

SAY WOMAN MAY HAVE BEEN MURDERED

Bridgeport Evening Farmer

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PRICE TWO CENTS

MORE U. S. SOLDIERS KILLED FIRE SWEEPING PETROGRAD

Sold 1200 Bushel of Potatoes

Plan to Beat High Cost of Living—A Great Success—When Supply is Exhausted Maine Potatoes Will Be Sold Public.

Bridgeport families were quick to take advantage of the sale of the Bridgeport Hydraulic Co.'s potato harvest at the old McElroy building on Water street today and up to noon more than 1,200 bushels had been disposed of at \$1.50 a bushel, which is approximately 75 cents less than the wholesale market price. About one-third of the buyers carted their "spuds" away in all sorts of vehicles, ranging from baby carriages and express wagons to flyovers and limousines.

It is reported today that when the supply of 20,000 bushels is exhausted, it will be replenished with Maine potatoes as a plan to defeat the high price scheme of wholesale dealers. A rumor was current about the market today that a wholesale produce dealer had offered the Hydraulic company \$1.70 a bushel for the entire lot.

A limit of three bushels to a purchaser has been set and a charge of 15 cents is made for the delivery to any part of the city. A policeman familiar with the wholesale district "beat" is stationed at the market on the lookout for speculators and vendors. Several vendors who attempted to purchase potatoes this morning were turned away. The market will be open only on Thursday of each week. It was expected that more than 3,500 bushels would be sold before the day was out.

TAKES OWN LIFE AFTER TRYING TO MURDER WOMAN

Following an attempt to murder Mrs. Freda Clayton Wass, a cabaret singer, in her apartment at 842 Eighth avenue, New York city, early last evening, Private John Becker, of Company H, 304th Infantry, National Army, stationed at Camp Devens, Ayer, Mass., and formerly of this city, committed suicide by sending two bullets through his breast and one through his temple.

Becker, according to report, was infatuated with the woman, who is the wife of a diamond cutter, from whom she is separated. A quarrel arose shortly after Becker's arrival at Mrs. Wass' apartment, and quickly resulted in the shooting. When the police arrived, they found the soldier lying dead on the floor.

While in this city, Becker was employed by the Bliton Machine Tool Company, in its plant on Housatonic avenue. He worked here until he was drafted and sent to Ayer. The man was 28 years old and leaves a wife and three children, who reside in Elizabeth, N. J. A sister lives in New York.

Partly cloudy tonight and Friday; slightly warmer in the interior tonight; moderate southwest to west winds.

FUEL BOARD TO AID STRATFORD TO OBTAIN COAL

The Fuel Board, which has just completed its investigation of the coal situation in Bridgeport, will make a similar investigation in Stratford, where the coal shortage is most acute. Chairman Carl F. Siemon received notice today from State Coal Administrator Russell to have authority over the town of Stratford. Siemon said the investigation would start next week.

SUGAR SUPPLY IN BRIDGEPORT IS EXHAUSTED

The retail and wholesale sugar supply in Bridgeport is a few pounds from exhaustion. It can be obtained in only one or two large groceries and at these one-pound to a customer is the established limit. Hundreds of housewives find themselves without a grain of sugar in the house. Larger quantities of condensed milk or brown sugar are used as substitutes in coffee.

Bakers have received temporary relief from the government's distribution of a reserve supply. Candy makers are still going along on their own stocks, purchased before the famine, but estimate that their supplies will be completely exhausted within three weeks.

LABOR HERE IS FIRMLY IN BACK OF GOVERNMENT

After futile efforts on the part of several members of the organization to rescind the vote of the last meeting in endorsing United States Senator LaFollette, the Central Labor Union of Bridgeport at its meeting last night passed a resolution pledging allegiance to the constitution of the United States and pledging its support to its laws.

The meeting was featured by the warmest debate in the history of the union. According to several delegates the socialistic element of the Central body which is at present in control fought bitterly to maintain the attitude assumed at the last meeting and to prevent the members not agreeing with them from absolutely rescinding the vote of the past meeting which supported LaFollette.

Since the previous meeting of the Central Labor union many of the unions affiliated with the body have passed resolutions disavowing the action of the Central body and by vote spread a record of disavowal on the minutes of the meeting and also voted to give them as much publicity as possible.

For several hours the debate waxed warm with neither faction gaining any advantage. Finally, as a compromise measure and it is stated, under threat of action beyond the control of the socialistic members of the Central body, it was voted to pledge allegiance to the constitution of the United States and as a body pledge support for all its laws.

John Mitchell was named president of the New York State Food and Market Commission at its organization meeting in Albany.

U. S. FLAG IS FIRST OVER TOP OF VIMY RIDGE

St. John, N. B., Nov. 15—A small American flag was first over the top of Vimy ridge in the famous charge of Canadian forces, according to J. J. Allen, of this city, home today with wounded troops from the provinces. When the order to charge was given, Allen said, he pinned the Star and Stripes to his coat and kept them there. He was wounded three times in the day's fighting but saved the flag.

26,500 SOLDIERS AT CAMP GORDON

Atlanta, Ga., Nov. 15—The soldier population at Camp Gordon has reached about 26,500, it was announced here today. Approximately arrivals to date from eastern camps follow:

Camp Devens, 4,500, allotment \$3,000; Camp Upton, New York, 6,000, allotment 7,000; Camp Dix, New Jersey, 2,000, allotment 5,000.

THROWN OUT OF VEHICLE WOMAN IS BADLY HURT

With probable internal injuries, Mrs. Sophia Kramer, of Avon Park, Stratford, is a patient in the Bridgeport hospital, today, and in a critical condition, as the result of being thrown from the side-car of a motorcycle, early this morning.

Y. M. C. A. FUND TOTAL \$95,960 AT NOON TODAY

Easton is the first town in the Bridgeport district which has "gone over the top" in its collections for the \$36,000,000 fund for the Y. M. C. A. work for which a campaign is under way, having reported today a grand total of \$511, while its quota was set at \$200. The team members were warmly congratulated by fellow workers who have not been quite so successful, but are still assured of reaching their allotments.

Today's grand total as announced at the luncheon at the Stratford is \$95,960. Of this sum Division A has contributed \$11,237 and Division B, \$13,584.

CLAIM HE STOLE \$2,100 PAY-ROLL

Rather than face the prospect of imprisonment, Thomas Ferguson, alias F. McCue, of 170 Thoms street, this city, would gladly serve in the National Army, and it was his profound regret to learn this morning that instead of going to Camp Devens, next week, as he was scheduled to do, he will have to return to Hackensack, N. J., for trial on robbery charges.

Ferguson is accused of having held up and robbed the paymaster of a factory in Hackensack, of a pay-roll amounting to \$2,100. Others were implicated in the job, the authorities say, but Ferguson is believed to have been their leader.

The young man has been living in this city for some time, and was employed at the plant of the Remington Arms Company, as an assembler, under the name of F. McCue, until he was arrested last evening by Detective Sergeants Bray and Dooley, and Detective Darroek. He is quite well known about the city, and is a member of the Bridgeport Club.

Imprint On Cloth, Clue To Killing

Outline of Bloody Hand on Table Linen in Home of Mrs. Ruzzy, Found Dead With Her Throat Cut, may Solve Mystery.

Discovery of the bloody imprint of what appears to be a man's hand on a table-cloth in a room adjoining that in which Mrs. Annie Ruzzy, aged 28, of 632 State street, was found dead yesterday afternoon with her throat cut, has led the authorities to believe that she may have been a victim of murder. The suspicion that she took her own life is not substantiated in the slightest degree, and all outward appearances—the blood-stained condition of her home; the fact that no plausible suicide motive can be advanced, and the manner of her death—are taken to indicate that she was slain.

Detectives who were assigned by Captain of Detectives Edward Cronan to investigate the case, found the blood-stain in the table cloth, and by comparison arrived at the conclusion that it could not have been made by Mrs. Ruzzy. The finger marks were larger than would have been left by a woman's hand, and even allowing for spreading caused by resting heavily against the table, it is doubtful if the impression could have been made by her.

Report of what they had found was made by the detectives to Coroner John J. Phelan, at a preliminary examination held this morning, and the coroner has ordered a thorough investigation. He will commence his formal inquest tomorrow morning.

Today he examined blood soaked towels from the home of the dead woman, and is holding these against future need.

Mrs. Ruzzy was found dead by Max Plotkin, a tailor, owner of the house in which she lived. The screams of her two young children attracted Plotkin's attention, and entering the rooms, he discovered that the woman's throat was cut from ear to ear. A blood stained razor found nearby gave evidence of how the wound had been inflicted.

BELGIAN WAR OFFICE REPORT

Paris, Nov. 15—The Belgian communication issued by the war office last night says:

"During the day of Nov. 13 the artillery fire was rather lively southeast of Dixmude. Enemy aviators carried out a raid on the night of Nov. 13 and dropped several bombs on Adinkerke, Panne and Furnes, causing a number of victims among the civilian population. North of Dixmude one of our detachments exploded a mine near the German lines. During today the activity of the two artilleries was stronger along the entire front."

GERMANS SHELL THE AMERICAN TRENCHES

With the American Army in France, Wednesday, Nov. 14—(By the Associated Press)—A number of American soldiers have been killed or wounded in the recent shelling of the American trenches by the Germans.

One shell which dropped into a trench caused several casualties. The American artillery fire has been heavy recently and there is good reason to believe that it has accounted for a considerable number of the enemy.

A revised report from Gen. Pershing today on the German raid on American trenches on Nov. 2 puts the killed at three, the wounded at 11 and the missing 11. The first report was three killed, five wounded and 12 missing.

First Lieut. William H. McLaughlin is added to the list of wounded. Private William F. Grigsby of Louisville, previously reported a prisoner in the hands of the Germans, is among the wounded also.

The list of three killed is unchanged but the following others are added to the wounded:

Private Louis A. Deifer, mother, Mrs. Catherine Deifer, Sullivan, Ind. Private Paul W. Fann, father, George W. Fann, Carona, Wis. Private George Wesley, Miss Margaret T. Welch, Dayton, Ky. Private Lester C. Smith, R. A. Smith, Concord, N. C.

PRICE OF FLOUR MAY BE REDUCED

According to information received at the offices of some of Bridgeport's most prominent wholesalers, the price of flour will gradually reduce. There is a plentiful supply on hand but they are rapidly supplying the wants of the eager retailers in the city.

The next most important step to be looked after by these busy men is the coming turkey situation, of which they have not the least idea, neither of price or quantity. Their orders have been sent but as far as could be ascertained they have not been filled. Notices have been sent around to the different meat packing houses in the country, with government caution not to send in for an unneeded supply of turkeys or chickens, so that the unnecessary killing of these birds can be avoided and therefore provide for future use.

VERDICT FOR DEFENDANTS. Judgment for the defendants to recover \$453.21, was handed down by Judge John B. Booth of the common pleas court today in the suit of Nicholas Drachewsky against Olga Drachewsky.

Huns Are Defeated At Piave

Few Detachments Which Have Effected Crossing of River Held in Check—Renewed Efforts a Failure—Mass Troops in North.

(Late Bulletin) London, Nov. 15—Fire has broken out in the city of Petrograd, states a wireless report which was picked up here today. The fire started early this morning and is sweeping through the capital, beyond the control of the military and civilian populace which is fighting it.

Rome, Nov. 15—The Italians have defeated renewed efforts of the Germans to cross the Piave river. Those of the enemy who forced a crossing at two points on previous days are being held in check, the war office announced today.

Berlin, Nov. 15, via London—German troops on the mountain front in northern Italy are advancing to the south from Fonzaso and Felte, says today's official communication. No change is reported along the lower Piave river. The announcement follows:

"Our detachments advancing southward in the mountains from Fonzaso and Felte are in fighting contact with the enemy. On the lower Piave there is nothing new."

KERENSKY HOLDS RUSS IS BELIEF HELD IN LONDON

London, Nov. 15—Word was again received by wireless today from Petrograd that no report from army headquarters had been received. Allied diplomats are still in the dark as to the true military situation in Russia.

Reports current that Premier Kerensky and Gen. Korniloff have joined forces and are working practically all Russia are gaining force. These cannot be verified at the present time, however, as the Bolsheviks apparently have control of the wireless and cable stations in Petrograd.

According to press reports from Stockholm travellers who arrived yesterday evening in Haparanda, Sweden, from Finland, say rumors are abroad there that Petrograd is in flames.

REPAIRS TO AUTO WERE EXPENSIVE

After a trial lasting since yesterday morning a jury in the Common Pleas court, civil side, rendered a verdict today in favor of F. A. Rantz to recover the sum of \$209.23, as a balance due for repairs upon an automobile for George A. Douglas. Both parties to the suit are residents of Bridgeport, Rantz conducting a garage in Laurel avenue, and Douglas being engaged in the painting business.

Douglas left a second hand automobile at the Rantz garage for repairs. He paid about \$250 of the bill, and then declined to pay any more on the ground the charges were excessive. Rantz sued for a balance of about \$131, claiming damages of \$250.

Trial started yesterday before Judge John J. Walsh and the jury, and the verdict was entered shortly before noon today in favor of the plaintiff.

HOLLAND LEAVES REMINGTON CO. OPENS BUREAU

Bridgeport is soon to have the advantage of an Employers' Consulting Bureau with offices in the Poll building in Main street of which Joseph A. Holland, at present manager of the employment department of the Remington shops, will be the head.

He has already presented his resignation to the Remington Co., but will not leave until his successor, who has been selected but not announced, is able to take over the work Holland is now doing. He expects this to be about December 1.

AMERICAN DIES GAMESLY IN RAID ON ENEMY POST

Paris, Nov. 15—William Farrington of San Francisco, member of the French foreign legion, lost his life as a result of wounds he received in a recent action, the Herald announces today.

"Well the folk back home I went out gamely, pal," Farrington murmured as his captain stooped to pin on his breast the military medal, says a letter received by Jack Berry of Brooklyn, another member of the legion, who is on a furlough in Paris.

The letter was written at the front by Oscar Moutet and gave the circumstances of the death of this volunteer in Lorraine. It was necessary to clear the Germans from a point of vantage in a section of the front near the Alsace. When volunteers were called for Farrington was among the first to step forward. He was shot down a short distance away. He fell by a machine gun bullet soon after the charge from the parapet was made.

Five of the crew of the American steamship S. N. Leobenbach were lost when the ship was sunk by a submarine Oct. 24.