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LIQUOR SHIPMENTS FROM NEW HAVEN TO CHICOPEE

Six Men Arrested In Elm City In Connection With the Sale of Wood Alcohol "Whiskey"—Two Barrels Confiscated In Suburbs—Total Deaths In Connecticut Valley, Excluding Hartford, 52—Four Arrests Made In Chicopee—One Woman Died In Meriden, and a Man Is Practically Blind as Result of Drinking Liquor—Three More Deaths In Newark and One In Cleveland.

New Haven, Dec. 28.—Six men were arrested here today in connection with the sale of wood alcohol "whiskey" which they are alleged to have shipped from this city to Chicopee, Massachusetts. The arrests were made at the request of District Attorney Joseph B. Ely of Westfield, Mass., who telegraphed that the men are "wanted for homicide in Massachusetts."

Those held are: Nicholas Russo, Dominick Perrotti, Frank Lucibello, John Pinto, William Guangi and Harry Vincent. They were locked up at the direction of Coroner Mix of New Haven county. United States Commissioner Lynch also lodged charges of violation of the war time prohibition act against the six men and fixed bonds at $10,000 each.

The arrests were made by a large squad of police officials, including A. F. Foote, Massachusetts commissioner of public safety, Chief of Police Philip T. Smith of New Haven, three Massachusetts state policemen and local police and revenue agents. They started activities soon after midnight this morning, four automobiles being used in going to various parts of the city and suburbs. Vincent and Guangi were the first arrested, the latter being taken in a leading downtown cafe. Perrotti was arrested at his home in Westville, where an illicit liquor still was found and seized.

Two barrels of a compound believed to contain wood alcohol were confiscated in a barn on the South End Road, just outside of the city. According to the police, four barrels of liquor were shipped from a barn to Chicopee, Mass., where a large number have died from drinking a wood alcohol mixture. The six men held are alleged to have been the owners of the liquor stored in the barn. They received $1.050 a barrel for the four barrels sent to Chicopee, it is said.

FOUR ARRESTS OF LIQUOR MEN AT CHICOPEE, MASS.

Chicopee, Mass., Dec. 28.—United States Marshal Edward J. Leyden today arrested four men on federal warrants charging them with violation of war time prohibition and also illegal transportation of liquor from state to state. The arrests resulted from his investigation of the deaths of more than fifty persons in the Connecticut valley recently from wood alcohol contained in a mixture sold as whiskey. One other arrest was made by the Thompsonville, Conn., police.

Five more deaths had resulted since early this morning from alcoholic poisoning, three in Holyoke and one in Chicopee, bringing the total for the Connecticut valley, not including Hartford, to 52, divided as follows:

Chicopee 26, including two women; Holyoke 9 Springfield 4; including one woman; Greenfield 1; and Thompsonville 2.

Those under arrest on the federal warrants are John Nasaizewski of Chicopee, and Harry Shapiro of Springfield, truck drivers, who are charged with bringing the liquor into the valley; Adam Ostrowski and John W. Starzyk, both of Holyoke, charged with violation of the war time prohibition act.

The Thompsonville police placed Leonard Montana, a saloonkeeper of that town, under arrest on the charge of illegally selling liquor. Chief of Police P. J. Rogers said that Montana stated he bought five gallons of the concoction from Bronerwine's saloon in Hartford for $140.

Marshall Alfred T. Caron of the Chicopee police left this afernoon for New Haven, Conn., with warrants charging murder against four men who have been agrested in that city. The warrants were sworn out, the police say, on information given by William Baker of this town, who is under arrest on a manslaughter charge, and Harry Shapiro of springfield.

Although several new cases were reported today in the valley, the number decreased considerably over Friday and Saturday. In Holyoke, the largest gain resulted in giving the impression that some of the poisonous liquor bough in that city, may have been consumed since Friday, when the first signs of the poisoning became evident. Scattering cases of poisoning symptoms were reported in this city and Springfield.

ONE WOMAN DEAD, ONE MAN BLIND IN MERIDEN

Meriden, Conn., Dec. 28.—Mrs. William G Williams, aged 48, dead; Martin Catron, aged 49, practically blind and in a critical condition in the Meriden hospital, and Charles Holland, seriously sick at his home in South Meriden, but now reported on the road to recovery, is the net result thus far of the sale in Meriden of liquor, said to contain wood alcohol.

An autopsy was held in the matter of the death of Mrs. Williams and Coroner Mix took the contents of the stomach to New Haven for analysis. He also took the bottle from which she had taken the liquor which caused her death, it being about half full. Eugene B. Havens, the saloon keeper from which the liquor was purchased, was taken to New Haven by the local police to appear before Coroner Mix, who is conducting the investigation in that city.

It is said that Mr. Havens obtained the liquor from New Haven parties. He reported to the police that he had bought a dozen bottles of it. The liquor taken by the coroner was labelled "Martell's Cognac." All three local cases developed from drinking liquor from bottles containing similar labels. The police are trying to locate six bottles, alleged to have been sold, as they can account for but six of the dozen which Mr. Havens said he bought.

POLICE ASKED TO CLOSE SALOONS IN HARTFORD

Hartford, Conn., Dec. 28.—No additional deaths from wood alcohol poisoning were reported here today, the list of dead remaining at 13, the total recorded Saturday forenoon. Two more cases of persons suffering from the effects of poisonous liquor were listed in hospitals, making eight persons known to be ill here from that cause. Four of these were reported tonight in a critical condition.

Chief of Police Farrell tonight announced that although he had been urged by State's Attorney Alcorn to order the closing of all the saloons in the city, he would take no action at present, as he did not believe the state statutes covered any such action by a police official. Mr. Alcorn sent word to police chiefs of all towns in Hartford County asking them to order saloons closed.

No further arrests were made here today. Seven men are held in connection with the wood alcohol "whiskey" sales, four of them being charged with murder.

Another death was added to the Connecticut total today when a woman died in Meriden from the effects of poisonous liquor.

FIVE MEN ARRESTED OF ORGANIZED BAND

New York, Dec. 28.—Federal agents late tonight arrested five men whom they claimed to be the heads of an organized band which has been responsible for the recent widespread sale of wood alcohol concoctions through five states. One of the men arrested was described by the government agents as "the kingpin of the ring." Two of the men in custody were described as New York business men.

For ten days, since the first fatalities were reported from wood alcohol poisoning, Colonel Daniel L. Porter, supervising revenue agent for New York and H. B. Dobbs, special federal agent, have been working on the theory that the poison which has caused scores of deaths throughout New England and New York, originated in this city. The arrests made tonight were effected in widely separated parts of the city.

THREE MORE DEATHS IN NEWARK; TOTAL NINE

Newark, N. J., Dec. 28.—Three more deaths from wood alcohol poisoning, making a total of nine here in the last three weeks, were reported to the police tonight.

County Prosecutor Harrison and Collector of Internal Revenue Charles Duffy have started investigations to find the source of the poisoned liquor.

ONE DEATH IN CLEVELAND; SEVERAL CASES IN HOSPITALS

Cleveland, O., Dec. 28.—The first death here from alcohol poisoning since Christmas, when several cases were admitted to hospitals, occurred today. One new case was reported.

A man found unconscious in a hotel was taken to a hospital, where physicians say his chances of recovery are slight.

Today's death brings the total since Nov. 1 up to fifteen.

A SUSPICIOUS NUMBER OF PERFUMERY MANUFACTURERS

New York, Dec. 28.—Investigation by the police of numerous deaths attributed to wood alcohol poisoning revealed tonight that in the last three months federal permits to manufacture perfumery have been issued to approximately 2,000 persons, of whom, it is said, not more than fifty are legitimate manufacturers of perfumes.

According to the police, the holders of permits are entitled to buy what is known as "cologne spirits" at $4.80 a gallon, and those who bought it for other than the making of perfumes have made purchases amounting to hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Another death in New York from poisonous liquor was reported today, that of Eugene Massletto, who drank a large quantity of "wine" before he died. An autopsy will be made tomorrow.

John C. Varchi, a farmer, who died shortly after being taken to a hospital, is believed also to have been a victim of wood alcohol and will also be the subject of an autopsy.

RABBI BERKOWITZ DEPLORES "EDUCATIONAL BANKRUPTCY"

Baltimore, Md., Dec. 28.—Deploring the existince of a condition bordering on "educational bankruptcy" and issuing a call for teachers who would always uphold the high standards of the American nation against present adverse influences, Rabbi Henry Berkowitz of Philadelphia at the opening session of the Jewish Chautauqua tonight declared the present system futile and inadequate.

The opening service was conducted by Rabbi Montague N. A. Cohen of Yor, Pa. Teaching of miracles, such as the creation of the world in six days and as the parting of the Red Sea for the children of Israel was condemed as a crime by Rabbi Louis L. Mann of New Haven, Conn.

Another Victim in Easton, Pa.

Easton, Pa., Dec. 28.—Wood alcohol in supposed whiskey claimed another victim here tonight when Joseph Zimmer, a local shoe merchant, died in a hospital shortly after being admitted, totally blind. The police arrested Peter Casella, a former policeman, and his wife, from whom the supposed whiskey is claimed to have been purchased.

Victim in Jersey City.

Jersey City, N. J., Dec. 28.—One man is dead and two women are in a critical condition in the Jamaica hospital tonight as a result of drinking a wood alcohol concoction. The women were found in an unconscious condition in a room which also contained two one-gallon jugs in which a small quantity of the colorless liquor remained. A five-year old girl was ill in the same room but the child said her sickness was caused through eating candy.

The most undesirable seats at the theatre of war are on the front tier.

4 Prisoners Escaped From State Prison

Three Were Recaptured By Police In Meriden—Frank Land of New London Among the Recaptured.

Wethersfield, Conn., Dec. 28.—Four prisoners escaped from the Connecticut state prison this morning by sawing their way through the wall of a bath house and scaling the wall after they had eluded three guards. One of those who escaped was Edward Slattery, sentenced from Bridgeport to life imprisonment for murder in the second degree.

The other three who gained their liberty were serving sentences for burglary. They are: Charles Dewey, 32, sentenced from New Haven in 1911 for burglary and robbery; John Ricklefs, 32, sentenced from Bridgeport this year for burglary; Frank Land, sentenced from New London in 1917 for theft. Slattery is 28 years old and started serving his life term in March 1917.

After the escape of the prisoners was discovered by guards, Deputy Warden Parker sent alarms to the police of Connecticut and Massachusetts cities. A reward of $100 each for the capture of the convicts was announced.

Prison officials believe that Dewey engineered the break for freedom. He had escaped from the prison once before, on April 3, 1913, when he concealed himself in a case of shirts and was carried by guards from the prison and put on board a train. Two years later he was found in prison at Columbus, Ohio, serving a sentence under the name of Charles Berry. It was said that he was traced to Ohio by letters he sent to a young woman in New Haven.

THREE ESCAPED PRISONERS RECAPTURED IN MERIDEN

Meriden, Conn., Dec. 28. — Edward Slattery, Charles Dewey and Frank Land, three of four prisoners who escaped from the state prison at Wethersfield this morning, were captured by local police tonight just north of this city after a running chase in which three shots were fired.

John Ricklefs, the fourth prisoner, made his escape during the pursuit, was the state prison authorities were notified and a large number of police took up the hunt. It is believed he will have little chance to get away and will be taken between this city and Hartford.

A man living on the North Colony road notified the local police by telephone that four men had been seen in the neighborhood acting suspiciously. Patrolmen Bonin and Scheurer were sent to the section in an automobile and came upon the men, who fled into a woods. The officers gave chase firing three shots at the fugitives before three of them surrendered. In returning to police headquarters with the prisoners, Land jumped from the automobile and ran several blocks before he was captured by Patrolman Bartram, who saw him running.

The Meriden police stated that no word of the escape of four prisoners had been sent by the prison officials and that the telephone message from the Colony road resident was the first information they had received on the case.

DR. VERMILYE, MISSING BRIDEGROOM, IN HOSPITAL

New York, Dec. 28.—Dr. William Grey Vermilye, who failed to appear Christmas day to marry Miss Ruth M. Keeney, at Monson, Mass., and is now a patient in the Cumberland Street Hospital, refused to make any comment tonight, when informed that his wife had been located in Harrisburg, Pa., where she is living with her daughter.

Information that Dr. Vermilye had a wife with whom he had been living up to the time the physiican gave up private practice to take a position with the United States Shipping Board in the south, was given by Mrs. P. E. Zindell of Brooklyn, wife of a son of Mrs. Vermilye by a previous marriage. She said that Dr. Vermilye and his wife had lived in Brooklyn, but Mrs. Vermilye had gone to Harrisburg six months ago to visit her daughter and was still there.

Miss Keeney, who has also been a patient in the hospital since last night, when she fainted and became hysterical because Dr. Vermilye refused to see her or explain his failure to appear for the wedding, left the institution today. She and her father again attempted to interview Dr. Vermilye before leaving the hospital but he refused to see them.

When hospital officials, who say the physician is there to undergo a slight operation, informed newspaper men that he would see no one except relatives, they sent Dr. Vermilye the following note:

"Your wife, said to be located in Harrisburg, Pa., has made charges which perhaps you would be glad to clear up. Will you please make a definite statement and clear up the whole matter."

Dr. Vermilye's reply, which was written on the back of the note, said 'I have nothing to say."

When Mrs. Zindell, who lives at the Vermilye home in Brooklyn, was asked if it is true that the physician has a wife, she said:

"It is. Her name is Mrs. William Grey Vermilye and she is at present staying with a daughter at Harrisburg, Pa."

"Has Dr. Vermilye and his wife lived here with you?"

"Yes," she responded. Mrs. Vermilye left this house about five months ago because her husband was in the service."

"Have you ever heard of Dr. Vermilye or his wife getting a divorce?"

"No. So far as I know they are still married."

Mrs. Zindell said she did not know Miss Keeney but had "heard she is a well educated girl."

When questioned further as to whether there was any doubt as to the woman in Harrisburg being Dr. Vermilye's wife, Mrs. Zindell replied: "I have no doubt at all but that she is his wife."

The woman said that Dr. Vermilye and Mrs. Vermilye had been married about twenty-five years.

Mrs. Vermilye, it was learned tonight, is the second wife of the physician, his first wife having died.

TWO WOMEN RESCUED BY FIREMEN AND POLICEMEN

New Haven, Conn., Dec. 28.—Two women were rescued by firemen and policemen from the third floor of a burning building on Congress avenue here tonight, where fire caused damage of $10,000 in two jewelry stores, two shoe stres and a feed store.

Condensed Telegrams

The dollar was quoted at 10 francs 56 1-2 centimes in Paris.

England's largest trade unions begun fight on unauthorized strikes.

Alsace reports great inundations. The river above Strassburg overflowed its banks.

Railway station at Marseilles, France was destroyed by fire, according to reports.

A Hamburg shipping company announced it will soon open a line to London.

Frnace's nation credit loan was oversubscribed the first day, according to cable reports.

Since the armistice Britain realized $555,000,000 from the sale of surplus stores and property.

Chicago railroad officials asserted freight rates will be advanced after return of roads on March 1.

It is reported the Standard Oil Co. closed contracts in Rumania for 500,000 barrels of refined petroleum.

Nine wireless stations are to be established in Cuba by the Government and on on the Isle of Pines.

Municipalities of Manitoba, Canada, authorized appropriation of $1,500,000 for road improvement in 1920.

W. S. Miller, chairman of the board of directors of the Standard Oil Co. of California, will resign Jan. 1.

Spanish Government has taken over control of important deposits of platinum discovered in that country.

An engagement was reported between Polish and Bolsheviki forces at Taiga on the Trans-Siberian Railroad.

French Cabinet approved a bill for the turning ahead of clocks one hour beginning Feb. 1, as a means to save fuel.

War Risk Bureau began work getting out increased checks provided for by the Sweet bill signed by the President.

Japan has decided to discontinue the issuance of passports permitting "picture brides" to proceed to the United States.

Finland is reported negotiating for a loan of 10,000,000 pesos gold with Argentina to buy Argentine cereals and cattle.

President Wilson will take no action on the sugar equalization bill until he has heard from the Sugar Equalization Board.

American ships carried during October exports valued at $231,041,986 or nearly half of the total ocean-borne export trade.

Gold holdings of the wheat belt report weather conditions unfavorable, owing to the alternate thawing and freezing.

Arturo Toscanini, the most famous conductor in the world will assume complete charge of the Chicago Opera Co. next season.

An unsuccessful attempt was made to assassinate Chief Engineer Peckitt, of th State Railways at Cairo. The assailant escaped.

Conferences will begin at Paris next week between allied and German delegates, preparatory to putting the peace treaty into effect.

Poisonous odors from Mount Aso, an active volcano in Kyushu, Japan, have injured the cattle of the surrounding country.

A Soviet republic, charged with a special mission to the Italian Government, arrived at Naples, according to a report from Rome.

J. V. Priest, mining man, arriving at New York on the steamship Carillo, reported finding of a new gold region in Colombia, South America.

A statement confirming reports that Col. T. S. Williams, former president of the B. R. T. would retire from the system was issued at the B. R. T. offices.

First indication of a serious break in ranks of steel workers and predictions of an immediate end of the steel strike, that practically tied-up Cleveland steel mills, was announced.

Syndicalists in Spain are revolting against their leaders, whom they accuse of withholding 6,000,000 pesetas, which was paid in dues and of which there has been no accounting.

Decision of the United States Shipping Board to prohibit the sale of liquor will mean the loss of thousands of dollars, because privately owned craft will sell liquor and win business away from the government.

Detroit United Railways withdrew a request that it be permitted to make a charge for transfers, stating that because of improvement in its operation condition it now finds itself able to operate on a flat five-cent fare.

Lieutenants Connolly and Waterhouse, who lost their lives after being forced to land in Lower California, Mex., were murdered, according to testimony before the Senate sub-committee investigating Mexican affairs.

INCREASE IN COST OF LIVING SINCE 1914 IS 82.2 PER CENT.

Boston, Dec. 28.—An increase of 82.2 per cent. in the cost of living for American wage earners between July, 1914, and November, 1919, is shown in a statement issued by the national industrial conference board today, based upon its most recent investigations.

This represents an advance of 10.4 per cent. since November, 1918, 13.5 per cent. since March, 1919, when prices dropped temporarily, and 5.8 per cent. since last July.

The increase in the cost of the five major items in the family budget since July, 1914, was: Food 22 per cent., shelter 38 per cent., clothing 156 per cent., fuel, light and heat 48 per cent., and sundries 75 per cent.

A BOY KILLED WHILE COASTING AT SIMSBURY

Simsbury, Conn., Dec. 28.—Rinaldo Zackera, 11 years old, was killed here today, and John Florio, aged 10, was critically injured in a coasting accident. The two boys were sliding down a hill on a sled and struck an automobile.

Shooting Affray in Phoenix Park, Dublin

An Officer of the Guard and One Member of the Band of Intruders Were Killed During the Exchange of Shots.

Dublin, Dec. 28 (By the A. P.).—An officer of the guard and one member of a band of intruders were killed early this morning in a shooting affray in Phoenix Park a short distance from the vice regal lodge. In some quarters the belief was expressed that an attack was in preparation against the lodge.

About eight men are believed to have made up the band of inerlopers. Four arrests were made.

At 1.30 o'clock this morning shots were heard in the neighborhood of the vice regal lodge. They continued intermittently at intervals for nearly an hour in that portion of Phoenix Park between the lodge and the magazine. Apparently there was no direct attack on the vice regal lodge itself. The inmates of the lodge at first thought the shooting was connected with some sort of holiday revelry.

As the firing continued, however, a military guard, consisting of an officer and two men, turned out and searched the vice regal grounds. Finding nothing unusual there, they went through the park near the main road. While traveling the center of the park they engaged in a sharp exchange of firing with the intruders and Lieutenant Boast, who was leading his men, fell, shot through the heart.

One of the attacking party also was killed. He was a civilian about 40 years of age. According to some reports he was wearing portions of a soldier's uniform. No weapon was found on or near the body, and up to the present the man's identity has not been ascertained. Pools of blood were found on the scene, which is about half a mile from the lodge.

After the shooting the intruders decamped in the darkness. The four men arrested were not taken into custody near the scene of the shooting, but were apprehended as they were leaving the park about two hours later. They denied having had any connection with the affray, and it is eropretd that no incriminating evidence was found on them.

After the shooting the military brought a machine gun to the scene. This was fired in the direction which it was supposed the men had taken. Nobody was hit by the bullets.

The bodies of the two dead men weer taken to the George V hospital, where an inquest will be held tomorrow. Lieutenant Boast was only 20 years old. He was mentioned in Saturday's court circular as having been invited to dine with Field Marshal Viscount French, lord lieutenant and governor general of Ireland, Saturday evening. On Saturday he had bidden farewell to his parents, who had been paying him a visit.

In the absence of all official information, the theory late tonight is that no raid against the vice regal lodge was intended. It is supposed that an isolated shot was fired which Lieutenant Boast and two privates went to investigate. It is not thought that they reached the person who fired the shot but became involved in a struggle with a passerby, who, with the lieutenant, was killed.

It is reported that the dead civilian was a laborer who had been treated at a Dublin hospital and was walking home through the park. He wore bandages on his face, the police say.

No official report has been made by the police on the occurrence, which will be explained at the military inquest. The military officials refer all inquirers to the police.

INTRUDER KILLED WORE BRITISH ARMY UNIFORM

London, Dec. 28.—A despatch to the Exchange Telegraph from Dublin says that the officer killed in the attack on the vice regal lodge in Phoenix Park was Lieutenant Boast. The member of the attacking party killed was dressed in an old uniform of a private in the British army. His body is reported to have been riddled with bullets.

The Exchange Telegraph's correspondent says it is understood that sniping at the vice regal lodge continued for only a few minutes and that the firing took place from the main road at a distance of nearly a quarter of a mile from the lodge.

ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE A CONSTABLE AT BALLYBOFEY

London, Dec. 28.—Several untoward incidents are reported from Ireland by the Sunday Evening Telegram. A daring attempt was made to assassinate a constable at Ballybofey, County Donegal. The assailant fired a pistol from the street at the constable, who was sitting with his family in a bedroom. Nobody was injured, but the bullet struck a bed a few inches from a sleeping infant.

A band of men raided a farmer's house at Victoria Bridge and carried off rifles. At Killarney a constable was shot and wounded on Christmas eve while assisting other constables to quell a rough and tumble fight between soldiers and civilians.

It is reported that 20,000 rounds of ammunition have been stolen from the Dangarvan railway station. The consignment, it is believed, was intended for the military authorities.

PRESIDENT TO RECOMMEND CLEMENCY FOR WITSCHE

Washington, Dec. 28.—Recommendation will be made to President Wilson by the department of justice that the courtmartial sentence of death imposed some fourteen months ago on Lagnor Witsche, former German naval officer, for plotting against the United States, be set aside and that the officer be tried for violation of the espionage law by a general court, it was stated tonight by a high official of the department.

Witsche, who is said by officials here to have been captured in Nogales, Arizona, early in 1918, is now being held in the military prison at Fort Sam Houston, awaiting presidential disposition of the findings of the courtmartial which tried him. Department of justic officials refused tonight to give in detail the nature of the charges against the German officer. Reports were not denied that evidence in possession of the government had connected him with the "Black Tom" explosion at Jersey City and with propaganda designed to arouse the negro population of the South.

President Wilson, it was said, after going over the findings of the courtmartial, was not convinced that the case was one within the jurisdiction of the military authorities and for that reason has asked the opinion of Attorney General Palmer.

STATISTICS SHOW CAUSE FOR HIGH PRICES OF CLOTHING

Given By President William M. Wood of the American Woolen Company—People Will Not Accept Good, Durable Clothes Made of the Coarser Wools, But Insist Upon Clothing Made From Fine Wools—Cost of Cloth For a Suit of Clothes In 1914 Was $4.58, Now $13.67—Making of Suit In 1914 Cost $4.98, Against $14.47 in 1919—Release of Wool to the British Government a Contributing Factor.

Boston, Dec. 28.—The insistence of the public upon cloth made from fine wools is a large factor in the present high prices of clothing, according to William M. Wood, president of the American Woolen Company. Mr. Wood who recently charged that some of the merchants in Lawrence were raising prices with every increase in wages in the company's mills in that city, gave his views on the cost of clothing in a statement tonight:

"If our people would consent," was his conclusion, "to wear good, substantial, durable clothes made of the coarser wools, clothing could be purchased at considerably lower prices than those which now prevail."

His statement in part follows:

"It is generally thought that the cost of cloth is the controlling factor in the clothing, but the fact is that the cloth cost is less than half the cost of a completed suit.

"In the last five years the price of cloth in the ordinary suit of clothes has advanced a little less than the cost of labor and other materials that go into making of a suit. The following figures show this which I have from a manufacturer and merchant of clothing of the highest prominence in Boston.

"The cost in 1919 of the cloth for a suit of clothes of a particular grade is $13.67. The corresponding cost in 1914 was $4.58, showing an increase in the cost of cloth of $9.09.

"The 1919 cost of making this suit is $14.47. The corresponding cost in 1914 was $4.98, showing an increase in the cost of $9.49.

"Why have the costs and prices of everything, and especially of clothing so generously increased?

"In the first place, war is always followed by a period of high prices. War means the destruction of the necessaries of life in enormous quantities, together with the diversion of the product of industry from its usual channels. It needs no argument to show that when cloth and clothing are scarce, this scarcity always means high prices.

"Another factor of considerable effect in bringing about higher prices is the high rate of taxation, both state and federal.

"But beyond these causes which result in the general scale of high prices there are, I believe, certain factors which have affected the manufacture of cloth particularly and which are undoubtedly reflected in the cost of cloth and of clothing.

"In the first place, in a measure during the war, and to a greater extent since, there has developed a curiously insistent demand for cloth made from the finer and more expensive wools. People will no longer buy cloth made of the coarser and consequently cheaper grades although clothing made from these wools is both serviceable and sound. Before the war the demand for these finer grades of cloth was chiefly—indeed almost exclusively—from the more fastidious in taste, but now everybody demands the finer clothes and nobody will take anything else.

"We recently made up a sample of cloth in which coarse wool was used in the warp only. The appearance of the sample was but slightly different from that made of finer wools. It had in a marked degree the smooth, soft texture of fine wool. Its cost was considerably less than the fabric made of the finer grades. As a cloth it was good, strong and serviceable. Before the war it would have sold readily, but we were absolutely unable to put in on the market.

"To our suggestion that when people were complaining so of higher prices, this cloth that would made a difference of five dollars or more in the cost of a suit ought to sell readily, the reply was that five dollars in the cost of the cloth for a suit of clothes did not count at all these days.

"Now, note the effect of this demand on the price of wool. The fine wool comes in part from our own country, but chiefly from Australia. The coarser woos are large South American and domestic.

"In March, 1917, just before we entered the war, the different grades of wool were selling at prices something like this: The coarser grade, 75 cents a pound, the finer grades (domestic) $1.25 per pound, the finest Australian wools, $1.65 a pound. Now these same grades of wool are selling: The coarser grades at 55 cents a pounjd, the finer (domestic) at $2 a pound, the finest American at $2.75 a pound.

"While the domestic finer grades have increased from $1.25 to $2 — an increase of 75 cents, and the finest Australian from $1.65 to $2.75—an increase of $1.10, the coarser grades have actually fallen in price from 75 cents to 55 cents—a decrease of 20 cents a pound.

"But besides this increase of demand for the finer wools and shortage in the world supply, the action of our own government has still further contributed to keep the prices up.

"During the war, agents of our government purchased from the British government some hundred millions pounds of Australian wool. When the armistice came they released or transferred two thirds of this wool back to the British government, the one third which our government held they offered only in limited quantities, the keen competition for which carried it to tremendously high prices.

"I am not criticising government officials. They doubtless felt justified both in returning this fine wool to England and in getting the highest price possible for the wools they have on hand. But when you put the question, why our people have to pay high prices for fine clothing which they insist on having, you must not forget that one of the reasons for it is that the government is holding the wool which it bought at war prices for a profit."

WESTERN CATTLE GROWERS APPEAL FOR MEAT PACKERS

Washington, Dec. 28.—Members of twelve western cattle growers' associations have appealed to President Wilson, through former Secretary McAdoo, to upset the arrangements made by Attorney General Palmer to compromise the government's anti-trust proceedings against the meat packers, John Miller of Fort Stockton, Texas, president of the Pan Handle Cattle association, announced here today.

The growers, Mr. Miller said, submitted to the president through McAdoo a series of charges to the effect that the compromise does not give them any redress for their chief grievance, which they allege is the control of stockyard markets by the packers to the disadvantage of the producers. They ask that the prosecutions be taken out of the hands of the attorney general and that new suits be brought with Francis J. Heney of San Francisco, former attorney for the federal trade commission, as a special prosecutor.

According to Miller, the matter was laid before the president last week.

"We adopted the unusual course of getting the matter before President Wilson," Mr. Miller said, "because we thought it unwise to put our evidence at the disposal of the attorney general in view of his attitude as demonstrated by the settlement with the packers."

Mr. Miller said that in addition to several Texas cattle associations, similar organizations in Colorado Oklahoma and adjoining states had joined in the presentation. Conferences with McAdoo upon the subject were held by the growers' representatives in New York last week, and then the matter was brought to Washington.

TWO 18-YEAR-OLD GIRLS HELD FOR PASSAIC MURDER

Jersey City, N. J., Dec. 28.—Two eighteen year old girls and two youths are under arrest tonight in connection with the murder of Mrs. Leo Goldstein, who was shot by robbers in her husband's store at Passaic, N. J., early Christmas day. A motor car stolen in Philadelphia was found abandoned in Passaic the next day in which was a woman's handbag containing several letters. Through the letters the police traced the four who are locked up.

The prisoners, who are held on a technical charge of being disorderly persons, are Mary McLaughlin of Philadelphia; Esther Hanley of Jersey City; Eugene Heffernan, 17 years old of Hoboken and George Parchie, 20, of West Hoboken. All deny knowelge of the murder.

A FACTORY BUILDING AT WINDSOR BURNED

Windsor, Conn., Dec. 28.—Fire destroyed a large three-story frame building known as the Best Manufacturing company building here today with a loss of $20,000. The structure contained a printing shop, lodge rooms and stores.

WHY ADMIRAL DECKER DECLINED NAVY CROSS

Washington, Dec. 28.—Statements made by Rear Admiral Decker, former naval attache at Madrid, made to the effect that he and his assistants were instrumental in preventing Spain from joining the central powers during the enemy offensive of March, 1918, and that his work was hampered by the American ambassador, probably will be investigated during the congressional investigation of the award of naval decorations, Representative Lufkin, republican, Massachusetts, of the house naval committee, said tonight.

Rear Admiral Decker's statements were contained in a letter to Secretary Daniels, made public yesterday, setting forth the reasons which prompted him to decline the navy cross for which he was recently recommended by Secretary Daniels.

"In my opinion," the letter read, "this award is entirely inadequate to the services that were performed by the office of the naval attache and those who worked with me. The effect of this work was to keep Spain fro mentering the war against us, the time of the enemy March offensive of 1918, also a reduction of the submarine activities off the coast of Spain.

"If my estimate is correct, my services and the services of those who worked with me, in spite of the opposition of the ambassador is certainly greater than the work done by any single battleship in the war or by any official stationed on shore duty in an administrative capacity."

The letter contains the first intimations of friction among American diplomatic and navay officials at Madrid during the war.

Mr. Lufkin said tonight that members of the committee on naval affairs from the house and senate with whom he had discussed Rear Admiral Decker's letter had expressed themselves as in full agreement with his opinion that the statements deserved congressional investigation.

BILL FOR BEER AND LIGHT WINES IN NEW JERSEY

New Brunswick, N. J., Dec. 28.—The preamble of the bill authorizing the sale of beer and light wines in New Jersey was made public here tonight by State Senator Thomas Brown, who will introduce the measure at the next session of the state legislature. Senator Brown said that the bill itself is not ready for publication.

The preamble sets forth that the State of New Jersey has not ratified the eighteenth amendment, doubts that it was passed in a constitutional manner and intends to disregard the Volstead act and pass an enforcement bill which will be supreme within the limits of the state. Senator Brown said the theory upon which Governor-elect Edwards and his supporters are working is that the eighteenth amendment gives equal power to congress and the states in the enforcement of prohibition and that the congressional enactment applies only where there is no state law in effect.