

# Bridgeport Evening Farmer

VOL 52—NO 3

BRIDGEPORT, CONN., TUESDAY, JANUARY 4, 1916

PRICE TWO CENTS

## REMINGTON CO. PLANT MARVEL OF EFFICIENCY AND MODERN MACHINES

Engine With Uncannily Human Capabilities Almost Undreamed of By Uninitiated Are Everywhere in Vast Plant.

Wonderful Systems, Magnificent Welfare Programs, and Great Development Plans Are Part of Tremendous Manufactory.

Many thousands of men have received wages for work on the great Remington Arms & Ammunition Co.'s plant, which has reared its walls from Boston avenue and Bond street northward to Lakeview home in less than a year, and which now gives employment to more than 6,000 residents of this city and vicinity.

Five thousand men are said to have worked in and upon the massive steel and brick structure, yet it is related that less than a score have made an entire trip throughout its miles of sections, which would require half an hour on a bicycle or on the motor-trucks that are used indoors. The trip on foot would require about six hours for hasty inspection.

An aggregate floor area of 1,533,000 square feet is covered with tons of metal, machinery and scientific instruments that approximate \$5,000,000 in value, or one-half the estimated value of the buildings.

The hum of machinery blends with the flicker of torchlight, the roar of the furnaces, gas ovens, the white tiling of hospitals, and the aroma of restaurant cooking.

Beyond the structure of industrialism and machinery, into the countryside, buildings for housing 10,000 more employees are beginning to rear their walls, forming what will be one of the most comprehensive industrial suburbs that has ever been built in this country.

A corps of expert engineers and advisors, from colleges, the army, the navy and throughout industrial centers of this country, located in this city helping to make the Remington product of world-wide fame.

A power plant unique in its appliances, industry and design, its capacity as that which furnishes all light and power to Bridgeport, and electricity, steam, fire protection, compressed air and refrigeration in the factory.

A system that has no equal in this country has been devised in the guarding of the immense property, issuance of passes, and the control of the building to another, for estimating production, feeding the army of employees and outside workmen, sorting and distributing mails, scientific research in testing steel, brass, iron, in coal, and in many other factors that go to make up the manufacture of arms. The economy of costs, sanitation and welfare of the workers has also been cared for magnificently.

When it is considered that the average pay-roll for 6,000 men is approximately \$11,000 per week, and that this force will be doubled in the course of six months it will be seen that the Remington Arms & Ammunition Co. will distribute many millions annually in Bridgeport.

**HISTORY**  
The Remington Arms & Ammunition Co. is one of three munition manufacturing concerns owned by the same interests. The others are The Union Metallic Cartridge Co. of Bridgeport and the Remington Arms & Ammunition Co. of Ilion, N. Y. The Remington-U. M. C. Co. acts as the distributing agent for the three.

The officials of the Remington Arms & Ammunition Co., who today are credited with having devised and put into successful operation the vast enterprise are S. E. Pryor, vice-president and general manager with offices in New York, and Major Walter G. Penfield, general works manager of both the R. A. & A. Co. and the R. U. M. C. Co. of this city.

Work on the buildings began Dec. 16, 1914, and was completed the following November. The first machine was installed Feb. 25, 1915, when nearly 3,000 have been put into use with nearly one third still to be set. To equip these machines more than 15,000 tools and fixtures were manufactured especially.

**SCIENTIFIC LABORATORIES**  
Three highly equipped testing laboratories are maintained to determine the qualities of the raw materials purchased, the progress of operations and the economy of production.

Two are devoted to testing chemical and tensile properties of steel, coal combustion and like tests. The third is a combined photographic and blueprint manufacturing studio of most modern design and equipment.

In the physical testing laboratory, which occupies about 45 square feet of space all steel is tested for its strength, elasticity and other qualities. Huge Riele testing machines, capable of pulling apart the toughest steel an inch or more in thickness are in use. Every consignment of steel purchased is tested according to the nature of each operation to which it will be subjected so that the least possible quantity of material that may safely be used for a given pressure, is accurately determined.

In the chemical laboratory, forming part of the physics testing department other rare instruments for recording the expansion of metals are in use. Scales of the minutest accuracy involving new principles in principle and which weigh to a fraction of an atom are used here.

## Mysteries of Huge Munitions Concern Revealed to Public

For the first time since the Remington Arms & Ammunition Co. began the construction of its vast plant on Boston avenue, it is possible to give through the columns of The Farmer an adequate idea of the immensity of the munitions manufactory.

The tremendous plant is composed of an amazing gathering of the most modern machines and systems, the existence and capabilities of which scarcely have been dreamed of by the general public.

Much has been conjectured and many reports have been disseminated about the actual workings of the plant, but not until now has it been possible to obtain a clear, accurate and comprehensive review of what is going on there.

The facts in The Farmer's story were procured during an eight mile journey, requiring many hours, throughout every building and department of the company.

## FIGHT TODAY TO SAVE WILLIAMS FROM GALLOWS

Final Effort Launched At Hartford to Prevent Bridgeporter Hanging.

**COUNSEL ALLEGES JUDGE REED ERRED**

Content That Mistake Was Made in Re-Opening Case in Superior Court.

Before the supreme court of errors, which convened in Hartford today for the January term, a final effort is being made to save Isaac N. Williams, 67 Liberty street, this city and Harry Roe, his companion, from hanging.

Williams and Roe were convicted of the murder of Herbert P. Case, a county commissioner and a storekeeper of Barkhamsted. Their trial was held in the superior court of Litchfield county. The murder was committed Nov. 28, 1914.

Williams was arrested soon after he left the Aero theatre in this city, with a party composed of his wife and some friends. The state police placed him under arrest. Judge Joel Reed sentenced them to be hanged Dec. 8, but Gov. Marcus H. Holcomb granted a stay of execution.

Attorney Charles H. Shapiro of this city and Bernard Higgins, counsel for the accused, contend that the judge erred in re-opening the case after the prosecution, and the defense rested. Four other errors by the court are alleged by the counsel, in the fight for Williams' life and a last battle is being made to save him from the gallows.

The record for the supreme court in connection with the case makes a total of 550 pages. It contains a history of everything that occurred on the trial of the men before Judge Reed and the jury. This includes a recital of the crime, the testimony of witnesses.

**BODY OF FATHER MOLLOY LIES IN STATE AT CHURCH**

Hundreds of School Children Pay Respects to Memory of Priest.

Accompanied by the immediate family and a few intimate friends and vested in the purple robes of the priesthood with crucifix clasped in both hands, the body of Rev. Thomas J. Molloy, son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael M. Molloy, of 113 Austin street, was removed from the bereaved residence at 4 o'clock this afternoon where it will lie in state until the solemn funeral service, which will take place Wednesday morning at 10:30 o'clock.

As a mark of esteem and honor for one of their Alma Mater, the school children and the Sisters of the Sacred Heart parochial school marched in a body from the school to the church this afternoon and escorted the body to the altar rail. Prayers for the dead were then recited for the deceased priest.

Bishop John J. Nilan arrived in the city late this afternoon and will attend the obsequies tomorrow. The bishop will pronounce the last absolution.

A double quartet composed of members of the Sacred Heart and St. Augustine's choirs will sing Schmidt's funeral mass. The Sacred Heart quartet is composed of Mrs. E. J. Witterwell, soprano; Miss Marie Legere, alto; William Chew, tenor, and Josephine Unkert, bass. The St. Augustine's quartet consists of Miss Aurelia Berger, soprano; Mrs. F. J. Kelly, alto; Alfred Bricebosa, tenor and John J. Kennedy, bass. J. J. N. J. Herman will direct and preside at the organ.

# PRESIDENT CALLS IN CONGRESS LEADERS ON "PERSIA" SINKING; ADMITS SITUATION IS "GRAVE"

## BRIDGEPORT'S GRAND LIST BOOSTED 25 MILLIONS TO MEET WILD EXTRAVAGANCE

Assessors Hopelessly Befuddled in Attempt to Meet Demands of Administration to Keep Tax Rate Below 19 Mills—Manufacturers Will Bear Considerable Share of Increase in Taxable Values.

With an increase of approximately \$25,000,000 in the value placed by the board of assessors on Bridgeport's taxable property, Bridgeport faces a carnival of extravagance unprecedented in its history.

"Keep the tax rate under 19 mills!" This is the order the administration has issued. The board of assessors, and expert accountants working on the tax lists, have been struggling with the problem of making both ends meet.

The administration demands a princely revenue, to be spent in salaries for its favorites, and in the buying of miles and miles of Warrenite, without competition from other pavement contractors.

But the semblance of economy must be kept up. To that end, the administration, instead of levying a 24 mill tax upon a list of \$120,000,000, propose to levy a smaller rate upon a list that will be more than 20 per cent. larger than the last valuation.

These facts gradually circulated about City Hall, today, and then spread like wildfire about the city. The chamber of commerce was among the first bodies to learn of the great boost in the tax list.

While the many extravagant schemes proposed by the administration boards, and a general expectation of a big tax rate, it was not known, until today, how the vast revenues were to be provided.

The Remington Arms & Ammunition Co. and the Union Metallic Cartridge Co., distinct corporations with practically a common ownership, will bear a large share of the great increase in taxes.

Although the grand list on which the next tax rate will be levied is made up as of Sept. 1, 1915, and many of the Remington factories were barely begun at that time, these corporations will contribute about \$9,000,000 of the increase.

Other manufacturing establishments will share in an additional eight millions of taxation, and under the head of machinery and equipment vast entries have been made on the tax books that will add another four millions.

Increases have been made upon real estate in outlying districts, awaiting development or now under development, motor boats have been listed, and a host of other smaller items have been added with diligence to land to the general increase.

Owners of centrally located properties that bring incomes in rentals are to share in the burden of the increase. An intimation of what is to take place occurred at the last meeting of the advisory committee on bonding issues when John T. King, chairman of that committee began to catch the City Auditor Bernard Keating. Mr. King asked Mr. Keating if he did not think that there was much centrally located property in Bridgeport that had been in one ownership for many years which was not assessed below its full valuation and earning capacity.

At the same time the administration plans to issue bonds for schools, pavements, sewers and other public improvements to the amount of at least \$1,500,000. The assessments on property are not only to have the most phenomenal boost in the history of the city, but the city is to be plunged into a fearful slough of debt.

Since 1902 the greatest boosts to the grand lists have been during the years 1911 and 1912 when the grand list was raised more than \$8,000,000 for each year. This year, however, the list is to receive a boost of more than \$25,000,000 at one fell swoop.

The increases in the grand list since 1902 may be gleaned from the following tables:

Year	Grand List	Rate	Increase
1902	\$62,298,634	13.3	
1903	\$65,284,095	14.3	\$2,985,461
1904	\$7,706,501	13.5	412,408
1905	\$9,299,598	15.5	2,593,097
1906	7,737,107	15.6	2,437,509
1907	74,818,586	15.6	4,081,459
1908	79,641,955	15.8	4,823,369
1909	85,285,519	17.4	5,643,563
1910	90,230,084	17.2	4,944,565
1911	98,484,517	15.4	8,274,432
1912	107,064,084	15.5	8,579,567
1913	112,194,709	19.2	5,132,626
1914	118,714,273	18.	3,517,570

(Continued on Page 7.)

## Chairmen of Committees on Foreign Relations in Conference With President on Newest Development in Submarine Warfare—Secretary Lansing Aids President in Compiling Data on Attack Which Cost American Life—Senators Preparing Speeches on Matter.

Washington, Jan. 4—Official announcement that the government will act in the newest phase of the submarine crisis brought on by the sinking of the Persia was made today at the White House.

Secretary Tumulty issued this statement for the President: "The President and the Secretary of State are taking every means possible to obtain the cold facts in this grave matter and will act just as soon as the information is obtained."

In the absence of detailed and specific information on which to base the next step, President Wilson cancelled the cabinet meeting which was to have been held today but conferred with Chairman Stone and some members of the Senate foreign relations committee.

Later Chairman Flood of the House foreign affairs committee called at the White House and conferred with President Wilson on the situation.

Chairman Stone told the President there were intimations that some Senators were preparing to make speeches on the sinking of ships with loss of American life. The President is understood to have simply replied that the administration was doing all it could to protect American rights.

The President instructed Secretary Lansing to bring to the White House any information which came to hand and then busied himself reading the official despatches so far received and getting in touch generally with the situation.

The administration is depending largely on the inquiries which Ambassador Penfield has been instructed to make, at Vienna and that which consuls are gathering elsewhere, to establish the nationality of the submarine which is said to have sunk the Persia and to develop the facts in the case.

Senator Stone told the President that when the foreign relations committee met tomorrow he wanted to be prepared to meet any situation that might arise. The Senator said after his talk with the President that until the facts regarding the Persia were obtained nothing could be done.

Any nation, he declared, which outraged the United States, should be dealt with severely.

White House officials said both the Senate and the House would be kept informed of all important developments in the foreign situation, probably through conferences between the President and Senate and House leaders.

There was no indication today of what the prospects were for the United States formally acquainting Bulgaria and Turkey of its position on the question of submarine warfare.

President Wilson arrived here at 7:50 a. m. today from Hot Springs, Va. He went immediately to the White House to take personal charge of the situation brought about by the sinking of the British steamer Persia.

A small crowd had collected at the railroad station to see the President, but he walked quickly by without noticing greetings. The White House staff was already at work and the President was quickly acquainted with the details of the crisis which developed while he was away on his honeymoon. A note from Secretary Lansing was awaiting him.

**ANOTHER SHIP SUNK**  
London Jan. 4.—Although it is reported that no lives were lost when the Peninsular & Oriental liner steamer Geelong was sunk near the Mediterranean, no details are available concerning her sinking. She was a sister ship of the steamer Waratah, which was lost under mysterious circumstances off the African coast in July, 1909.

Alexandria, Egypt, Jan. 4.—Charles Grant, of Boston, one of the two Americans known to have been on board the British steamship Persia when she was torpedoed in the Mediterranean last Thursday, has arrived in Alexandria. Mr. Grant, so far as is known, is the only American from whom can come the story of the Persia's sinking. He gave to The Associated Press today the most detailed account yet received of the disaster.

"I was in the dining saloon of the Persia at 1:05 p. m.," he said. "I had just finished my soup and the steward was asking what I would take for my second course when a terrific explosion occurred.

The saloon became filled with smoke, broken glass and steam from the boiler, which appeared to have burst. There was no panic on board. We went on deck as though we were at drill and reported at the lifeboats on the starboard side, as the vessel had listed to port. I clung to the railing. The last thing done was to tie on Captain Sprickley's lifebelt.

"As the vessel was then listing so badly that it was impossible to launch the starboard boats I hid down the starboard rail into the water. I got caught in a rope which pulled a shoe but I broke loose and climbed on some floating wreckage, to which I clung.

## THE WEATHER

Connecticut: fair and warmer tonight; Wednesday partly cloudy and warmer. Variable winds, becoming southerly.

## FOUR GANGSTERS GO TO JAIL FOR SOUTH END ROW

Youths Sentenced Because of Fight in Which Bystanders Were Hurt.

As a result of a fight in the South End in which five innocent bystanders were stabbed, four young men were given jail sentences by Judge Curtis in the criminal superior court this morning. Sylvester Dipon was sentenced to one year in jail; John Kovasky, eight months; Frank Galsky, 19 months, and Ignatz Moskoko, one year.

It was alleged that on the night of the crime two rival gangs of foreign born persons became engaged in a fight in front of the hunchroom of Thomas Speer on West avenue. William Carter and Frank O'Neil, who happened to be in the hunchroom, went out to see what the trouble was. They were stabbed. William Barnett and Eugene Larkin, who happened to be in the past, were mistaken for participants in the argument, and were also stabbed. None was seriously hurt. The accused were allowed to plead guilty to assault.

## NEARLY 3,000,000 OFFER TO ENLIST IN BRITISH ARMY

London, Jan. 4.—Lord Derby's recruiting figures for the period between Oct. 23 and Dec. 15 show that 1,150,000 unmarried men and 1,679,263 married men presented themselves for service.

Of the grand total of 2,829,263 married and single men, 103,000 unmarried and 112,431 married men enlisted immediately. Eight hundred and forty thousand single men and 1,344,979 married men were attested for future service.

## DIVORCED BY HIS CHILD BRIDE, HE ALLEGES DECEIT

Says Divorce Papers Were Represented to Him As Other Documents.

Claiming that his 14-year-old bride deceived him in regard to the contents of a legal paper, Gustave Dering of Fairfield visited the superior court this morning to protest against the divorce which was granted to Olga Dering last Friday by Judge Gager.

Dering visited the court in company with Attorney Paul S. Chapman. The young husband alleged that when former Deputy Sheriff Elwood of Fairfield served the divorce writ on him he asked Mrs. Dering to translate it because he is unable to read English. Mrs. Dering told her husband, Dering alleges, that the paper simply meant she wanted her name changed. He declares he knew nothing about the divorce until he read in the papers that the decree had been granted.

## Governor Approves Hospital Budgets

Hartford, Jan. 4.—Governor Holcomb today approved the following quarterly appropriation to hospitals: Memorial, New London, \$1,250; Griffin, Derby, \$1,000; St. Mary's, Waterbury, \$1,875; Middlesex, Middletown, \$1,250; New Haven, General, \$2,500; St. Raphael's, New Haven, \$2,125; Bridgeport, \$2,500; St. Vincent's, Bridgeport, \$2,125; New Britain, \$1,250.

Other bills approved were: Mystic Oral school, \$4,595; Connecticut Colony for Epileptics, \$2,245; Connecticut School for Feeble-Minded, \$3,101.

## CIVILIANS JOIN CHASE IN STREET AFTER FUGITIVE

Police and Citizens Unite in Exciting Pursuit—Quarry Hits Janitor.

Civilians joined with policemen in chasing an alleged shoplifter through the streets in the center of the city this afternoon. After several blocks' chase, they rounded up Leo Vennice, 30, of Detroit, at Broad and Cannon streets.

Vennice, according to clerks in Grant's store in Main street, was detected leaving the store with an assortment of unpaid-for goods bulging from his pockets. One of the clerks chased him through Main street.

## State's Share of Liquor Revenue Is Almost \$50,000

The state of Connecticut was sent a check for \$49,474 by the county commissioners today as the state's share of the revenue received from the sale of liquor licenses in this city last month. The state also got \$525 from the proceeds of the club license applications.

Licenses money distributed to other towns and cities in the county was as follows: Stamford, \$2,437.50; Norwalk, \$975; Newtown, \$1,309.75; Huntington, \$1,504.75; Fairfield, \$84.50; Darien, \$487.50; Westport, \$1,027.35; Stratford, \$437.25; Danbury, \$529.75; county, \$19,789.60.

## AMERICAN SURVIVOR OF PERSIA SINKING AFLAAT ON WRECKAGE 4 HOURS

"After floating about on the wreckage until 4 o'clock in the morning I saw five boats. I was pulled into one of them. We rowed about looking for other stragglers."

"The boats became overloaded and the occupants were redistributed. Four boats were tied together by their painters and the fifth followed some distance away.

"My boat left the others in order to search the more frequented steamship channels for help. We rowed for three hours when we saw a cruiser and called out: 'We are English.'

"We explained that we were survivors of the Persia and gave directions to the cruisers as to where the other boats were. They were soon found and the occupants were taken off by the English sailors.

"Robert McNeeley, American consul at Aden, sat at the same table with me on the voyage. He was not seen, probably because his cabin was on the port side. It was a horrible scene. The water was black as ink. Some passengers were screaming, others were calling out good-bye. Those in one boat sang hymns."