

NEW LONDON

NEEDS POLICE SIGNAL SYSTEM

Mayor Mahan Stands for the Commercial Improvements of New London—Mayor Armstrong Invited to Place His Portrait in the Mayor's Gallery—Lawrence Hall to Become a Moving Picture and Vaudeville House—Ex-Mayor Armstrong Moves on the Senatorship.

One of the chief needs of New London is an adequate police signal system and if such a system is not speedily installed the fault is not with the people, but rather with the officials elected to represent the people in the city government.

Several years ago a contract was given to a local electrician to install a signal system of his own invention, and when it was installed and paid for it was found that the system was not satisfactory.

It never worked well, but after considerable repairing it became thoroughly unreliable and was looked upon as a sort of makeshift, just enough to delay the installation of a proper system.

It finally became worthless and for nearly a year the police department has been without a signal system.

Over a year ago an appropriation was made for the repair of the system, but the police committee wisely decided that to repair was only a waste of money as the system was impracticable.

So this appropriation was held until an additional appropriation ample to install a modern and thoroughly reliable system became available.

These appropriations were made in city meeting with full knowledge of the necessity of an entirely new system and it would seem to be the duty of the present police committee and the city council to act as a whole to respect the wishes of the people in this particular.

Not so very long ago the new police committee went on a tour of investigation of police signal systems in other cities with a view to deciding which was best for New London, and when the committee returned it was announced in the local papers that the committee had recommended a system that had long passed the experimental stage and that the much needed system would soon be installed.

So the report of the committee was looked for at the meeting of the court of common council, held Monday evening, but the report did not materialize, and the fact has been the cause of considerable comment since that time.

It is now semi-officially announced that there is a new system of signal system in New London for some time, and that the money appropriated for the purpose can be used to better advantage for some other public improvement.

What caused this sudden change is not to the public known, but it is hinted that another local concern is to take contract to do some more repairing on the discarded system, or is to experiment with some other local system, and guarantee that the proposed system will be an improvement upon the one discarded and will not be so expensive.

In fact, the system that has been adopted and proven successful in many other cities. It is said that after the police committee returned from the trip of investigation that meeting was held and it was then decided that the new system, but the influence that brought about this change is not posted on the big billboards about the city.

The portrait gallery of mayors will be completely new, and a picture of Mayor Wilson available.

Since that time the retiring mayors have without formality presented their pictures, with the exception of Mayor Mahan, and has been given reason for his action. As none had been by vote of the council been invited to furnish the portrait, it came as a surprise, at the council meeting Monday evening, when Alderman Mine presented a vote, which was unanimously adopted, requesting ex-Mayor Benjamin L. Armstrong to present his picture to the city, to be placed with the mayors that have gone before.

There is no doubt but Mr. Armstrong will comply with the invitation and thereby make the valuable and historical collection as complete as possible. And Mayor Mahan should do likewise, as he was until the close of his present administration.

The pictures of the mayors have never been properly placed and now that the council has referred to the matter it would be well for a special property committee to make the changes and place the mayors in regular order of service, as is done with the pictures of the governors in the state capitol. Every ex-mayor should have the place of honor and in the cases where the pictures are not available the city should furnish a frame and have a card neatly printed placed therein, bearing the name of the mayor and the date of service.

This plan would call attention to the missing picture and might result in pictures replacing the printed cards in the near future.

The old original playhouse of New London, which was built in 1854, which lawyers has and always will be known as Lawrence hall, and which was used for the production of high grade theatricals before the existence of the Lyceum theater, is to be used as a moving picture and vaudeville house, but the lease will be given for one year only, to date from Dec. 1, the lessee to make all needed improvements and alterations which are needed to convert other such places now in full swing, it would indicate that there must be big money in that sort of amusement enterprise.

Lawrence hall is a part of the estate of late Sebastian D. Lawrence, whose will is to be contested, and it was the custom of Mr. Lawrence to get the rent for the hall before the doors were open to patrons and this rule applied to local organizations as well as to traveling companies. It is an old style theater, with level floor, large open stage, little or no scenery, and unsatisfactory dressing rooms, still some of the very best of the kind in the city were seen in this hall, and once here the actors and actresses never forgot the visit, and on the return trip had a thing or two to say that was not creditable to the competence of the playhouse. However, McKean Buchanan, the Shakespearean tragedian, supported by his daughter, Virginia, and a strong company, held in Lawrence hall for weeks and seemed to be enjoying the play, and a gentleman named Vanderbit is said to have given expert opinion of the public which may be applicable in New London at the present time.

Without some practical signal system, the general efficiency of the police is materially decreased, and it is a condition that is seriously objected to by the dear public. But a gentleman named Vanderbit is said to have given expert opinion of the public which may be applicable in New London at the present time.

Mayor Mahan has taken a decisive step in the direction of improving the commercial importance of New London by his efforts to have the Grand Trunk Railway company take advantage of New London as its tidewater terminal, and thereby help the company and help the city. It is a rumor that the Grand Trunk is contemplating entering Providence over the Danielson street railway and make the prosperous Rhode Island city the terminal that should be to New London, which the company has already a line of steamers and considerable leased property. The mayor said that the time to do things is the right time and that that time is now, when the railway company is entering extension. New London is much better adapted for the business than Providence, and the mayor believes that by proper effort the present New London terminal can be greatly increased in commercial importance, and that the much coveted line of ocean steamers will eventually materialize.

The mayor suggested the appointment of a commission to make an official visit upon the high officers of the Grand Trunk company and urge the importance of New London for the proposed increase in tide water terminal. The court of common council coincided with unanimity and the mayor was requested to appoint such a committee, which the mayor said he would do in the very near future.

A few years ago the Grand Trunk company representatives came to the court of common council of the city of New London and made a good business proposition, which was turned down. It was in effect that if the city would build a bridge in East New London, at an estimated cost of \$20,000 thus doing away with a dangerous grade crossing, that the railway company would in return build a large passenger elevator and institute a foreign line of steamers, and that this movement would gradually develop into something even greater and that New London would be very much benefited thereby.

But these in control of the city government at that time were evidently not as progressive as the officials of today and the line of steamers and the elevator never came. The railway company has tried New London and it was turned down, and it was therefore but natural that they should seek some other location along the coast far and wide, and the time has passed when the bulk of that class of the railroad business can be done at Portland, Me. Mayor Mahan has lost no time in the consideration of this Grand Trunk matter, and it is hoped that when the committee has conference with the Grand Trunk officers that the mayor himself will head the committee and be a leader in whatever negotiations that possibility that will result for the benefit of New London.

Mainly through the persistency of a local newspaper council members some years ago, nearly all the men who have honored the city and themselves by filling the office of mayor have furnished framed portraits of themselves for the adornment of the council chamber and to make more complete the history of New London. At that time a special committee of the council was appointed to locate the living ex-mayors and relatives of the dead to ascertain what could be done in getting suitable pictures for the city hall. Every one of the mayors from the first to the then incumbent could be had in picture form, and that of ex-Mayor Wilson. The living mayors cheerfully complied with the request of the committee and furnished their pictures and the descendants of others did the same for their forebears. Others were willing to furnish the photographs to be copied, but could not stand the expense of painting. The council accepted all that came as gifts but no steps were taken to secure those that would cost the city a comparative trifle, so the opportunity has probably been lost and the prospects are that

heavy losers, but the stockholders will have only the certificates of stock that may prove of little or no value. Just where the landholders come in it is just at this time a bit problematical. Prior to the attachments placed upon the liquor business, the courts were closed for labor and material for the mill building, and which the courts have already decided against the Manufacturing and Industrial company.

There is evident intention on the part of the police court of New London to give closer attention to the liquor laws in order that the number of saloons may be reduced, or rather that the laws be rigidly enforced. In this the court has the approval of all law-abiding citizens and in this category is included some men in the liquor business in New London. Recently men arrested for drunkenness have testified in court that they have purchased liquor after they had become intoxicated, which is now a violation of the liquor law, and in each instance the courts have shown leniency under special consideration and the result may be prosecution of dealers who have sold intoxicants contrary to law and conviction means loss of license and retirement from the business.

There is at least one saloon in New London where no man, no matter how good a customer, has been able to buy or receive a drink while in an intoxicated condition, or been permitted to play a game of cards for pleasure or for the drinks, or where any phase of the liquor law has been violated. This is an ample worthy of emulation by the other saloons in New London, and a guaranty of a continuation in the business without constant fear of being disturbed by process of law.

It is said that Mayor Mahan, as chief of police, is to issue orders to the force to see to it that the liquor laws are enforced without fear or favor, and that the officers will in a way be held responsible for violations that are reported to their respective jurisdictions. There is therefore no truth in the freely circulated before election report that if Mr. Mahan was elected mayor that New London would again have a wide open town. Still even now there are strangers who come to this city on Sundays, from no license Western and elsewhere, who openly declare that they have no difficulty in getting all the whiskey and rum they want, and that they will buy on Sunday in New London. Some of them say that they can come to New London by one trolley car, get all the booze they want, and take the trolley car back to their homes in the Groton-Stonington road on the very next trip. If that be so the place where liquor is so openly sold cannot be a very great distance from the Groton-Stonington road, and it cannot exist without the knowledge of the police department, and the peremptory order of the mayor would soon put the quietus on that illegal sale of that which inebriates.

Senator Frank P. Latimer of Groton having thus early served notice of his candidacy for secretary of state of the New London and Windham county, the Groton-Stonington road, and moves him from the list of eligibles for the nomination of senator from the towns of New London and Groton, and the early bird politicians are taking notice of the fact that the next time Mayor Benjamin L. Armstrong should it happen to come his way, the time for nomination is still at a great distance, and it is difficult to say whether he is held the people will begin to realize that he was not such an unsatisfactory public official as some have painted him. As time goes on his record before the court will be better appreciated and it would not be at all surprising to see those who have been his bitterest political enemies during his administration as mayor advocating him as the best candidate for the senatorship.

He is a thorough business man, connected with the largest industry in the city, and possessed of considerable executive ability. He is a man of means and he has the confidence of the service to the state and for its best interests, and is thoroughly competent to guard the interests of the senatorial district. The matters of local interest which he brooded and which do not happen to meet with popular favor, were not actuated by personal motives, as has been freely charged, but were for that he considered the public good, and that the dear public have decided otherwise. Mr. Armstrong would respect the views of his constituency if chosen for the senate, in these matters, and would represent the district just as the majority of the people would wish his personal personality against the public will.

There has been much criticism against the administration of Mayor Armstrong, but now that he is out of office, it is difficult to point to any act of his as mayor that was not strictly honest; but there is no difficulty in tracing much of the fault finding against the mayor to personal motives on the part of his political opponents. Time will correct these errors of judgment or spite, and therefore there would be no surprise if ex-Mayor Benjamin L. Armstrong succeeded for the time being in the session of the Connecticut legislature.

Co-operation in England. The vitality of the co-operative movement in England, which took its many years ago, in a small way at Rochdale, continues unabated, and the growth of the movement is shown strikingly by the fact that, while in 1883 there were 15 co-operative societies doing a business of \$782,295 at a profit of \$43,849, in 1908, there were 112 such societies, doing a business of \$20,510,009 at a profit of \$88,890. Although in the last five years there has been a decline in the number of societies from 112 to 102, there has been an increase in the volume of business transacted and in resulting profits. The decrease in the number of the organizations is attributable in part to the purchase of some of the concerns by the English wholesale society. Co-partnership in housing is also growing very popular in England. In 1906 there were three tenant societies with a capital of \$499,128, which in that year expended \$249,653 in building, while in 1908 the number of these concerns trebled and the sum of \$729,999 was expended on building. Through these societies mechanics, artisans and others are enabled to secure homes, and at the same time the habit of thrift is strongly inculcated.—Zion's Herald.

Two Railroad Loans. The New Haven road offers \$50,000,000 of new stock and the Pennsylvania \$80,000,000. This means a call for \$130,000,000 of new money, and as the slang has it, that is some. There will be about 2,000,000 rights accruing for the New Haven increase and about 6,400,000 for the Pennsylvania increase, where the shares themselves stand for only \$50 each. It is conceivable that these two increases coming along together will militate against one another and tend to keep prices down. It is conceivable, too, and very conceivable, that the fellows who pick up rights at low rates in either of these great concerns will be able to sell them at a profit of the country will make a tidy sum by their forethought.—Hartford Courant.

LETTERS FROM TWO STATES.

WINDHAM COUNTY.

CENTRAL VILLAGE

North Abington Pastor Preaches as a Candidate—Social Affairs on Halloween.

William Vallancourt, who has had a barber shop in the Wilcox building for several months, has moved to Moosup where he will open a shop.

The King's Daughters met at their rooms Monday afternoon. Misses Ruth and Pauline Mathewson, daughters of Mrs. Arnold Mathewson, have been ill the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Barber were in Plainfield Sunday to visit Mrs. Barber's sister, Mrs. Luther Eaton, who is recovering from illness.

Mrs. August Holmgren will entertain the W. C. T. U. at her home on Tuesday afternoon.

Miss Dorothy Atwood of Farmington has been the guest of her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Philip Mathewson.

James McFarland of Whitinsville, Mass., spent Sunday at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert McFarland.

John Stone of Norwich has been the guest of her father, Nathaniel P. Thompson.

Mrs. Kate Easton entertained Mr. and Mrs. Frank Champlin of East Providence Sunday.

Mrs. John Shelley was in Greene, R. I., Monday on account of the serious illness of her father, Joseph Hopkins.

Rev. and Mrs. George Benedict of North Abington, Mass., spent Sunday here. Mr. Benedict preached here as a candidate.

The ladies' aid society was entertained at the home of Mrs. Herman Chapman, Thursday afternoon.

Miss Eunice Buchanan of Mansfield Center has been visiting her cousin, L. Howard Cross.

Everett Dawson, Elmer Lewis, Miss Elizabeth Burke and Miss Ethel Collins attended the Halloween social in Moosup, given Friday evening by the Bachelor Girls.

Miss Beatrice Gardiner entertained a party of young people at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ulysses G. Cooper, Saturday evening.

Miss Catharine Burns, who has been spending several weeks at her home in Providence, has returned here.

At the morning service at the church Sunday, William Titter of Woonsocket assisted the choir with his violin.

He played a solo. Miss Elsie Ladd accompanied him on the organ. Mr. Titter was the guest of Jules Fortier over Sunday.

Mrs. Urgle Lafrance has been spending a week in Canada with relatives. Harold and Lawrence Blanchard, who have been attending school there, returned with her.

Mrs. Archie Blanchard of Tatfield has been spending several days here with relatives.

Edward Spicer has returned to his home in North Scituate after a visit with his mother, Mrs. Lydia Spicer.

Miss Rose E. Seguin has been the guest of Mrs. Ernest Scott in Providence.

Miss Hattie Stark, who has been spending several months in Providence, has returned.

Willis Torrey has returned from Southampton, L. I., where he has been visiting his sister.

Mrs. Edward H. Lillibridge and Miss Edna Lillibridge have been Providence visitors.

L. Howard Cross was in Willimantic Friday to attend the burial services of his cousin, George Chase, who died in Stamford Tuesday.

Miss Helen Mathewson, who has been attending the Weston school at Roxbury, Mass., the past month, has returned home.

Fred W. Tillinghast visited his son, Edward, at Worcester Saturday, and attended a college football game.

NORTH STERLING.

Sale of the Calvin French Place—Valuorous Items.

Russell Hill of Danielston is moving to the Harriet Mills place.

Mrs. F. O. Plummer and Mrs. J. Leroy Frink were in Providence last week.

Mrs. George Rainford is visiting her mother in Rockdale, Mass.

The Calvin French place has been sold to Italians.

Mrs. Etta Maine has closed her house for the winter and gone to South Killingly.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Leroy Frink of New London have been visiting at Frank Plummer's.

Mathew Woods of Pawtucket visited his place here last Sunday.

MOOSUP

Enjoyable Entertainment by Children of All Hallows' Parish—Franco-American Club in New Quarters.

The children of All Hallows' parish gave their annual entertainment last Saturday evening in Milner's hall to a packed house. The following programme was carried out: Edith's Dream, an operetta in one act; Clochette et Cascaquetto, chorus; How Batsie Came Home, reading; Les Trois Dons de la Fa Gselle, a comedy of three acts; Our Baby, monologue; My Kitty, song; Silvio Felice; song; The Trump; action song.

Thursday Club Meets. The Thursday club met Thursday afternoon with Mrs. Theodore Varney, Thackeray's Vanity Fair and Joy's English History will be the studies for the coming winter. The readers were Mrs. W. W. Adams and Mrs. J. M. Andrews.

Dedicated New Quarters. The Franco-American club dedicated their new quarters in Salisbury's block last Thursday evening by a joint party and social. Cake and ice cream were served.

Rev. J. G. Stanton, pastor of the Baptist church, preached to an unusually large audience last Sunday, his theme being A Mature Church.

Mrs. John C. Gallup has been in Mystic and Stonington the past week on business connected with the Eastern Star.

Irving Bromliard, the two year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Bromliard, who a few days ago underwent an operation for appendicitis at the hands of the late Dr. George R. Harris of Norwich, is slowly improving.

Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Maine and two children, assisted over Sunday at the home of Rev. John Oldham at Fall River.

RAWSON

Death of Mrs. Annette Darrow—Foeses Pleasant—Surprise Party.

A pleasant surprise party was given Albert Hoffman at his home on Tuesday evening. The time was agreeably spent with games, after which refreshments were served.

Mrs. Edward Berggren was in Eastford on Tuesday.

The death of Mrs. Annette Darrow occurred at her home on Wednesday evening from pneumonia, being ill only a few days. She is survived by her husband, Eugene Darrow, and adopted son, Walter Darrow. The deceased was a woman of quiet, pacific disposition and will be missed by a large circle of friends.

Many foxes have been caught on the farm of L. S. Stocking, it being a good chance for the hunters to get them on their runs and paths.

Mrs. Laura Hough was a visitor in Westford on Monday.

Elmer Griggs returned to South Manchester Saturday, after having a few days of hunting, with good luck.

Frank Phillips was a Danielston visitor on Sunday.

Joseph Hopkins of Norwich and Miss Rachel Kenyon were visitors at Broad View farm on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Duard Kenyon of Pomfret were guests of Henry Kenyon on Friday.

WESTMINSTER

Auction at Mrs. Allan Moody's—Rural Carrier on Vacation.

Mrs. Allan Moody of New York is spending a few days at her home here, preparing for an auction, which was held Nov. 4th.

Mrs. George Rathburn and Mrs. Merrill Button spent Tuesday in Scotland with Mrs. Button's daughter, Mrs. Myron Allen.

Mr. and Mrs. Rollinson entertained Mr. Rollinson's brother from Attawaugan over Sunday. Mr. Rollinson attended church here Sunday morning.

Daniel Whipple, a former resident of this place, is spending several days at the home of William Robbins.

There was a church social at the parsonage on Tuesday evening, Nov. 3d.

George Wheeler, rural mail carrier, is enjoying a vacation.

Miss Grace Rathburn represented the C. E. society at the state convention in Willimantic Saturday and Sunday.

WOODSTOCK

Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Hardy Will Travel in Europe—Harvest Supper.

Clarence Taber, who is now home from the hospital, is gradually gaining.

Clarence W. Bowen of New York was here Monday to enjoy the hunting.

Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Hardy closed their home, Casa de Campo, on Wednesday. They will spend the winter in travel in Europe.

A harvest supper and social was held in the chapel on Friday evening. The proceeds went towards paying for the chapel furnishings.

Miss Will A. Gallup of Norwich has visited her sister, Mrs. William M. Gallup.

Miss Nellie D. Chandler and Mrs. Hattie F. Moore were in Worcester on Thursday.

WOODSTOCK VALLEY.

Notes of the Week.

Ferdinand Kenyon has returned from Providence.

G. M. Randall has been spending a few days with his father in Providence.

Mr. and Mrs. Krap of Huntington, L. I., were in town on Friday of last week.

EKONK

Obituary Note—Young People at Halloween Party—Grange Visit Plainfield.

Avery A. Stanton of Ekonk Hill farm has the sympathy of the whole community in his bereavement over the death of his only brother, Rev. William Stanton, who was pastor in Miami, Fla., where he died. At the funeral last Tuesday in Norwich his sons acted as bearers.

Mrs. Rebecca Chamberlain died on Monday at the home of her sister, Mrs. Edward DeSude, near Bailey Pond, where she had been about three weeks. The funeral was held in Tatfield.

Daniel Matteson died Tuesday afternoon at his home at Beach Pond. He had been in failing health for several years. He was a pensioned veteran of the civil war, and was in the sixties age.

Several from Ekonk Grange attended the meeting of Plainfield Grange on Tuesday evening.

Mr. Kellogg attended the meeting of the New London County Association of Ministers in Norwich on Tuesday.

Halloween Party. There was a Halloween party Saturday evening at Thomas Brown's, when a large number of young people had a good time.

Mrs. Ann Corey has been visiting relatives in Manchester.

Miss Serena Reed of Central Village recently visited her uncle, Herbert Tarbox, at Highview farm on Bradford Hill.

Mrs. Beatrice Frink has sufficiently recovered from a serious illness to return to her home in Sterling Center.

The Ladies' Aid society met Thursday afternoon with Miss Cynthia Phillips.

Rev. S. B. Carter of Plainfield preached Sunday morning at the Line meeting house.

BROOKLYN.

Sales of Sweet Farm—Summer Residences Closed—Personal Items.

Francis M. Vinton has joined his wife and daughter in Washington D. C. for the winter, closing his residence here.

George L. Sweet has sold his farm, stock and tools to Rev. Charles Downes, whose brother bought the Jeremiah McGrath farm. He is to pass the deeds Dec. 1st.

Clarence Hill has moved his family to Danville, where it will be much more convenient for him to get to his work, he being in the employ of the trolley company.

Alexander N. Esty has moved his family and household goods to Providence and rented his place to William Raymond.

Mr. George F. Genung attended a missionary meeting in Hartford the past week, going from there to Amherst Mass., to visit the family of Professor Genung, and from there to Suffield to attend a conference.

Charles Edwin Blake of Trinity spent Sunday with his parents.

Mr. and Mrs. D. B. Hatch visited friends in Providence over Sunday.

Warren A. Tamm left Monday for Burlington, Vt., where he is to enter the medical college.

Miss Daisy Baker visited friends in Central Falls, R. I., over Sunday.

Philip W. Spaulding left Monday for his place of business in Cleveland, O.

Mrs. Ellen R. White and daughter, Alice, have closed the residence here and gone to New York for the winter.

Delegates to Ordination. The Baptist church appointed as delegates to sit in council with the Warrenville Baptist church, Nov. 28, to consider the propriety of setting a part to the work of the gospel ministry their pastor-elect, B. C. Bugbee, Rev. G. F. Genung, D. D., and R. B. Witter.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Spaulding visited their daughter in West Hartford the past week.

SOUTH KILLINGLY

Former Resident to Return—Hartwell Shippee Resigns as Postmaster.

Russell Hill, for many years a resident of this section, who moved to Brooklyn last season is to move back to live in the Pond Hill district.

The young men who broke into Shippee's store succeeded in settling the affair with the church, Nov. 28, and agreeing to keep the peace for six months under the observation of Probation Officer Aden Tillinghast.

Several residents attended the fine evening service at the church, Nov. 28, in honor of the M. C. A. in Danielston Tuesday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Amos E. Hall and Miss Harriet Blackman went to a hawking bee in Putnam Saturday night given by Miss Addie Holland.

Everett Hull continues unable to do any work, having rheumatism.

Hartwell Shippee has resigned his position as postmaster, to take effect November 27.

THOMPSON

Improving the Common—Wounded Deer Killed.

Work was begun Monday on the common, which is being plowed.

Rev. Mr. Slatt preached at the Congregational church Sunday as a candidate for the pulpit, which will be vacant next month.

Miss Mary J. Ross returned Friday from spending two months in Brooklyn.

Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Ross have been visiting Mr. and Mrs. Lowell N. Ross.

Miss Mary J. Wilkes has returned from a trip to Seattle.

Judge Crosby has been confined to the house by illness.

Mr. and Mrs. Linus Legee have moved to Foster, where he is clearing a woodlot.

Calvin Munyan killed a wounded deer near his home last week.

Mrs. C. L. Knight entertained a wedding party from South Woodstock at dinner Sunday.

WOODSTOCK VALLEY.

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Mrs. I. P. Briggs is visiting relatives in Mansfield.

Mrs.