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Bridgeport Evening Farmer.

THE WEATHER
Fair, colder, tonight and tomorrow

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BRIDGEPORT, CONN., SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 1913

PRICE TWO CENTS

GAGS HERSELF TO PREVENT OUTCRY THEN ENDS LIFE

Mrs. G. B. Hills Twice Slashes Throat With Razor

Had Suffered Shock and Also Experienced Much Worryment Over Litigation

After an illness extending over a period of two years culminating in a severe nervous breakdown, which required the constant attention of a graduate nurse at her bedside, Mrs. George B. Hills, a resident of the Putney District in the town of Stratford, last night committed suicide by cutting her throat with a razor while husband and nurse were within an adjoining room.

The act was sensational in the extreme, as the victim took almost maniacal precautions to prevent her intention becoming known by the persons who with an open door were seated less than fifteen feet distant.

According to the relation of facts laid before Medical Examiner William E. Cogswell, called from Stratford to view the body, Mrs. Hills, who had been under the care of Dr. Cogswell, had earlier in the day during the absence from the room of her attending nurse, taken the razor from the razor of her husband. This she had evidently placed beneath her pillow.

In the early evening she had appeared in a particularly elated state of mind and great hopes were being entertained for her early recovery from the nervous breakdown which had kept her in bed. Shortly before eleven she expressed her wish to sleep and the nurse withdrew to the adjoining sitting-room where under the glow of a reading lamp Mr. Hills had already seated himself with the daily paper.

About 11:30 the sound of peculiar gurgles as if someone breathing heavily from asthma or catarrh, came from the bedroom and caused the nurse to step to the open door-way. There with her head expensively wrapped in shawls and sheets to prevent outcry, lay Mrs. Hills, her neck cut from ear to ear and a razor clutched in her right hand. Both the wounds and the two jagular veins had been severed twice by two cuts about four inches in length. Assistance was summoned by telephone but before arrival of a physician she had expired.

The burial of the body will be issued today. Besides her husband Mrs. Hills is survived by one son.

An intimate friend of the deceased woman to a reporter for The Farmer today said: "Mrs. Hills had long endured great mental as well as physical suffering in silence. Two years ago she was the victim of a paralytic shock which was followed by a second in July, last. Brooding over these attacks as well as over protracted litigation over the will of the late Charles Booth, for whom she had been housekeeper in the homestead for a period of over twenty years, is thought to have recently unbalanced her mind. She was extremely morbid and upon several occasions had manifested suicidal intentions. To guard against such an act, as well as to care for her shattered nerves, a nurse had been recommended by the attending physician."

"Bill" Lawrence Dead

Was Old Time Member of Local Lodge of Elks

William Lawrence, of 531 Lafayette street, died this morning at St. Vincent's hospital of complications of disease. For some months he had been suffering from a throat affection, which developed seriously some time ago. Mr. Lawrence was for many years an employe of the public works department, being clerk at the local railroad. Recently he was employed as a superintendent of the Park Fairfield avenue theatre. For 10 years he was tiler of Bridgeport Lodge of Elks and was one of the best masons in the organization in this city. He was also a member of Park City Council, Knights of Columbus. He is survived by one daughter, Miss Belle Lawrence.

Don't Make World Sad By Telling Troubles

Chicago, March 22—"Learn to laugh" is the slogan that has been spread through the ranks of employes of one of the big western railroads. A statement issued yesterday, to all employes in what is termed a "cheerfulness" campaign says:

"A good laugh is better than medicine. Learn how to tell all your troubles. Learn how to keep your troubles to yourself. The world is too busy to care for your ills and troubles. Learn to hide your pains and aches under pleasant smiles; a good humor man or woman always is welcome."

Heart Broken Mother Asks Police to Renew Search for Gerrich

Increased publicity in the effort being made to locate Frank Gerrich, the 16-year-old son of Mrs. A. G. Gerrich, Norwalk, who disappeared mysteriously from Bridgeport on February 10, was asked of the police this morning by the grief-stricken mother who wished personally to see Captain George Arnold.

No trace of the young man has been gained by the photograph and descriptions sent throughout the country and a belief that he either has met with foul play or had committed suicide is rapidly gaining ground.

CONGRESSMAN DONOVAN GETS CUSTOMS APPOINTMENT HERE

SEALER KELLY'S SCOPE WIDENED

Increased Funds Permit More Rigid Inspections

Peddlers Must Get Licenses While Milk Bottle and Whiskey Flask Examinations May Find Violators of Container Law.

Through a realization of the effective work of the Department of Weights and Measures during the past year, appropriations have been granted Senator Dennis Kelly for the coming fiscal year which will permit of a much wider range of protection than heretofore possible in Bridgeport.

When seen in his new offices in the Warner Building Sealer Kelly said that where only \$480 had been available last year to conduct the work, he had been informed that an amount of \$1,688.75 exclusive of salary had this year been appropriated. Of this amount \$687.75 had been requisitioned for new weights, scales, and other technical equipment used in unmasking the various frauds perpetrated upon the consumer by unscrupulous traders. The sum of \$400 is granted for transportation, which not permitting the purchase of a much needed automobile still affords ample funds for the transportation of heavy weights used in testing the heavier scales in various outlying sections of the city.

"While the complaints about gross irregularities in scales used by storekeepers are not frequent since dishonest merchants know that an inspector is walking about the city, yet there are still many short-weight instruments and containers used by dealers who are themselves not aware of defects," said Sealer Kelly.

"Probably the hardest to locate at the present time are those in use by wagon vendors, but with the passage of the recent ordinance requiring every peddler to secure and display a license tag, to be issued by the police department, this will be greatly remedied. The ordinance, which is effective on April 1, ordains that application for such license shall be made to the superintendent of police, who after receiving assurance from the applicant that the scales and containers tested, will issue the necessary number-plates for wagon and owner. These are being made by the Board of Contract and Supply and are expected by a reporter for The Farmer to be ready for issue in a few days.

"Then again there is the computing scale which while seldom found incorrect, if changed can only be detected by the finest test-weights. These have not been made in this city for our friends the past year, but will now have ready for instant use. Do you know that I have even found one computing scale in Bridgeport which was daily registering against the dealer. The slightest displacement of the recording chart on such machines works for or against the owner, and can only be repaired by experts in the factory. In such cases it is necessary to temporarily condemn the machine and seal it tightly against use until repaired.

"Among the equipment which shall soon have at my command will be a large office balance, delicately poised, and capable of detecting the slightest variations of scale-beams. This is specially constructed for sealers of weights and measures and will be a material addition to this department. There will be a complete assortment of brass capacity measures and test weights for use by the State Superintendent of Weights and Measures, and against which no objection can be brought in a court of justice."

Asked if a close supervision of milk-buses was being made under the recent net-container law, Sealer Kelly said: "Complaints properly lodged with this office will receive careful investigation, but it will be impossible for one man to see the buses in every section of this city. Such an attempt was made in Boston and with over seven clerks, who devoted their entire time to the work, it was found impracticable. A number of buses have already been gauged and found correct and wherever possible others will be inspected.

"Several complaints under the net-container act have reached me regarding whiskey sold by the flask. These have already been gauged and found the required amount, and before continuing a sale in flasks stamped with contents marks, saloon-keepers will do well to assure themselves that the receptacles are bona-fide."

With the statement that he believed there was no violation of the weights and measures laws than ever before in Bridgeport and that with the transportation granted by the Board of Apportionment a closer inspection in all sections of the city would be possible in the coming campaign, the interview was concluded.

WINS PATRONAGE FIGHT IN HOT CAUCUS AT NEW HAVEN

GUMMINGS TO ASSIST IN SELECTING CHOICE

Warm Row Nearly Causes Disruption When United States Judgeship Caucus Goes Fifteen Ballots Without Unity

Congressman Jeremiah Donovan has won his fight and is going to name the collector of customs for Bridgeport. This was decided yesterday at the caucus in New Haven of the five Congressmen, together with National Committeeman Homer S. Cummings and Sheriff George Forster, chairman of the State Central Committee.

The collectorship question was considered, after the caucus members had wrangled three hours over the United States district court judgeship. The judgeship question was finally settled, though Thomas F. Noone, of Rockville, was far in the lead when the last of the fifteen ballots was taken.

Congressman Donovan, in making his choice for collector of customs here, will consult National Committeeman Homer S. Cummings, of Stamford. The choice will be in their hands and the rest of the Connecticut delegation will stand by them.

It was contended by several of the other Congressmen that, as Bridgeport was the only collection port in the State, the choice should be made in caucus. Congressman Donovan held that he should have the selection, as Bridgeport is in his district and there is no precedent for any other manner of appointment.

The question was threshed out at some length in executive session, it finally being agreed that the choice be left to Congressman Donovan and Mr. Cummings. The basis of the compromise was, it is understood, that other Albany congressmen will be recognized equally in the distribution of federal patronage.

After the caucus, Congressman Donovan was asked if he wanted to talk about the matter. As usual he gave his imitation of the Sphinx and declared in the negative. The appointment, under the reorganized customs office, becomes effective July 1, of this year.

The reorganization of the service means that Fred Enos will be relieved of his duties here and will be succeeded by Congressman Donovan's appointee, who will be collector for the State with headquarters here. The customs offices in other cities will be in charge of present deputy collectors who will hold office under the civil service.

The judgeship question threatened trouble in the caucus. There were ten candidates in the field, six of whom were from New Haven, one from Waterbury, two from Hartford, and one from Rockville. Judge Walter Walsh, of New Haven, was the leader in the caucus, according to information which reached the German foreign office today. The officials of the German foreign office state that Austria will send one further note to Montenegro so as to exhaust the possibilities of diplomacy before the character of the activity of the warships changes from a demonstration into offensive action.

It is understood here that Russia has counseled the Montenegro to yield.

AUSTRIAN NOTE TO MONTENEGRO IS ULTIMATUM

Berlin, March 22—Armed operations against Montenegro may soon be begun by the Austro-Hungarian squadron now cruising off the Montenegrin coast.

Vienna, March 22—The Austro-Hungarian government today issued a strongly worded note to Montenegro which was in the nature of an ultimatum.

NEW BALKAN CRISIS
London, March 22—The new crisis in the Balkans has led to the instant recall from their Easter vacations of the ambassadors in London of the European powers. They met in conference this afternoon to discuss the situation. The dispatch from the beleaguered fortress of Adrianople, received this morning, shows that the garrison under Shukur Pasha had intention of capitulating. The message was sent to Constantinople and thence cabled abroad.

REJOICES THAT DEMOCRATS HOLD UNDISPUTED SWAY

Washington, March 22—When Elliott Woods, superintendent of the Capitol, ran his eye over the House, today, and noted the transformation that had been wrought in the historic chamber he did not attempt to disguise his satisfaction.

"Bring on the tariff session," he exclaimed. "Everything is ready." The House wears a strange and foreign aspect for the old desks and revolving chairs have disappeared and in their place prim rows of benches have been substituted.

The new benches will provide seats for 450 persons or 15 more than the present membership of the House. These extra seats will be occupied, however, if Congress adopts the plan of permitting cabinet members to appear on the floor and engage in the debates on bills affecting their departments.

Weather Indications
New Haven, March 22—Forecast: Fair and colder tonight, Sunday fair followed by increasing cloudiness.
For Connecticut: Fair tonight and Sunday, colder tonight; diminishing westerly winds.

The severe storm which was centered over the lake region, yesterday morning, has passed out the St. Lawrence valley during the last 24 hours. It produced high winds with snow or rain in the lake region and New England. It is followed by an area of high pressure which is now central over Indiana and is producing pleasant weather in nearly all districts east of the Rocky Mountains. Zero temperatures are reported from the northwest and freezing temperatures extend as far south as Texas.

Conditions favor for this vicinity fair weather with freezing temperatures.

DIES FROM WOUNDS IN AUTO COLLISION

Sixteen year old Paul Gefrovich, Jr., 101 Deway street, who while riding a bicycle was struck by an automobile owned and driven by Frank Simons, a milkman of 472 Bostwick avenue, died this morning at St. Vincent's hospital. His skull had been fractured from ear to ear.

Up to a late hour this afternoon the charge against Simons, of violating the automobile law trial of which was postponed until March 29, had not been changed, and he was out upon bonds of \$500 posted for his release.

WILL REMARRY EASTER SUNDAY

New York Couple Find Lying Stories Led to Separation

Other Out of Town Couples Come Here to Secure Marriage Licenses

Having discovered, they say, that their divorce, secured several months ago, was based on falsehood invented by enemies, William C. Opperman, a manufacturer of New York city, aged 34 years, brought his former wife, Edith Chippendale, aged 28, to this city today, that they might be remarried.

Mr. Opperman and his former wife, who first married two years ago. They appeared a most devoted couple when they presented themselves at the office of Town Clerk William Thomas in the City Hall this forenoon to secure their second marriage license in as many years. The former Mrs. Opperman was handsomely robed, and Mr. Opperman displayed a bulky bundle of bank notes when he paid the customary license fee.

They explained that they had been estranged by lying stories, and that on learning the real conditions they decided that they should remain no longer apart. Owing to the easier method of re-marrying, under the conditions, in Connecticut, they decided to come to this city and left the metropolis on a morning express. They expect to be married here tomorrow.

Others who planned to marry during the Eastertide are Stanley J. Barton, aged 23, and Jessie J. Hungerford, 21, both of whom came from New Milford this forenoon; and Francis F. Peck, aged 24, of New Haven, and Nellie M. Edwards, the same age, both of whom secured marriage licenses before the town clerk closed his office for the day, at noon.

HOSE CART WRECKED WHEN IT SKIDS AND HITS POST

Assistant Fire Chief Thrown from No. 2 Auto To-day

MACHINE SMASHED AND SENT TO REPAIR SHOP

Deep Mud at Crescent Avenue and Knowlton Street Causes Accident When Fire is Discovered at Burritt Lumber Co.

The auto hose cart of No. 2 engine company was wrecked this morning at Knowlton street and Crescent avenue while responding to an alarm from Box 422 at the A. W. Burritt Lumber Co. The auto skidded in the deep mud in front of the Connecticut and Burch company and sideswiped a hydrant.

Assistant Chief Jacob Horkheimer, who was riding on the rear of the engine, was thrown into the roadway and was bruised up a bit. The other firemen escaped by jumping, and all got a liberal mud bath.

The running board of the engine was smashed and a rear mud guard was ripped off. The auto was making pretty fast time and Driver Whalen was unable to right it when it started to skid. The smashed mudguard got tangled up in the chain drive and the engine could not proceed to the fire. Capt. Platt immediately notified headquarters and No. 1 engine company was dispatched to the fire from John street.

The damaged auto was sent to the repair shop this noon by Chief Mooney. As no other apparatus is available just now for relief duty, No. 2 engine house will be shy one company's complement until damages are repaired.

The fire this morning was in a kiln dry at the Burritt Lumber company. The kiln is located in a brick building, just over the boiler rooms. The fire was discovered by an employe who saw smoke coming from the eaves of the building and an alarm was turned in from Box 422.

A big section of the roof was burned away and part of the interior of the building was gutted. Because of the great quantity of wood in the building, the firemen experienced some difficulty in fighting the blaze. They were at the fire for over two hours.

Chief Mooney said he believed the fire was caused by a steam pipe, which ran through the dry room to the roof. The condition of the wood was such that it was most combustible.

James Telford, assistant treasurer of the company, said that about \$800 worth of hard wood was in the drying room. Some of this is damaged by water and chemicals, but not much has been destroyed by fire. He believed that \$1,500 will fully cover the damage.

COMMISSION WILL HEAR DANBURY TRANSFER CASE

Hartford, March 22—Residents of Danbury and vicinity have petitioned the public utilities commission asking that the issuance of transfers by the Danbury & Bethel street railway be investigated and regulated.

The petitioners request that the commission promulgate orders to compel the company to accept transfers issued by it to passengers at any time during the date for which they are purchased and also compel the company to transport passengers over the so-called cross-town line at all times during the year for a five cent fare.

The commission will hold a hearing on the petition in the city hall at Danbury, March 31 at 2 p. m.

Yale Exams. By Student Council Prove Successful
New Haven, March 22.—With the close of this week's examinations of the Junior and Senior classes of the Yale Scientific school, a full year's test has been made of the examination system, covering all three classes of the school. It proved successful.

The undergraduate student council of the school has been in full charge of the examinations and all their recommendations, in one or two cases resulting in dismissal of students for bad conduct, have been accepted by the faculty, who have in effect acted as agents of the council. The extension of the power as council over cuts and absences is now under discussion.

WIDOW OF FORMER PATROLMAN MURPHY SUCCEumbed TODAY

Mrs. Catherine F. Murphy, widow of Patrolman George E. Murphy, died this morning at her home, 496 Catherine street, after a lingering illness. Her husband died about three months ago. Mrs. Murphy was 37 years old and was a native of Bridgeport, being the daughter of the late Michael and Elizabeth Farrell. The deepest sympathy of many friends is extended her family. Three small children, George J., Edward F. and Vincent F. Murphy, survive, besides her mother and two brothers, Matthew F. and James H. Farrell.

CHIEF CLERK NOREN VERY ILL AT HOME

Charles F. Noren, chief clerk of the money order department of the post office, is seriously ill of kidney trouble at his home, 33 Morham street. Noren was stricken yesterday and today his condition is reported to be serious.

Postmaster William H. Marigold was reported to be improving today and his family now entertains hope of his ultimate recovery.

ROWE BURIED IN TOWN PLOT.

The body of the man who was found dying in an abandoned boiler on Housatonic avenue on Wednesday morning, was buried today in the Lakeview Home burying ground. But the simplest ceremonies marked the interment, although James Rowe had once been connected with a well known family by that name who lived in the West End.

VALUATION OF NEW HAVEN ROAD

Government Asks for Details of Its Assets

Earnings Fall Off—Mr. Mellen to Give Time to Boston Maine

New Haven, March 22.—Commissioner Charles A. Prouty of the interstate commission, has asked the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad Company for details of its valuation based upon the appraisals made some years ago by the then vice-president Stevens and later by the special Massachusetts commission under Prof. Swain of Harvard college. This is understood to be one of the preliminary steps to the valuation of railroads under the new federal law.

Return of the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad Company for the first half of March indicate a slight falling off of business in New England as compared with a year ago as shown by a decrease of freight earnings of about \$10,000. To a less extent the decrease extends to passenger business also.

The following statement was issued by the New Haven road, today:

"President Mellen, of the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad, announced, today, in New York, that beginning next week he will spend four days in Boston; one day (Monday) in New Haven, and one day (Saturday) in New York."

"President Mellen has decided to devote most of his time for the next few months to the management and operation of the Boston & Maine."

"At the present moment, especially in Boston, the public attention as well as the interest of investors, is thrust on the affairs of the Boston & Maine and President Mellen feels he will be of more service in devoting this additional time to the Boston & Maine."

DR BENNETT DIES FROM PNEUMONIA

Dr. H. Raymond Bennett, for many years a practicing physician at 444 Beechwood avenue, as well as relief surgeon at the Emergency hospital, died this morning at the Bridgeport hospital where he had been confined on Wednesday suffering from an attack of pneumonia which had stricken him on Sunday.

The son of Caleb H. Bennett, formerly a well known shoe merchant in Main street, Dr. Bennett was born in Bridgeport 38 years ago, graduating from the public schools and later from Dartmouth College. He was connected with hospitals in New York and Yonkers, but returned to his home city to locate permanently.

He was married six years ago to the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Alexander Briggs. He has one son, a child, Adelaide Briggs Bennett, aged four, resulting from the union.

Besides a widow and daughter, Dr. Bennett is survived by a father, and a brother, Mrs. William Pike, of Pittsfield, Mass., and one brother, George, of Westerly, R. I.

DETECTIVE FOUND GUILTY ON WHITE SLAVERY CHARGE

Scranton, Pa., March 22—Harry Kulp, a former detective of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., was found guilty in the United States court here, today, on charges of peonage and white slavery in securing women ostensibly for domestic service in West Virginia hotels. It was testified during the trial that the women were promised employments in hotels and that when they reached West Virginia they were taken to mining camps and compelled to associate with men employed to take the places of striking mine workers. The women who testified against Kulp came from Pennsylvania.

STRAFORD INN OWNER TO BE TRIED MONDAY

Dudley J. Stratford, proprietor of the Stratford Inn, who was arrested and situated near the western approach to Washington bridge, will be arraigned before Judge Walsh and a jury in the criminal court of common pleas Monday morning. It is charged that when the liquor law by selling liquor after the legal hour for closing. It is reported that the Stratford authorities will endeavor to have Stratford's license revoked if he is found guilty by the jury.

CITY COURT CASES

Martin Myklecki, 22 years old, arrested for assault last night was released in the City court this morning. William Tamely, was fined \$1 and costs. John Dulane, 786 Ogden St., for injury to property was fined \$5. John Burke, arraigned for committing a breach of the peace while intoxicated and Ellen O'Brien similarly accused were sentenced to thirty days each in the county jail with suspension of judgment.

WILL NOT SET ASIDE \$7,000 JURY VERDICT

Judge Burpee Denies Motion of Conn. Co. Counsel

Claimed Jurors Who Awarded Manicure Girl Heavy Damages Visited Scene of Accident

Judge Burpee of the superior court has refused to set aside the \$7,000 verdict obtained by Miss Mary F. Brodie, the Derby manicure, against the Connecticut Co. In a memorandum handed down today, Judge Burpee denies the motion filed by counsel for the Connecticut company to set aside the verdict on the grounds that it was contrary to the evidence, that the damages allowed were excessive and that two of the jurors visited the scene of the accident before a verdict had been rendered.

In regard to the allegation that two jurors had visited the locality, the Church and Chapel streets in New Haven, where the accident happened, the court ruled that the evidence was not sufficient to support the motion. Judge Burpee said it was true the jurors had gone to New Haven but he declared the visit for proper purposes and their visit could not have affected their deliberations.

In his memorandum Judge Burpee says: "Verdicts and judgments ought not to be disturbed after causes and when it is not apparent nor reasonable to be presumed that trials have not been full or fair, especially when no controlling principle of law has been disregarded or mistaken."

MOORE RESIGNS FROM WEATHER BUREAU TODAY

Washington, March 22—Willis L. Moore, chief of the weather bureau, resigned today. After a talk with the President, Secretary Hoover accepted the resignation, to become effective July 31. Prof. Moore is a Democrat and was a candidate for appointment as Secretary of Agriculture by the Secretary Houston appointed. That the office of chief of the weather bureau was not covered by civil service and was a Presidential appointment.

"We have no one in the bureau who is better qualified to get the best man we can of scientific ability and administrative talent."

CHIEF JUSTICE WHITE REFUSES ALLEN'S PETITION
Washington, March 22—Chief Justice White today declined to grant a writ of error to have the Supreme court review the death sentence imposed upon Claude Swanson Allen for his part in the Hillsville court house murders, but granted Allen's attorneys permission to lay before the court before any other justice of the court. Claude and his father are under sentence to die March 28.

Allen's attorneys laid their application for a writ of error before Chief Justice Hughes who took it under consideration.

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