

Bridgeport Evening Farmer

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PRICE TWO CENTS

CZAR'S ARMY CROSSES THE RIVER SERETH

Rear Guard of Austrian Troops Bitterly Engaged With Russians As Enemy Crosses the Stream, Austro-Hungarian War Office Announces in Official Report.

Russian Loss of 1,300 Prisoners, One Cannon and Three Machine Guns is Also Claimed—General Pflanzner's Army in Bukovina Is Divided, Says Petrograd.

Vienna, June 21—With the Austrian rearguard closely engaging them, the Russians have crossed the river Sereth, the Austro-Hungarian war office announced in its report of June 20.

In the district of Lokatchi, east of Vladimir, the capture of 1,300 Russians, one cannon and three machine guns is reported.

AUSTRIAN FORCE IS CUT IN TWO BY RUSS TROOPS

London, June 21—Confirmatory reports of the cutting in two of General Pflanzner's army in Bukovina are contained in a despatch to the Star, from Petrograd today. When the Austrians retired from Czernowitz, says the correspondent, part of them retreated down the Styr river west of the Romanian border and others toward the Carpathians, their hope was to have time to hold the Russians on the fortified line running from Kutly to Sereth along the river Mikhed and the prolonged defense of Czernowitz. General Letchitzky threw his reserves upon the heels of the retreating Austrians at such speed that he succeeded in reaching their line simultaneously with them.

The result was that General Pflanzner's forces were cut in half midway between Kutly and Sereth.

**RUSSIANS DRIVEN BACK
AFTER CROSSING RIVER
STYR; GERMANS ADVANCE**

Berlin, June 21—Russian forces which crossed the Styr river west of Krikolki were driven back by a counter-attack, the official statement of the war office today announces. West of Lutsk, the Russians strongly resisted the German advance.

**FRENCH SCREEN
FIRE REPULSES
GERMAN ATTACK**

Paris, June 21—A violent attack on the French positions northwest of Rheims was made by the Germans last night at Hill No. 108 and in the direction of Berry-Au-Bac, according to an official statement issued by the war office today. The attack was repulsed by the French artillery fire.

The Germans exploded two mines before launching their infantry against the French trenches. Their repulse was due, the statement says, to the effectiveness of the French screen fire.

In the Verdun sector no infantry activity was reported but a mutual bombardment was maintained during the night.

The text of the statement follows: "South of the Somme, before Maubeuge, a detachment of the enemy which attempted to approach our lines was dispersed with rifle fire.

"Northwest of Rheims the Germans, after exploding two mines, delivered an attack on the position of Hill No. 108, south of Berry-Au-Bac. Checked by our curtain of fire, this attack was defeated completely.

"On both banks of the Meuse, Verdun front, our artillery and that of the enemy were rather active during the night."

Athens, June 21—The Noon Asty says that the resignation of the cabinet of Premier Skoulioude will probably be announced in parliament today.

King Constantine is taking up the question of changes in the ministry as a result of the continuation of the blockade by the Allies. It is believed that Premier Alexander Zaimis will be asked to try and form a cabinet which will be acceptable to the entente. It is understood here that the principal person in the present cabinet against whom the opposition of the Allies is directed is Minister of the Interior Demetrius Goularis.

King Constantine received Premier Zaimis this morning and discussed with him the formation of a new cabinet.

PROPERTY NEAR WHITNEY TRACT CHANGING HANDS

Rumor of New Industrial Plant Causes Scramble For Holdings There.

**BILTON GETS PART
OF PARROTT ESTATE**
Move to Close Herbert St. Follow Many Other Such Proposals.

As a result of rumors that the Whitney property on North Washington avenue had been sold for factory purposes, it has been disclosed that large interests have been seeking control of much property in the vicinity with the result that both sales and options have been frequent.

The R. E. Parsons Foundry Co., which under the direction of Clarence E. Bilton, recently became associated with the interests of the Standard Manufacturing Co., and removed to Frederick street, yesterday bought from the Parrott estate the remaining control of Frederick street, between Randall and North Washington avenues.

With applications for the closing of Frederick street and Merriam street already made to the common council, it is intimated that request will now be made for the closing of Herbert street, with a view of the Parsons Foundry Co.'s enlarging the capacity of their new plant.

Clarence E. Bilton, whose energy is responsible for the acquisition of this big tract of land, which extends from Housatonic avenue on the west more than 200 feet to the east of Frederick street, and from Randall street to the north, and an avenue which he has purchased the Whitney tract or the waterfront property of Henry E. Parrott adjoining the Whitney property on North Washington avenue.

It was learned today that this piece, 200 feet front on the avenue and with 250 feet of water frontage is held under option by the Bridgeport Realty Co. in the Connecticut National Bank building, J. C. Berkeley, president of that company, advised that the firm had procured an option on the property yesterday but denied that it was to be used in connection with the reported Whitney sale, reported to have been made at a figure approximating \$75,000.

Though all effort to authenticate the names of the supposed purchasers of the Whitney property have as yet been unavailing, the presence of enormous quantities of sand and gravel on the property, with the possibility of a great realty development in the north and east ends has led to persistent reports that a large sand and gravel concern had purchased the property and contemplated erecting an extensive plant. The name of Goodwin & Gallagher, of New York, among the largest dealers in the United States in masons' and builders' materials, has been frequently mentioned.

The likelihood of their coming is, however, scouted in competitive enterprises here.

**Find Meade's Machine
Wrecked Against Pole**

With one mudguard, a headlight and the front wheel and axle broken and twisted, an automobile was found at Lindley street and North avenue today. It was learned that the car was the property of J. J. Meade of 27 Murray street, Ansonia, and had been stolen last night.

When found by Policeman Michael Quilly the car was against a telegraph pole and evidently had been driven by someone under the influence of liquor. It was towed to the yard at police headquarters this morning.

**Fined \$50 and Costs
For Attack on Crew
of Stratfield Car**

Tony Richkoski, 30 years old, who claims to have no home, was fined \$50 and costs in city court today for assaulting Conductor Claude H. Whitebread of a Stratfield car last evening.

He struck the conductor with a switch iron which ejected from the car, almost ripping off Whitebread's ear and lacerating the back of his neck.

The assault occurred as the car was near Wood and North avenues when Whitebread attempted to eject him for making insulting remarks to women and other passengers. In court Richkoski presented a banged up appearance, his face all scratched and cut but the crew of the car denied hitting him.

POPULATION OF 70,000 NOW ESTIMATED UPON CENSUS OF DIRECTORY

Bridgeport's population is rapidly approaching the 200,000 mark, according to deductions that are drawn from the figures just compiled by Price & Lee, publishers of the Bridgeport directory. The approximate population, judging from the figures, is 170,000.

The directory census of the city has been virtually completed by the publishers and nothing remains now but the back calls.

In Bridgeport's 12,000 new names will be added to the directory for the city alone. For the city and the

CITY STREETS TO BE LIGHT AS DAY FOR CELEBRATION

Business District Will Be Illuminated Nights of July 1, 3 and 4.

**LAMPS AND "JUICE"
TO BE GIVEN FREE**
American Flags Will Be Draped From Connecticut Co. Cross Wires.

Bridgeport's streets will be a blaze of color during the day and strikingly illuminated at night, according to reports made today by the illumination committee of the chamber of commerce which is in charge of the Fourth of July festivities.

Through the efforts of Chairman Charles A. Paul, the United Illuminating Co. has agreed to furnish free of charge all current needed for lighting the streets, and 3,000 lights festooned across Main street, State street and Fairfield avenue will be placed upon the poles of the Connecticut Co. from High street to Gilbert on Main, from the railroad station to Courtland on Fairfield avenue and from Main street to Courtland on State street.

Chairman F. J. Abercrombie of the decoration committee says that on the same poles, 300 American flags will be draped upon the cross wires of the trolley poles, so as to form an archway of the Stars and Stripes throughout the central portion of the city.

The illumination will be ready for use on the night of July 1 and will be continued on the nights of the 3rd and 4th. Altogether four miles of wire will be strung, 3,000 lights used and 300 flags.

The merchants' committee met in the Chamber of Commerce rooms at 4 o'clock this afternoon to organize and elect a chairman. Action was expected upon the request of the parade committee looking towards the decorating and lighting of every business place in the city during the celebration.

The members of the merchants' committee of the chamber of commerce are George E. Nottingham, S. H. Parrott, F. D. Bell, A. M. Englehard, L. F. Rockwell, Joseph Savard, G. W. Fairchild, William K. Mollan, Carl Reck, D. D. Graves and J. H. Stagg.

**Merchant Arrested
For Fighting With
Supply Salesman**

Nathan Sophovitz, a dry goods merchant at 654 East Main street, was arrested this morning by Doorman John McPadden, charged with assaulting B. Isaacson, a New York agent for a supply house, with Sophovitz, his two clerks, Solomon and Isador Mannisvet, were taken into custody.

Isaacson claims that when he went to the store to sell some of his wares they had been talking and soon an argument developed. A fight resulted in which Isaacson alleges he was assaulted by the other three. He complained at the Second Precinct police station and Lieutenant O'Leary sent the doorman to arrest the trio. Isaacson told the lieutenant that he would have "licked" them if they had not all engaged him at the same time.

**LADD'S ESTATE TO PAY
SMALL PERCENTAGE OF
HIS MANY LIABILITIES.**

The estate of Sheridan A. Ladd, former electrician in the police department, who gaged his life with a draught of poison, will pay four per cent, according to the return filed in the probate court today by the administratrix, Jennie L. Pardee, Mrs. Ladd's sister. The estate consisted of a lunch business which Mr. Ladd conducted near the Remington Arms plant in Boston avenue and a small insurance policy. It was appraised at \$2,442.27. However, Mrs. Pardee reports that the lunch business originally estimated as being worth \$2,000, was sold for \$200. Mrs. Pardee carried on the lunch business for a short time after Mr. Ladd's death. There are claims for \$1,573.97 against the estate. Included in these are a number of loans which were made Mr. Ladd by prominent men.

**ARREST NEW HAVEN
MAN CHARGED WITH
FURNITURE THEFT**

Charged with the theft of furniture from the Connecticut Furniture Co. by whom he was employed, Joseph Baleis of 798 Grand avenue, New Haven, was arrested last evening by Detectives Flynn and Holbrook. His case was continued until June 24 in the city court today.

By a deed filed in the town clerk's office today the property formerly at 262 Hallett street owned by the Bohemian Slavonian Sick Benefit Society No. 162, Brotherhood of Sumava, C. S. Op. As transferred by Joseph Teska, president and John Padachowsky, treasurer of the Workingmen's American Sokol for whom Frank Novotzy, president, and Charles Bauer, treasurer, are acting. The purchase price is said to be \$4,000 of which \$1,000 has been paid and the rest remains on mortgage. The building has two stories on the ground floor with a meeting hall of the second story.

AUTO THIEF STOLEN
Two automobile tires were stolen last evening from standing machines. A tire was taken from the tire rack on the rear of the machine owned by James L. Postal of 57 Church St. while the car was in his back yard. One was also taken from the car of Dr. J. L. Egan as it stood at Barnum and Noble avenues.

THE WEATHER
Showers tonight; Thursday partly cloudy; fresh, shifting to west winds.

S. N. E. T. CO.'S JOB RELEASED FROM BIG TIE-UP

Work Will Resume on New Building, Affected by Carpenters' Strike.

**SUB-CONTRACTORS
HAVE WITHDRAWN**
Trouble With Slaters Expected on New Courthouse Building Soon.

As a result of the "No card, no work" action taken on Monday by the Building Trades Council, which resulted in the tie-up of 10 construction projects in Bridgeport, it was reported by labor organizations today that the Southern New England Telephone Co. has withdrawn from the ban and that work on its new building will proceed under strict union regulations.

Schwartz Brothers Co., which held a sub-contract under Dowling & Bottomley, general contractors, are reported as having withdrawn from the work, which will be completed by Dowling & Bottomley.

Similar action is expected in the court house work, which will come to a critical situation when the slate roofing on the new section begins. The Slate & Tile Roofers' local has refused to permit its men to continue work on the edifice until other workmen now being employed are unionized.

In a letter addressed by the Building Trades council to every contractor and builder in Bridgeport today the allied crafts call attention to the fact that "all labor unions" are affiliated in the building trades. The Federal letter further points out that both employer and labor benefit by harmonious relations, which are not existent if one craft is treated fairly and another unfairly.

It is therefore advocated that to bring about fully harmonious conditions that contracts for work be executed in future with a specific clause that union labor only shall be employed, thus insuring the best work and the best conditions. The aid of the building crafts is freely offered to any builders who may wish advice on labor matters of any kind.

OWNERS OF TUG MUST GIVE BACK INSURANCE CASH

Captain Ventured Into Sound Despite Storm Signals, Is Finding.

Suit for the return of nearly \$30,000 insurance paid for the loss of cargoes and boats of four tows taken from Bridgeport harbor Sunday, March 1, 1914, has been won by the Federal courts against the owners of the tug Salutation, which has plied between this port and New York for many years under the mastership of Captain Kniffin.

Following a final hearing in the district court of the United States in New York last Saturday when many prominent Bridgeport shipping and weather experts were summoned to give testimony, Judge Hough in a memorandum decision rendered a verdict in favor of the Providence-Washington Insurance Co., which had libelled the tug Salutation for insurance money already paid owners of boats and cargoes.

The day in question storm signals had been set, the barometer had fallen steadily and other tows then seeking shelter in the harbor had refused to face the promised gale. The Salutation, however, disregarded the United States weather signals in favor of the personal seafaring experience of its captain, though his opinion differed from that of other captains who sought shelter inside the breaker at that time.

As a result, four tows had to be cut adrift off Charles Island after their crews were assembled upon one bark and the four loaded barges later foundered. In his memorandum Judge Hough finds "No man has a right to put his own opinions against the result of many years experience and finds negligence in not inquiring for official weather reports."

**Sick Benefits Society
Sells Its Meeting Hall**

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**Judge Webb Denies
Separation to Hoar**

That the court intends to make the strictest interpretation of the new state law allowing divorce on the ground of insanity was indicated this morning when Judge James H. Webb in the superior court refused to grant a decree to Charles F. Hoar of Darien. The petitioner claimed his wife Mabel H. Hoar had been confined in an insane asylum but he admitted that for several weeks she had been given her freedom and had lived outside the institution.

The new law provides that a person to procure a divorce on this ground must prove the defendant has been an inmate of some institution for five continuous years and has been adjudged incurably insane. The fact that the woman had been released on several occasions convinced the court that under the law Hoar was not entitled to a decree. The parties in the action were married in 1883. Hoar declared his wife had been insane since 1908.

FIND STOLEN CAR
An automobile belonging to Russell Reuther of 345 Bechwood avenue, which was stolen last evening, was found abandoned today on Argon street by Policeman Patrick Corrigan.

EUROPEAN POWERS SEEK TO AVERT STRIKE BETWEEN MEXICO AND U. S.

**FEARING HOSTILITY OF MEXICANS
FIVE AMERICAN MINERS AT PARRAL
SEEK SAFETY IN MOUNTAIN REFUGE**

El Paso, June 21.—Five Americans are in hiding in the mountains in the vicinity of Parral in southern Chihuahua fearing to attempt to make their way to the border because of the feeling of the native populace, according to reports reaching here today. The men, employees of the Alvarado Mining & Milling company of Parral, recently started toward El Paso but were obliged to seek refuge in the mountains.

Officials of the company here express belief that Mexican friends can be suspended upon to aid its protection.

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DESTROYERS ARE READY TO JOIN PACIFIC FLEET OF MILITIAMEN

How the Vessels of the Western Coast Will be Located by End of Week.

San Diego, Cal., June 21.—The flotilla of torpedo boat destroyers, consisting of the Hull, flagship of W. W. Bradley, flotilla commander; Hopkins and Truxton, are in readiness today for a rush down the Mexican west coast when their ships of the Pacific fleet which either already are in Mexican ports are on their way. The United States cruiser San Diego, flagship of Admiral Winslow, departed yesterday, presumably for Guaymas or Mazatlan, closely followed by the cruisers Pittsburgh, flagship of Chief Admiral Pullam, commander-in-chief of the Pacific reserve fleet, and the Colorado.

Authorities here on naval matters said that Admiral Wilson, commander-in-chief of the Pacific fleet, could be expected to arrive in New London shortly every port on the Mexican west coast if events rendered such action necessary.

The armored cruiser Maryland, which departed from the Puget Sound navy yard yesterday, is expected here in a few days. The cruiser South Dakota, leaving the Puget Sound yard today, is to take aboard every available marine at the northern port, and at San Francisco for the same purpose and proceed to San Diego for orders, it was announced.

The disposition of the Pacific fleet in Mexican waters will be substantially as follows by Saturday morning, it was learned today:

At San De Cabo, destroyer Hopkins; at La Paz, destroyer Hull; at Guaymas, cruiser Cleveland, supply steamer Glacier; at Topolobampo, gunboat Yorktown, destroyer Truxton; at Mazatlan, cruiser San Diego, gunboat Annapolis; at Mazatlan, cruisers Pittsburgh, Colorado, Albany; at Salina Cruz, cruisers Denver, Raleigh; at Acapulco, cruiser Chattanooga; en route, cruiser Milwaukee from San Diego, cruisers South Dakota and Maryland from Puget Sound.

**REGIMENT CAN
BE RAISED HERE
IF CALL COMES**

That a regiment of volunteers can be easily raised in this city if needed is the belief of many prominent citizens and officials. The matter of the President's call for National Guard organizations was the subject of discussion by members of Franklin Bartlett camp, No. 11, Sons of Veterans, at their meeting last night but no formal action was taken. In the event of war with Mexico, however, the camp will probably open a recruiting office and raise at least a battalion from its own membership and the sons of soldiers of the Civil war.

At the outbreak of the war with Spain the camp opened a recruiting office in Cannon street. The late William E. Disbrow, former quartermaster-general of the state and former commander of Elias Howe, Jr., Post No. 2, G. A. R., allowed the use of his office for the purpose. A battery of light artillery was raised and those who joined procured their own uniforms. The organization offered its services to the governor, but was not needed.

**Men Prominent in Civic and
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Discuss Crisis.**

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STRONG PRESSURE BROUGHT TO BEAR ON DE FACTO GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO EFFECT IMPROVEMENT OF CONDITIONS NEAR BORDER THUS TO AVOID OUTBREAK OF HOSTILITIES.

Despatches received from Mexico City at the local Mexican consulate here said, in substance, that a decree had been issued by the de facto government, holding that any foreigner acquiring real estate in Mexico either by purchase or by contract, must renounce first his allegiance to his native country and register himself as a Mexican citizen. It further ordered that any persons seeking to transfer his property to a foreigner must obtain permission from the proper authorities.

Only preliminary reports on the progress of the mobilization in various states had passed the cabinet department today. These were viewed as satisfactory. Secretary Baker said the suggestion that the senior class at West Point military academy be graduated immediately for active service was under consideration but no decision had been reached. The cadets have completed three years of their work and could be commissioned as second lieutenants immediately if the emergency demanded such a step.

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MARCHING ORDERS TO MILITIA WITHHELD PENDING COMPLETION OF MOBILIZATION OF THE TROOPS

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MEXICAN REPRESENTATIVES ABROAD ISSUE STATEMENT PLACING BURDEN OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR THREATENED RUPTURE UPON UNITED STATES—MEXICANS "ON DEFENSIVE" THEY AVER.

Washington, June 21.—Strong pressure is being brought to bear upon General Carranza by representatives of European powers to prevent him from causing a break with the United States. Indirect reports reaching the state department today told of these efforts and said there was a possibility they would be successful.

Agencies of the entente allies are understood to be active for peace, particularly because they believe German influence has sought to inflame the Mexican government against the United States with a view to preventing this country from gathering in trade formerly controlled by Germany in Mexico, South and Central America.

It is pointed out that Carranza might avoid war by calling for an international commission to discuss the border situation as provided for in the treaty of 1848. So far, however, no suggestion for such a step has come from Mexico. A definite statement has been received that Carranza is doing all in his power at this time to protect Americans in Mexico from attack by the populace.

Mr. Rodgers reported that he and his diplomatic associates in the Mexican capital had been given every assurance of safe conduct and protection on their trip to the coast if it became necessary for them to leave. The corps of American newspaper correspondents there has decided to remain with Mr. Rodgers until such time as he may find it necessary to leave.

Paris, June 21.—Mexico is placing its case before the European public in the form of statements issued by Mexican legations on the continent. Such a statement appeared in Madrid on Monday and a similar statement is printed in the French press today from the Mexican legation in Paris. It says that reports that war is inevitable and that General Carranza's attitude is due to German intrigue came from American sources.

"Imputations against the government of General Carranza," it declares, "are unwarranted. Mexico has not wished and does not wish war with the United States."

The statement reviews the negotiations for permission for American troops to cross to Vera Cruz. A number of changes were interrupted by the sending of an expeditionary corps, constituting a violation of Mexican sovereignty.

"We are authorized to state that it is not Mexico which attacks," the statement continues. "In ordering General Trevino to prevent American forces from advancing south, east or west, the Mexican government is purely defensive. This is established from documents in this legation which will be published at an opportune time."

Tension High in Mexico
Washington, June 21.—Overnight despatches from Special Agent Rodgers at Mexico City to the state department today said arrangements had been concluded satisfactorily for the special train to carry out Americans and foreigners to Vera Cruz. A number of despatches were received from consular officers and agents throughout Mexico. They agreed that the tension everywhere was high.

Mexican Arsenal Rushed
Laredo, Tex., June 21.—Approximately 17,000,000 rounds of ammunition has been taken in charge by Carranza authorities throughout Mexico and the government factory is working 24 hours daily to augment this supply, according to an American refugee from Mexico City, arriving here today. The output of the government factory is approximately 30,000 rounds of cartridges daily, he said.

SILLIMAN AT EAGLE PASS.
Eagle Pass, June 21.—Consul G. R. Silliman arrived in this city early today from Saitillo, coming by way of Monclova, owing to the cessation of railroad traffic between Monterey and Nuevo Laredo. He expects to remain here today.

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That a regiment of volunteers can be easily