

WESTERLY TOWN COUNCIL AGES

Votes Benvenuti's Saloon a Nuisance—Business There Must Cease After Feb. 21st—Chicken Thieves Arrested—State Board of Health Bulletin Chiefly Notable For Its Inaccuracies—Willard H. Bacon Elected Principal of High School.

The Rhode Island state board of health is not right down to the minute as indicated by the so-called Monthly Bulletin which has just been issued and covers the period from February to September, 1911. The Bulletin is designed to illustrate the principles of hygiene and present a record of the public health, mortality and meteorology of Rhode Island.

The present bulletin contains a List of Clergymen Located in the State. Some Things a Clergyman Ought to Know, The Common Drinking Cup as a Common Carrier, Water Analysis for September, 1911, Department of Bacteriology for September, 1911, and Climatological Data for August, 1911.

The list of clergymen credited to Westerly, in the Monthly Bulletin, published semi-annually, is as follows: Henry Bruno, Roman Catholic; Samuel M. Cathcart, Congregational; James W. Cunningham, Catholic; James T. Docking, Methodist Episcopal; John Dunn, Roman Catholic; John G. Dutton, Christian; Frederick C. A. Jones, Baptist; William A. Krause, Roman Catholic; Theodore B. Lathrop, Congregational; Adam G. McHilton, Methodist Episcopal; Peter McOscar, Roman Catholic; Samuel H. Davis, Seventh-day Baptist; George E. Rigor, Baptist; Joseph, Peacock, Baptist; C. Grant Savage, Baptist; Sander Sajoewitzik, Jewish; E. Anson Stillman, Seventh-day Adventist; William L. Swan, Baptist; Frederick D. Thomas, Baptist; William F. Williams, Protestant Episcopal; Samuel Lynn, Jewish.

This list includes the names of two who have been dead nearly two years, one who was a substitute in the absence of a pastor, two more who have been away from Westerly over three years, and omits the names of at least three pastors and several clergymen who have no regular pastorage. Just what connection this alleged list of clergymen has to do with the state board of health work is not very clear to the uninitiated.

John Albert Lavey Tucker, who went from Westerly with Sawtelle's circus some years ago, and who caused the report to be circulated that he had lost part of an arm by getting too close to a tiger, was arrested by a constable, Angelo Longlucca, who has served a reform school term, were arrested by Chief of Police Thomas E. Brown in the tenement of Edward Burdick in Pierce street, Wednesday afternoon. While they were arrested upon the charge of stealing chickens, it has not been definitely determined upon the form of complaint on which they will be arraigned, but that they will be sentenced from the district court or held for trial in the superior court is not doubted.

William Pierce reported to Chief Brown Monday that chickens had been stolen from his coop which is not far from the Burdick house. The chief had been on the trail of Tucker and Longlucca for some time in connection with another crime, and he was satisfied that they were the chicken thieves. He went into the cellar of the Burdick house and found two dead chickens, unplucked, which Mr. Pierce identified as his property. On the floor was blood and feathers, showing that other chickens, presumably of Mr. Pierce's flock, had been killed and dressed on the premises. The chief then went into the house and found Longlucca and Tucker there, the latter asleep on a lounge. Both men were arrested and taken to police headquarters. The penalty for this particular crime is three months in jail and a fine of \$25 and costs.

These two young fellows are suspected of entering the premises of James H. Blackler, bottler and wholesale liquor dealer, and stealing whiskey by the use of a counterfeit faucet key. Mr. Blackler had discovered evidence that there had been intrusion

on the premises and liquor stolen and last Monday evening he found Tucker and Longlucca in his place, asleep on the floor. They said they simply came into the place for a snooze and not for booze. Mr. Blackler reported the fact to Chief Brown and he soon had the pair under surveillance. This may be basis for a complaint against the pair.

If the evidence is not considered sufficient to convict in either of these cases, the two young men will be charged with being idle and dissolute persons, sleeping in outhouses and without visible means of support. The police have undisputed evidence in support of such complaint.

At the police station, after being searched and just before being escorted to cells, Longlucca and Tucker declared they had nothing to say, as they did not propose to incriminate themselves, or in any way assist in the prosecution.

After the prisoners were lodged in cells, Chief Brown went on a tour of investigation. He found tracks in the snow, made by the shoes of Tucker and Longlucca that led direct from the Pierce house to the Burdick basement. Two more dead chickens, undressed, were found, and the feathers found indicated that the two other chickens taken from the Pierce flock had been cooked and eaten. It was ascertained that these fellows also entered the Blackler place again Wednesday night by forcing a window; and proof was obtained that they had a quart of whiskey in their possession. The accused will be arraigned this (Thursday) morning before Judge Oliver H. Williams.

Town Sergt. Herbert P. Clarke has summoned three jurors from Westerly to serve at the session of the superior court for Washington county, which convenes at Kingston next Monday.

The grand jurors will report Monday and the petit jurors on Wednesday.

There was a special meeting of the Westerly town council, Wednesday evening, President William L. Clarke presiding. Councilmen C. Clarence Maxson, Maurice W. Flynn, Albert H. Langworthy and John T. Edmund were present.

The complaint of Attorney A. T. L. Ledwidge, counsel for Concertino Grilla, which was referred to Health Officer Stanton, was considered. It was set forth that there was a nuisance on the premises of Natale Benvenuti that the Grilla complainant desired to be abated. Health Officer Stanton reported that he had viewed the premises and that Benvenuti was willing to build a cesspool, if permitted to do so, but objection was made by Mrs. Grilla. The health officer did not desire to exercise his authority and order the place closed unless so directed by the council.

Attorney Ledwidge renewed his complaint that liquor was being sold without license and it was therefore a nuisance from that standpoint. He said the council had granted Natale Benvenuti license to sell liquor in a building to be erected on the northeast corner of railroad property. This building, it is claimed, was located partially on the Grilla property and therefore the license is void, according to complainant.

Civil Engineer McKensie testified that he has examined titles of the property for a great many years, down to 1852. He was of opinion that the plots submitted were correct. He said the boundary pin had been discovered. The only dispute between the railroad company and Mr. Grilla as to the ownership of the land was relative to the canal boundary line. The whole building except six feet of the rear, in the diagonal line, is on the Grilla property.

Councilman Flynn asked if Mr. Benvenuti had been notified that this special meeting was to be held. He was advised that no notice had been given Mr. Benvenuti.

Mr. Grilla stated that there were only a few inches between Mr. McKenzie's survey and that of Eugene Westcott of the railroad company. A satisfactory boundary line had been reached by the railroad company and Mr. Grilla. Mr. Grilla said that on the strength of this agreement he erected a fence in front of the property last Sunday. He did the work at that time, as help could be more readily obtained.

Mr. Ledwidge submitted to the council the form of a vote that he said would meet the case. The vote set forth that instead of doing business on the land of the railroad company, he opened saloon on the property of Concertino Grilla. The vote declared the place to be a nuisance, and that the council order the nuisance abated and that Benvenuti abate the nuisance of selling liquor in a place for which license had not been issued, within twenty-six hours after midnight of February 16, or take the prescribed penalty.

The town solicitor explained that it was the duty of the council to abate nuisances and not the courts, whether the nuisance be one of health or selling liquor illegally. As to the validity of Benvenuti's license, Mr. Agard said, that application was made to transfer license to railroad property, when, as a matter of fact, it was the property owned by Grilla.

Councilman Maxson declared that Benvenuti was evidently an innocent party, and took location given him by the railroad company.

Councilman Flynn believed that it was unfair to pack a meeting on the matter without giving Mr. Benvenuti a hearing. It is conceded by all that the saloon building is on the Grilla property.

Joseph Grilla spoke in regard to the rental of the land, that none be paid unless the building interfered with railroad improvement. It found that the building was wrongly located, the building must be removed within fifteen days. The railroad company did give Benvenuti the location for the building.

Mr. Ledwidge agreed to change the date for Mr. Benvenuti to abate the nuisance twenty-four hours succeeding February 21, an extension of one week from the original vote submitted.

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Brief State News

Bridgeport—During Lent the Episcopal churches in this city will unite to hold services each Tuesday evening at Christ church.

New Britain—Frederick C. Scharff has just reached the 25th anniversary of his entering the employment of Landers, Frary & Clark.

South Manchester.—Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Verplanck entertained the members of the senior class of the South Manchester High school at high school hall Wednesday evening.

Stamford.—At its annual meeting the Stamford Yacht club elected a set of officers proposed by a nominating committee. It was headed by Commodore Edward Y. Weber. An opposition

ticket received about 45 of the 200 votes cast.

Hartford.—Robert S. Lanier, son of the late Sydney Lanier, the southern poet, is the guest of Francis Trevelyan Miller, the author and historian, at his home in Hartford.

Meriden.—David Cooper, who recently observed his 78th birthday, in a veteran of the Civil war and was imprisoned in Libby prison, being taken prisoner July 5, 1862.

East Haddam.—Crossing on the river continues good. A double team crossed on Wednesday with a load of plank which weighed 6,000 pounds; to this add the weight of horses and wagon and you have in the neighborhood of 8,500 pounds.

Fairfield.—Through the generosity of P. S. Hargrove the two front parlors of the Hargrove school have been offered to the Fairfield Business Men's association to use for the remainder of the year.

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Mrs. Jared Hewitt, Palmer St., Norwich, Conn., says: "For several months I was bothered by pains across the small of my back and from other symptoms I knew that my kidneys were at fault. About a month ago I obtained a box of Doan's Kidney Pills at M. D. Kern & Son's Drug Store and through their use, the pain in my back was disposed of and my health improved. I do not hesitate to recommend this excellent remedy."

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