

VENICE IS DOOMED; POPULACE FLEES CITY

Bridgeport Evening Farmer

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PRICE TWO CENTS

U. S. GUNS ROUT GERMANS SEA OF WATER HALTS HUNS

SAMMIES PATROL NO MAN'S LAND AT NIGHT

With the American Army in France, Nov. 15—(By the Associated Press)—There have been further encounters between American patrols and Germans in No Man's Land. Last night there were several clashes, but the night was dark and showery and the firing was mostly at a distance. There were no American casualties.

The Germans placed machine guns in several craters and sprayed streams of bullets on our communicating trenches. The American artillery hurled shells from 75s at the positions and silenced the enemy.

American patrols have worked up to the German wire entanglements. The artillery fire day and night continues lively.

MAN WHO STOLE AUTO MAY NOT BE PROSECUTED

In spite of the fact that he admitted at a court hearing in Warehouse Point, yesterday, his guilt of the theft of an Oakland touring car from H. D. Strong, of 1164 Fairfield avenue, this city, William Gilmore, of Wadley street, stands in little danger of being prosecuted for this offense, today.

No request for his arrest has been filed with the authorities by either Strong or the insurance company that had to reimburse the owner for the loss of the machine, and efforts by Detective-Captain Edward Cronan to determine what stand these interested parties will take have elicited only the information that neither considers it within jurisdiction to ask for Gilmore's detention.

Gilmore was fined \$44.78 in the Warehouse Point town court, yesterday, for false registration of the automobile, and about three weeks ago was fined \$75 and costs in the same court for his part in an accident.

STELLA RUZY'S DEATH PROBED BY J. J. PHELAN

Despite the questioning of Coroner J. J. Phelan of a number of relatives who appeared before him today no evidence which would throw any light upon the death of Mrs. Stella Ruzy of 423 State street was elicited to indicate it was other than a suicide, and no reason could be elicited of any intention upon her part to take her life, or any reason for the suicide.

Coroner Phelan held a prolonged hearing this morning at which Detectives F. M. Holbrook and J. J. Burns, with Samuel Ruzy, the woman's husband, her brother, Joseph Sucholser, of 42 Ridge avenue, Mrs. Ruzy's sister, and other relatives were questioned. None could throw any light on the actual occurrence.

Max Plotkin, the tailor from whom the rooms were rented, described the finding of Mrs. Ruzy lying on the floor after the baby had been crying an unusually long time.

Capt. Cronan of the detective department alleged today that Mrs. Ruzy had complained of being subject to hallucinations, imagining she had something upon the end of her nose, and that people were laughing at her, and that she also made threats to take her life.

THE WEATHER.
Fairly cloudy tonight and Saturday.

Y. M. C. A. TOTAL IS \$126,440 AT NOON TO-DAY

Bridgeport "went over the top" today in the Y. M. C. A. campaign to raise \$125,000 of the \$25,000,000 the country has been asked to contribute, the grand total of subscriptions up to noon being \$126,440. The campaign will be continued, as the disasters to the arms of Italy, and the revolutions in Russia have increased the need for funds.

Other reports made are: Division B. Guy P. Miller, total, \$10,470; Boys' division, today, \$1,400, total \$5,240; Citizens' committee \$9,475; Division A. A. E. Lavery, \$8,999; leading men's team, Leonard M. Allen, \$2,933; leading women's team, Mrs. W. R. Webster, \$3,594.

Reports from the outside towns, totals, are: Stratford, \$2,913; Fairfield, \$1,200; Southport, \$1,053; Westport, \$1,200; Newtown, \$1,400. All of the workers were much pleased when the total was announced at the luncheon at The Stratfield, and expressed themselves as determined to continue until the end of the campaign, and add several thousands to the quota assigned to Bridgeport. When the announcement that the allotment had been exceeded there was a wild burst of applause which continued for nearly a minute.

POTATO SALES THE FIRST DAY 4,000 BUSHELS

Exceeding all expectations, more than 4,000 bushels of potatoes, nearly one-quarter of the enormous crop grown by the Bridgeport Hydraulic Co. were sold yesterday, the first day of the market opening. The sales in the afternoon were unusually heavy and up to closing time there was a steady stream of buyers, the number falling to fall below 200 during the day. They were sold at \$1.50 a bushel and many persons were anxious to buy them in lots as high as 20 bushels but only three bushels were allowed an individual.

Deliveries of approximately 3,500 bushels were started today in the company's trucks and a charge of 15 cents for each delivery is made. They will all be delivered by next Thursday when the market will again be opened. One Italian woman yesterday afternoon carried two bushels in bags on her head from the market in Water street to her home in East Bridgeport.

AMERICAN ENVOYS DINE WITH ROYALTY

London, Nov. 15.—The members of the American mission to the inter Allied conference were invited to Buckingham palace this afternoon for luncheon with the king and queen.

SCHEME FOR HOLD UP IS FRUSTRATED

Arrest of Thomas Ferguson of This City Reveals Plan of Gang to Perpetuate Wholesale Payroll Robbery in Bridgeport.

That a plan to rob some local concern of a considerable sum of money was frustrated by the arrest, Wednesday night, of Thomas Ferguson, alias F. McCue, alias George Wilson, of 170 Thorne street, wanted in Hackensack, N. J., for participation in an alleged "hold up," was revealed today by a letter found on the person of the prisoner.

On the night of his apprehension, according to the hour appointed in the letter, Ferguson was to have met and discussed details of the proposed local job with two friends from New York. That he must have seen and talked with these men, and perhaps formulated a definite course of action, is assumed from the fact that the appointment was for 7 o'clock in the evening, while the arrest did not take place until almost midnight.

The letter discloses nothing that might indicate what robbery was contemplated, stating merely that the writer had an excellent "lay" in view, and one which would mean a "substantial bit of dough" for Ferguson.

"The plan will go well, as everything else always has under our supervision," was one interesting line. Dated November 12, the letter stated that the writer and one "Spike" were planning to spend a week in Bridgeport. Ferguson is understood to have been in the company of the gang a few hours before he was locked up, and the police have no doubt that they were his co-conspirators, and that a plan was decided upon that evening.

J. H. Taylor and N. H. Allen, county detectives of the County of Hackensack, N. J., came to Bridgeport this morning to take Ferguson back to New Jersey for trial, and told an interesting story of the events connected with the crime for which the prisoner is to be tried.

The firm robbed was the Max G. Cohen company, of East Rutherford, suburbs of Newark, N. J., the morning of Saturday, August 25th, at 9:20 o'clock. Burt Bennett, the firm's messenger, who was formerly a private detective in New York, and an acquaintance of such police characters as the notorious "Eddie" Webster, prominent figure in the Becker-

MUNITIONS TOWNS MAY HAVE RENTS FIXED BY EDICT

Waterbury, Nov. 15.—Mayor Martin Scully and Judge Walter D. Makepeace went to Hartford today for a conference with Gov. Holcomb on the question of regulating rents in towns where munitions or other supplies for the United States government are made. Judge Makepeace is chairman of the Waterbury local committee of the state council of defense. It is claimed that excessive rents charged by a small proportion of the landlords here tend to keep munition workers and other factory operatives away from the city.

A bill prepared by Judge Makepeace, which it is claimed the governor's signature can make into law, under the extraordinary powers vested in him during the time of war, provides a means of relief for tenants asked to pay unreasonable sums to landlords. This bill, in brief, calls for a board of rents, to be made up of the assessors, in each city or town of more than 25,000 population in which work on munition or government supply contracts is under way.

Tenants whose rents have been raised may appear before this board and in cases in which dispossession proceedings have been begun with the intention to secure a new tenant at a higher rent, the aggrieved party may also appear. The board if in its judgment such action is warranted, is to fix the amount of rent at an amount not exceeding 20 per cent. more than the rental of the same or similar premises on Jan. 1, 1915.

Force Fuel Saving Here

Bridgeport's White Way and Electrical Signs on Business Houses and Theatres Must Be Dimmed at 11 P. M., Fuel Board Rules.

Bridgeport merchants and theatre managers, who last night failed to heed the order of the United States Fuel Administration in the matter of regulating the use of electricity to save fuel, violated the law, according to State Fuel Administrator Russell, who today emphasizes the order that the law must be complied with. Complaint to the effect that Bridgeporters failed to heed the order was made to the administrator by Carl F. Stemon, chairman of the Bridgeport Fuel Board.

No signs, except those for which exemption is provided must be lighted between the hours of 7:45 and 11 p. m. The United States Fuel Administrator, H. A. Garfield, is acting under authority of an executive order from President Woodrow Wilson, approved on August 10. It became effective yesterday.

Paragraph C of the administrator's order tells what signs must be ousted before and after the prescribed hours. It is as follows:

"Electric signs affixed to the street fronts of buildings over the street entrances thereof or over the street entrances to stores, shops, or other places of business therein, or extending therefrom over the sidewalks, for the purpose of announcing the name or business of a retail shop or store, or the name and location of a theatre or other place of amusement or of a hall or other place of public assembly, together with the name of the play or other entertainment given therein, or of the purpose of any public assembly to be held therein, as the case may be, may be lighted or illuminated or operated by electricity, generated or produced by the use of coal, during the period from one-half hour after sunset until such time, not later than 11 o'clock in the evening at which time in the case of a place of business the same is closed for the conduct of business therein in the same manner and to the extent that such business is conducted therein during the daytime business hours, and in the case of places of amusement and public assembly hereinafter referred to until one-half hour after the time fixed for the beginning of an entertainment or of the meeting or other public assembly, as the case may be. Provided that the size of any such sign and the amount of electricity needed to operate and illuminate the same shall be reduced at any time upon direction of the State Fuel Administrator of the State within which such sign is located."

The order does not apply to any lights that may be needed to illuminate the interiors of any building, driveways, garages or porches, only when the use of such a light is deemed unnecessary and consequently resulting in wasteful fuel.

U. S. Steamer Lost at Sea

Washington, Nov. 16.—The American steamer Kansas City is believed to have been lost at sea. Nothing has been heard of her since she was separated from her convoy in a storm on Sept. 5.

The only person aboard of whom the navy has record was J. H. A. Muir, whose parents live at 26 Marymount road, Roland Park, Md.

MRS. RIHOZO IN CRITICAL CONDITION

Woman Hurt in Motorcycle Accident Lies at Point of Death While Her Husband is Held on Charge of Manslaughter by Police.

Mrs. Stephen Rihozo, of 116 Park Terrace, is in a critical state at St. Vincent's hospital, expected momentarily to die; and her husband is under arrest, locked up in default of \$2,500 bail on a charge of manslaughter, in consequence of a motorcycle disaster in Fairfield which yesterday afternoon resulted in the instant death of Mrs. Jennie Wisniewsky, of the same address.

With a fracture of the skull, a broken arm, and contusions about the face and body, Mrs. Rihozo's condition is aggravated by the fact that she was otherwise in a delicate state before the accident, and all hope for her recovery is abandoned. Her husband escaped injury.

An effort by Rihozo to avoid striking a pedestrian with the motorcycle and sidcar on which he and the two women victims of the catastrophe were racing along the Boston road, brought about the fatal mishap. The driver lost control of his machine when he took two sharp turns and his cycle ran into the gutter, bringing up against the curb with such tremendous force that Mrs. Wisniewsky was hurled six feet into the air and sent crashing, head first, into a telegraph pole.

The impact of the blow crushed her skull and scattered intermingled portions of bone, brain, flesh and hair about. A tooth was broken from the woman's jaw and buried itself in the wooden pole, where today it is attracting many curious spectators, not having been removed. Mrs. Wisniewsky was killed outright.

Mrs. Rihozo was flung heavily from the side-car to the pavement, and was rendered unconscious. Her left arm was broken, and her skull fractured by impact with the curb. In some way, Rihozo managed to bring his motorcycle to a stop and rushed to assist the women. He became frenzied with fear when neither responded to his efforts to rouse them.

A call was sent in to the Bridgeport emergency hospital, and Dr. B. C. Pasuth responded with the ambulance, in which he took Mrs. Rihozo to the hospital, turning the dead

WEARIED WIVES SEEK FREEDOM FROM HUSBANDS

Four unhappy wives were separated from their husbands by Judge Curtis in the superior court today, decrees of divorce being granted. In two cases cruelty was the cause alleged, and in the other two desertion.

Irene Bradford was granted separation from Edward Bradford, on account of cruelty. They were married June 2, 1916, Bradford having been a sailor. He was in the habit of carrying a loaded revolver, his wife told the court, frequently threatening to kill her and finally telling her he was tired of her, ordered her out of his house. Her story was corroborated by other witnesses, and Judge Curtis granted the decree.

Katherine Murphey of Bridgeport, was granted a decree from Harold J. Murphey of Bridgeport, on the ground of cruelty. They were married September 7, 1910, and shortly after the wedding his abuse commenced. At one time he met her in Courtland street and assaulted her.

Annie Marie Fanton Lobdell was granted a decree from Charles L. Lobdell, both of Weston, on the ground of desertion. They were married September, 1904, and the husband left in the following April, saying he would no longer live with his wife. Change of name was also allowed.

Judge Curtis also granted a decree to Dora Toth, from Paul Toth, both of Bridgeport, on the charge of desertion.

FLOOD GATES ARE OPENED UPON HUN ARMIES

Rome, Nov. 16.—All along the mountain front from Asiago to the Piave river the attacks of the Austro-German forces which are seeking to crush in the Italian line have been repulsed, it is announced officially. All the positions attacked yesterday remained in the hands of the Italians.

Berlin, Nov. 16.—The town of Cismon, on the northern Italian front, has been captured, the war office announces. Near the Adriatic, on the western bank of the Piave, Hungarian troops advanced and captured 1,000 Italians.

Italian Headquarters in Northern Italy, Thursday, Nov. 15.—(By the Associated Press)—The flood gates of the Piave and the Sile, or old Piave, rivers, have been opened by Italian military engineers, and the enemy is now faced by another Yser of inundation.

The flood was loosed at the point where the enemy succeeded in crossing the Piave near Grisolera (four miles from the coast) and the whole region where he gained lodgment is now under water.

The inundated territory forms a huge triangle about 12 miles on each side, with the apex at Dona di Piave. The enemy has been driven back, but still held on within this triangle until the dykes from both rivers released the water over the low lying plain.

The chief menace at that point was that the enemy might be able to approach Venice through the lagoon or bombard the city from his position between the rivers. The inundation interposes a barrier of water 12 miles across and several feet deep.

Reports that have reached headquarters from other points on the front also are favorable.

Venice, Nov. 16.—Venice is now almost empty, the population having been reduced from the usual 160,000 to 20,000. Despite the proximity of the enemy lines at the mouth of the Piave river and the unsuccessful effort the Austro-Germans have made to take the long triangle between the mouths of the Piave and the Sile rivers, the remnant of the population is calm.

The city may not be defended in case of an attack, in order that the monuments and art treasures may not be destroyed. The mayor of Venice who is a descendant of the Doges and a chamberlain to the queen of Italy, announced today that he would remain at his post.

DEATH CAUSED BY POISONING FROM TOMATOES

Tomatoes which she ate yesterday afternoon induced an attack of pro-matous poisoning from which Mrs. William Szimonski, of 88 Englewood avenue, died suddenly this forenoon. The woman was 30 years old, and is survived only by her husband.

She was taken ill last night, but after receiving medical treatment recovered somewhat. Today she suffered a recurrence of the ailment, and before a doctor could arrive in response to her husband's summons, was dead.

Szimonski was so overcome by his wife's death that he had to be taken to St. Vincent's hospital for emergency treatment. He was released this afternoon.

Medical Examiner Dr. S. M. Garlick investigated the case and learned that the woman's death was attributed to the tomatoes.

UNUSUAL DEMAND FOR VEGETABLES

Arrivals of fresh gathered eggs continue light and new laid qualities are extremely scarce. The competition to secure the few lots that show enough full fresh production to satisfy the better class of trade is forcing the prices still higher, and in the course of a few weeks an increase might be expected.

Vegetables, including carrots, cucumbers, cabbage, celery, cauliflower, horseradish, lettuce, onions, peppers, spinach, tomatoes, and turnips are presently at an unusual demand.

HUN ATTACK FAILS
Paris, Nov. 16.—A German attack on French lines was repulsed last night, the war office announces.

FRENCH PREMIER WELL KNOWN IN THIS VICINITY

For several terms during the period immediately following the civil war Dr. Georges Clemenceau, just appointed French premier and given the task of forming a new French cabinet, occupied the French professorship at Miss Aikins' school for girls in Stamford, and was a more or less familiar figure in the vicinity of Bridgeport, and is well known to Dr. Jonathan Godfrey of this city.

Few people at the present time residing in this city, remember Dr. Clemenceau. He was, however, very popular in society of Fairfield county. In 1868 he married one of the pupils of the school and shortly afterward returned to France with his bride.

After remaining in France for some time it is understood that domestic difficulties, Madame Clemenceau secured a divorce from her husband and returned to this country. According to one of the older residents of Stamford, Madame Clemenceau visited there on her return to this country. This was said to have been about 1873, and nothing has been heard of the lady since.

Dr. Clemenceau, after returning to France from this country, studied politics and was a pronounced radical on many subjects.

TWO AMERICANS ON CASUALTY LIST

Ottawa, Ont., Nov. 16.—The following American names appear in today's casualty list: Wounded and killed: Wounded—A. E. McCarthy, Huron, Ont. Killed—A. E. McCarthy, Huron, Ont.