to check the advancing tendency of the tax rate. As I pointed out a year ago, "the public will more readily approve plans for betterments and improvements if officials show that they are interested also in annual comparisons relating to the per capita tax."

The tax rate for the year 1914 was 1.91. Of course the tax rate taken by itself does not tell the whole story, but when valuations are also considered we get a fairly accurate idea of what has been accomplished. The total increase in valuations for the two years 1915 and 1916 was about \$160,000, which is less than the average yearly increase for a decade. Notwithstanding the falling off in valuations the tax rate was held at 1.91 for both years, during which tax rates and taxes have shown a very general and in some instances a startling advance throughout the county and State.

At the same time there has been no falling off in the service during these two years. On the contrary many improvements have been made, the most important of which for the year 1916 were outlined in my last annual message. During the year we have added a number of men to the police force and the fire force. We have increased the salaries in both departments so as to bring them into line with well paid departments in other cities. We have displaced two more pieces of apparatus in the fire department which is now rapidly becoming completely modernized; and we have motor-driven patrol and service cars for the police department. In the Street and Sewer Departments storm sewers are being installed, and sewer connections are being relocated in anticipation of the extension of permanent pavements on through highways. A number of streets have been macadamized and contracts have been let for macadamizing others. They are all to be macadamized for the full width of the roadway. Reducers and restorers have been carried on as in previous years except that no such work not absolutely necessary has been done on streets shortly to be rebuilt with new pavements of a permanent character. Road direction signs have been placed at several points, also school traffic signs throughout the city, at frontage on the widening of the highway. The widening of East Second street has been completed and that of Madison avenue nearly completed. A beginning has been made on the widening of Central street. The construction of sanitary sewers for the southwestern section of the city has been begun.

No review of the year would be complete without reference to the fine constructive work of the almshouse which has included the adoption of a fixed monthly budget, the formation of the Charity Organization Society in the investigation of cases for relief, resulting in better and more economical management. Although we saved from the appropriation to cover part of the cost of extensive repairs to buildings, very much needed, but for which full allowance could not be made at the beginning of the year, the very best business and willing co-operation of the Charity Organization Society has been of great aid and is much appreciated.

The Survey.

The foregoing will show in a general way what has been done in the last two years to maintain and even improve the service while holding the tax rate, and while awaiting the survey recommendations for improving our business methods in order to increase the efficiency of our departments without adding substantially to their cost of maintenance. It is not intended by this survey, as I have pointed out on several occasions, to attempt wholesale reorganization or to throw our departments into panic or disorder by a mad rush after innovations. The purpose is to have on file a book of reference, which gives not only the exact facts as to our present methods of transacting business but also many recommendations for increased efficiency by the adoption of standardized systems which are based on the experience of other cities and which can easily be had under our charter and laws. The report has already been given service by its endorsement of our plan to save a large annual appropriation for temporary repairs of water-bound macadam, substituting a definite policy for the construction of a certain mileage of permanent pavements yearly; also by its approval of the plans of the Police Board for the installation of the fixed post and flashlight system. I referred to these two matters at some length in my message a year ago.

A good example of the use to which the survey may be put is to be found in the commendable promptness and energy of the City Clerk in his plans for current auditing and purchasing. He has taken the recommendations to be found in our annual reports and in the survey report and has already made a beginning on a system which will enable us to dispense with a great deal of red tape and to acquire something approaching a real audit. If city officials and heads of departments will make like use of the survey report as a basis for intelligent planning in building up and improving the service, it should be of great value to the city for several years to come. I recommend its use in such manner; that is, for ready reference as improved methods are contemplated rather than for the purpose of making changes too rapidly, or too many changes at once. It is my opinion, however, that some of our financial and accounting methods are so palpably out of date that early attention should be given to their revision. We are seriously handicapped in budget making through inadequate accounting, as we are in the determination of our business problems. Correct information as to our financial condition, immediately available, is absolutely necessary to the exercise of good judgment in reaching business decisions. I also think that in the police and fire departments the training of men, the keeping of modern efficiency and merit records, and the adoption of standardized report forms, are matters of urgent importance.

Park Avenue Widening.

I take the liberty of repeating the recommendation of last year with respect to the widening of Park avenue between West Second and Front Sts. To further delay this much needed improvement is but to invite an added burden for the taxpayer. It can never be made at less cost than now, and sooner or later it must be made. If there is the slightest doubt in anyone's mind as to whether our traffic conditions make this expenditure necessary, the matter can be submitted to the Research and Advisory Commission for a recommendation. But I have always supposed that there could be only one opinion on the subject. "Traffic conditions at Park avenue and Front street are already both intolerable and dangerous. They are becoming more so every day."

City Planning.

I have already referred to the ordinance which you adopted at my request last summer to create a Research and Advisory Commission. It is not enough that we have capable management of the routine business of the city; we must have definite policies with regard to its development. Some improvements to be made wisely must be considered with reference to the future. Others require investigation and study extending sometimes over a longer period than the terms of the Mayor, or of Councilmen; and so are either not considered at all, or if considered are abandoned before matured decisions can be reached. What we have needed is a permanent body, closely related to the Council, to which problems of this kind can be referred for thorough consideration. I referred last year to the question of municipal parks. The flood problem in the East End is another; the improvement of Green brook another; municipal fish and garbage collection, or regulation, another. I believe it will be found that in making provision for this new Commission we shall have taken a forward step toward capable government. The people of the city are to be congratulated that experienced men of affairs, having the confidence of the community, are found willing to serve in this line of work.

Referendum.

Under our Charter the responsibility for the administration of the affairs of the municipality, often involving the expenditure of large amounts for betterments and improvements, is lodged in the Common Council. To large extent it is left to that body to decide what is most conducive to the public welfare and for what and to what extent the people shall be taxed. This is as it should be. On the other hand I believe it to be a defect in our organization as a municipality that there is no means by which the Common Council may, in the exercise of its duties and if it deems advisable, submit a project under consideration to the people for an expression of opinion. For example the Research and Advisory Commission, if the question of public parks is referred to it for a recommendation, may advise the acquisition of considerable areas of land at various points, perhaps not for immediate improvement but against the day when the city is more built up and when values will be high. Or the Commission might submit a plan, involving considerable expense, for the prevention of floods in the East End. It would be not only of aid to the Council but really in accord with the principle of home rule if questions of unusual importance could be submitted to the people of the community for the purpose of ascertaining what they want and are willing to pay for.

The corporation counsel has drafted a supplement to the "Act to regulate Elections (Revision of 1898)," approved April 4, 1898, which provides to effect that whenever the Common Council wishes to ascertain the sentiment of the voters on any question, it shall by resolution so declare and the clerk of the county shall then be required to print the proposition upon the official ballot at the next ensuing general election. If it is your wish to have such an amendment to the election law presented to the Legislature, and you will so indicate by appropriate action of your honorable body, I shall be glad to request its introduction by our representatives, and to further its favorable consideration in such other

way as I may be able.

The License Question.

Another purpose which might be served by statutory machinery for a referendum has reference to the license question. There is no local option law and our charter charges the Common Council with the duty of determining what is most conducive to the public good with respect to the regulation and prohibition of the sale of liquor. There is no way by which the Council, which I believe to be ready at all times regardless of personal views to act in accordance with public sentiment, can ascertain how the community really stands on this question. I assume that most people will agree that it would not be most conducive to the public welfare to force either a license or a no-license policy upon a community against its will. Law enforcement is a matter of tremendous practical importance.

I have heretofore thought that we had a fairly serviceable substitute for local option in that the voters have it in their power to elect men to the Council definitely pledged on this issue. Certainly no criticism may fairly be made if those who favor no license try to secure it by the only means the law provides. I believe it to be not only their privilege but possibly their duty to do so. But unless candidates for the Council from the several political organizations can be found to stand on either side of the question, it would appear that there is less opportunity by such means to get a clear and unequivocal expression of sentiment than if the question

were separately submitted as a paramount issue, dissociated from the other qualifications for office of the candidates involved. I am not urging upon the Council that a vote be taken on the license question. But as it has recently been proposed that an informal or non-official election might be arranged, I would suggest that if the question is to be submitted to the people at all it would be better to make the vote a conclusive and authoritative test of public sentiment by surrounding it with all the safeguards provided by law when other elections are held. Such a statutory amendment would make it possible for the Council to order a referendum on the question; and I believe that the Council would so order whenever it appeared probable that public opinion had changed. This would not be local option, because the people would not be entitled in their own right to an election though they might at any time petition the Council for one. But the point is whether it would not be a better substitute for local option than what we now have.

Joint Sewage Project.

The Sewage Disposal Plant at the Darling farm was placed in service on November 28, 1916, and the following short account of this project, begun in August, 1912, by the preparation of preliminary plans, may be of interest to the people. After the plans had been approved by the State Board of Health a contract was made in November, 1913, by the municipalities of Plainfield, North Plainfield and Dumellen apportioning the expense among them at 68 per cent., 25 per cent. and 7 per cent. respectively; and steps were taken by each of them for the authorization of required bond issues. The cost of construction and operation is borne in proportion to the amount of disposal delivered by each municipality at the joint works. The site comprises about 97 acres and is located near the confluence of Bound Brook and Green Brook. Proceedings were begun early for the acquisition of rights of way. Bids were received from contractors in October, 1914.

The trunk sewer is 42 inches in diameter and of reinforced concrete. It extends about 13,000 feet from Rock avenue to the disposal plant and is built almost entirely on private right of way west of Rock avenue. It is planned to serve a population of 80,000. Plainfield's sewer reaches the head of the trunk line through two cast-iron siphon lines in Rock avenue, each of them 20 inches in diameter.

The disposal works consist of Imhoff tanks of the two-story type, and will serve a population of 40,000. The sewage is clarified in the upper or settling compartments from which solid matter moves down through a trapped slot into the sludge-digestion chambers. Here it can be retained for six months or more until bacterial action has rendered the solid matter inodorous and capable of drying on adjoining sludge beds. The clarified sewage flows from the Imhoff tanks to siphon chambers, whence it discharges as a spray from nozzles over the surface of nearly two acres of filter beds of broken stone. After filtration the liquid is again passed through the Imhoff tanks for the purpose of retaining solid matter which at times becomes detached from the filtering material. When purified the sewage is conveyed through 3,000 feet of reinforced concrete effluent pipe and discharged into the brook below the wells of the Watchung Water Company.

A Survey of All Departments With an Impartial and Straight to the Point Criticism of Existing Conditions

George W. Fuller, of New York city, has been the designing and supervising engineer during the period of construction, and he is also supervising engineer now that the plant is in operation. Further detail, with financial statements covering all items of cost, may be had by reference to the reports of the Joint Meeting of the Councils of the three municipalities.

The New Municipal Building.

Following the purchase about a year ago of a site for the new City Hall, or Municipal Building, a competition was held for the selection of an architect. It was absolutely anonymous and fairly held. Three New York architects of good standing served without compensation on the jury of award; also the Mayor and a member of the Common Council, for the purpose of giving the city representation. As it turned out, the award which was by secret ballot was unanimous. It was advertised that any Plainfield architect might compete and a number elected to do so. In addition seven or eight New York architects of recognized ability were invited. It was what is known as a limited competition. The purpose was to have assurance that the successful competitor, whoever he might be, would be such an architect as the city would have been willing to employ if no competition had been held. The designs from Plainfield architects were all excellent and took high rank in the award.

Peck & Bottomley, of New York city, were the successful competitors. Their plans have been prepared with great care to produce a building of architectural merit which will be a credit to the community, yet simple in design and planned not for display but for the use to which it is to be put. It will be fireproof, with interior arrangement of departments so as to facilitate the transaction of business at a minimum of expense. The plans are so drawn that wings can be built at a future time if the growth of the city is such that a larger building is ever needed. The addition of these wings will add to the architectural beauty of the building rather than detract from it. The aim has been to give the city useful quarters for carrying on the public business efficiently, something which we entirely lack at present, with reasonable allowance of space in the building as now erected for future requirements, and a definite plan for enlargement whenever that is necessary. The building is already in process of construction and should be ready for occupancy a year hence.

Street Traffic Regulation.

The regulation of street traffic has become a matter of urgent necessity. I do not know what was in the minds of the early Plainfield settlers but it would appear that they had little faith in the growth of the city, judging from the way they laid it out. I am afraid, too, that they were somewhat lacking in vision, and more concerned with the then present than with the future; possibly one reason for making the streets narrow was to shorten the passage of pedestrians across seas of red Jersey mud. Except for an occasional horse and buggy, I suppose most people went about on foot and always expected to do so. Be that as it may, Plainfield was never intended for the motor vehicle; at least not to the extent to which it has become a part of modern life. Our business now is to readjust the lay-out to meet existing conditions; and, as already stated, street widening is one of the adjustments which should have our early attention.

It is apparent however, that we shall never be able to widen our highways to keep pace with their use; and that we have arrived at a point where regulation must step in to safeguard the public convenience and safety. If we have seemed somewhat slow in this matter, it has been because the problem is not one which can be solved without a curtailment of privilege somewhere, and needless restraint of the free use of streets and public places, as indeed needless restraint of any kind, is to be avoided whenever possible. This matter is within the jurisdiction of the Board of Police, which has had it under discussion for a considerable period and hopes soon to present, for trial at least, a plan which will meet the conditions from which we suffer the most annoyance and danger. We have hesitated to impose restrictions until satisfied of their necessity. If, when they have been imposed they shall be found to be unfair, or unwise, they will be modified or repealed and other means will be sought to provide a satisfactory remedy.

The year 1916 will long be remembered as marking the voluntary retirement of Fire Chief T. O. Doane and City Clerk James T. MacMurray after many years of devoted service; and the death of City Treasurer William F. Arnold, faithful custodian of the city funds and public spirited citizen. New men have taken their places, keen in their interest for their work and well fitted for the performance of their duties. I record with sincere regret the retirement from the Council of men who have done much for the city and have helped me more than I can say in my work. To their successors I give the same pledge I gave them, and you who remain, to be of what service I can to the Council in our joint labors for the city's welfare. I acknowledge my obligation to officials and others with whom I have been associated, and extend to you and to them my best wishes for a happy New Year.

LEIGHTON CALKINS, Mayor.

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Home Cookery

Stuffed Celery.
Season rich cream cheese with paprika, onion juice and Worcestershire sauce and add cream or olive oil to make soft enough to spread. Fill short, tender stalks of celery with the seasoned cheese and serve with the salad course.

Baked Potatoes and Pineapple.
Dice enough potatoes to fill one quart; add one small onion, sliced fine. Cook in salted water until almost done. Add one-half can of sliced pineapple. Cook all five minutes more, drain and put in baking dish. Add sauce made of two tablespoonfuls of flour, two tablespoonfuls of butter, one pint of milk, salt and pepper and one-half pound of grated cheese. Cook until it bubbles and the cheese is thoroughly melted, pour over the potatoes and bake to the oven until a golden brown.

Bavory Pork Chops.
Put pork chops into a baking pan with a thin slice of onion on each; also a bit of salt and a dash of pepper. Pour a little water in the pan and bake. They are delicious. The fat is crisp and the flavor is fine.

Fish Fritters.
Free the fish from skin and bones and chop finely. Season to taste with salt and paprika and to each cupful of the fish add one well beaten egg, one tablespoonful of melted butter, one small cupful of milk and one teaspoonful of baking powder, sifted with sufficient flour to form a batter that will drop from the spoon. Beat the mixture until it is full of air bubbles and fry by the tablespoonful in deep, hot fat to a rich dark brown. Drain on brown paper for a minute or two and serve garnished with parsley and lemon quarters.

Club Sandwich.
Toast three slices of bread, butter each slice, place a lettuce leaf on each slice and spread with mayonnaise dressing. On the first slice place some nicely fried chicken. Then put on a slice of toast, buttered and lettuce side up. On the second slice place some cold fried chicken. Then put on the third slice, buttered, side down, over the fried chicken.—Farm and Fire side.

BETTER LIGHTS.
In homes where kinks are still used here are a few hints which greatly improve their lighting value: After washing the chimneys in hot soapwater rinse in ammonia water. After partially drying with an ordinary cloth finish polishing with a starched one. Washed in this way they shine most beautifully. Soak the new wick in strong vinegar before using and dry before putting into the oil; also add a teaspoonful of fine table salt to the oil in the lamp and thus avoid having any odor during the burning.
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