

HALF OF CITY'S VOTE IS CAST BY NOON

Bridgeport Evening Farmer

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SECRETARY LANSING ANNOUNCES AGREEMENT WITH JAPAN ALLIES RENEW WESTERN DRIVE ITALIAN ARMIES ARE STILL IN RETREAT

RECORD VOTE IS BEING CAST; NO ARRESTS MADE

Error on Part of Voting Machine Mechanics May Lose Numerous Votes Cast on the License Question—Clear Skies and Brisk Weather Bring Citizens to Polls; Precautions Taken to Prevent Repeaters Voting in Place of Drafted Soldiers.

The heavy vote cast at the 45 voting precincts up to noon, indicates all polling records will be broken and the total vote will be near the 20,000 mark. The unofficial registration for the entire city is 22,507 and up to noon approximately 45 per cent of the voters had cast their ballots.

A victory for the Democratic ticket is predicted and it was clearly indicated that the past Republican pluralities are being fast reduced.

Through an error in judgment on the part of the voting machine mechanics many votes have been lost to both sides on the liquor question. Instead of locking all questions but No. 5, the only one being used, the mechanics cut the machines out with all open and as a result many voters turned the pointers on question numbers 1, 2, 3 and 4. When the machines are opened at 8 o'clock it will be found that many votes were cast under the blank questions, which under the law cannot be credited to the question.

Intense interest is evidenced in the liquor question according to a canvass of all districts the death knell of the Prohibitionists was sounded shortly after 10 o'clock. Voters in the factory districts, especially the Third, Fourth, Ninth, Tenth, Eleventh and Twelfth districts, were working hard against the anti-saloon arguments and it is indicated that the dry campaign efforts will be moved under.

The weather being ideal, workers of both parties were out in full force and automobiles carrying voters to and from the polls whirled through the streets. Up to press hour there was not the slightest disturbance, but Democratic workers in each district had been instructed to keep a close watch for irregularities. One machine in the first precinct of the Sixth district became disabled at 8 o'clock this morning, but another was quickly substituted and it is not believed a vote was lost.

The large number of Democratic workers in the majority of districts and the overwhelming sentiment in Kirk's favor caused Republican

Disrobed in Street by Thugs

Forced to Stand Naked in Biting Wind For An Hour While Assailants Rip Lining of Clothes in Search of Money.

Set upon by four men who threatened him with death if he made the slightest outcry, Dominic Giovannelli of 200 North Washington avenue, was forced to disrobe in Housatonic avenue, near the Connecticut Brewery, at 6 o'clock last night and stand naked in the biting wind while his assailants, ripped the lining and seams of his clothing in search of money.

The victim was relieved of \$15, which he carried on his person and warned that if he dared move from the position in the road where he had been forced to stand he would meet his death. Throwing the clothing of the shivering Giovannelli into the gutter the robber band hurriedly left the scene.

The threat of the highwaymen were uttered with a violence that near scared their victim to death and he stood in his "September Morn" pose about one hour, until 7 o'clock. At the end of this period Giovannelli decided that he would as soon be shot to death as freeze and mustering up what little courage he possessed he walked to the gutter, picked up his clothes and dressed himself.

The victim then made his way to police headquarters where he related the details of his adventure. The fact that he made no outcry is attributed to the circumstance that Giovannelli was so scared he feared summoning help would result in his being killed.

He describes his assailants as foreigners belonging to his own race.

RUN-AWAY AUTO SMASHES WINDOW

Rolling swiftly down High street about noon today an auto truck owned by the Selleck Trucking Co., collided with a lamp post on Main street and threw the post against a plate glass window in the store of the Leon Furnishing Co. At the time the car started rolling down the street it was unoccupied and the man in charge of it, Arthur Hannibal, is at a loss to know how the breaks became released, allowing the car to descend the steep grade.

FOURTH DEATH FROM COLLISION OF AUTOMOBILES

New Britain, Nov. 6.—Eugene Sullivan of New Haven, driver of the automobile that overturned on the Berlin highway last night in trying to avoid collision with another car, died of his injuries today at the hospital here. His death makes the fourth from the accident, the three others being James Campene and William Mann of West Haven and a woman, partly identified as a cabaret singer of Hartford, Mrs. Nann, a cabaret singer known as Mae Wilson, and wife of William Mann, who was also in the car, is in a critical condition at the local hospital.

The machine containing the party was running down Hill about a mile from the center of Berlin when it drew to the side of the road as another car approached. The Sullivan car ran too close to the edges of the road and toppled into the ditch, turning upside down and taking fire. Some of the victims were lying unconscious under the blasting car when help arrived.

THE WEATHER.
Fair tonight and Wednesday.

LARGE SHIPMENT RELIEVES COAL SHORTAGE HERE

The arrival of twelve barges loaded with coal each containing upwards of five hundred tons is expected to greatly relieve the alleged coal shortage in this city. According to a statement of the dock manager several more barges are en route this city. It is not expected, however, that the arrival of such quantities will cause the prices to be lowered, but undoubtedly it will be much easier to secure coal. The total amount of coal in the present shipment is probably 7,000 tons.

ALLEGED TO BE POOR CLERK; IS SUED FOR \$1,500

Alleging that Samuel Mooney made false representations when he secured employment as an expert bookkeeper and office manager, Frank Jacoby, who runs a store in Broad street, has brought suit for \$1,500 damages alleged to be due to the faulty work of Mooney, the suit being filed today in the court of common pleas.

20,000 PERSONS SIGN FOOD CARDS

The Food Conservation Campaign headquarters reported today that everything was moving smoothly and that according to the reports from the different districts, well over 20,000 signatures would be obtained on the pledge cards.

The canvassers are meeting with few and fewer refusals, the people now thoroughly understanding the purpose of the campaign. Many housewives who were missed for one reason or another have been calling at the office of the committee in the First National Bank building to affix their names to the pledge. The campaign will close tomorrow night and today and tomorrow the workers will put forth every effort to make a record.

JOKER IN LAW; 5 SALOONS OPEN WITHOUT LICENSE

New Milford, Nov. 6.—This town has today five saloons doing business apparently without license. The town voted no-license last month and it was supposed that the saloons would close on the first Monday in November when their licenses expired. It was later found that under an amendment adopted by the last legislature the saloons were permitted to keep open apparently until Dec. 1. A still further amendment was later discovered which, it is claimed, added confusion to the issue, some asserting that it nullified the other amendment.

Five of the saloon keepers applied to the county commissioners for renewal of licenses but were refused and have taken an appeal directly to the supreme court. Pending this decision the saloonkeepers claim they have a right to continue business until the first Monday in December, and are so doing.

It is not expected that a decision from the supreme court will be handed down before January. Meantime the no-license advocates say they will take no action.

DESPONDENT COMMITS SUICIDE BY HANGING.
Ansonia, Nov. 6.—George Orlis, 40, committed suicide at his home by hanging late yesterday. Despondency is said to be the cause. Orlis leaves a widow and four small children.

Sexton of Church Is Gas Victim

William Rockett Officer of the First Presbyterian Church Found Dead in Bed This Morning

William Rockett, sexton of the First Presbyterian church was found dead in bed from gas poisoning this morning at his home, 27 Bassick avenue by Mary Bion an inmate of the house. Whether Rockett committed suicide or his death was due to the accidental escaping of the gas is not known. According to the police nothing was left by the victim to indicate any cause for suicide.

The body was discovered by Miss Bion this morning, who while in the act of sliding a letter under the door of the dead man's room detected a strong odor of gas. All efforts to arouse Rockett before entering the room proved of no avail. The woman immediately notified the police and an entrance was forced. Rockett was found in bed and all efforts to resuscitate him, by Dr. J. F. Keegan, failed.

HELD FOR THEFT OF BOOTH'S AUTO

Sergeant James Bray of the detective department has located in New York an automobile stolen at Main and Gilbert streets, Sept. 20, and as a result Walter Eggleston, believed to be a professional automobile thief, is under arrest in New York. He will be brought back to Bridgeport today or tomorrow for trial here. The automobile was owned by William Booth of Booth & Platt Co., Water street.

Investigation develops that the machine was first sold to an automobile concern in New York, which later sold it to a party in Elizabeth, N. J., for \$150. The machine will be recovered.

QUICK ACTION TO KILL PROPAGANDA

Hartford, Nov. 6.—The prompt action taken by the Connecticut food administration committee to stamp out what is described as "insidious pro-German propaganda," which made its appearance in Wallingford, is commended by the national food administration in a telegram just received by Robert Scoville, state food administrator. The propaganda was in the form of letters signed with the name "Herbert Hoover" and informing housewives in Wallingford that government inspectors would call soon to commandeer their canned goods and a part of the crops grown during the summer. The letters were posted in Hartford. As soon as word of the situation came to the food

JAPAN AND AMERICA ARE UNITED ON WAR AIMS AND WITH REGARD TO CHINA

Washington, Nov. 6.—Japan and the United States have reached a complete agreement in regard to China and at the same time have arrived at a clear understanding as to military, naval and economic co-operation in the war against Germany.

This momentous development was announced today by Secretary Lansing, who made public notes exchanged by him and Viscount Ishii, the special Japanese ambassador, formally recording an agreement recognizing that Japan has a special interest in China, but pledging the independence and territorial integrity of the great eastern republic and reaffirming the doctrine of the "open door" for commerce and industry.

In a statement accompanying the note Mr. Lansing said Viscount Ishii and the members of his mission, now on their way home, had performed a service of the highest value to the United States as well as to Japan by clearing away misunderstandings, which, if unchecked, promised to develop a serious situation in the Far East. He spoke of an attitude of constraint and doubt fostered by a campaign of falsehoods and secretly carried on by the Germans, and said that through the frankness

Canadian Forces Gain Point 100 Yards Beyond Passchedaele Village—British Make Satisfactory Progress—Gen. Cadorna, Unruffled at Loss of Tagliamento Line, Prepares to Make Final Stand Against Invading Enemy.

London, Nov. 6.—The British attacked this morning on the Flanders front in the neighborhood of Passchedaele. The war office reports that satisfactory progress is being made.

Canadian forces in their offensive against the Germans this morning Northeast of Ypres, on the Belgian front, have established themselves at a point a hundred yards beyond the village of Passchedaele.

French troops broke into the German lines at several points last night and took prisoners, the French war office announces. A German attack near Carnillet, on the Champagne front, was repulsed.

Berlin, Nov. 6, via London.—The Italian line on the Tagliamento river has been won by the Austro-Germans, it was officially announced today by the German general staff. The Italians have evacuated the entire line along the river to the Adriatic coast.

The German statement says that from the Fella valley to the Colbricon north of the Sugana valley, the Italians are retreating. (This region includes the front along the Dolomites and the Carnic Alps.)

Rome, Nov. 6.—The Italians have been compelled to evacuate territory in the mountainous area north of the plains of northern Italy in order to establish their new line, the war office reports. The enemy occupied this territory after the Italian withdrawal.

Italian Headquarters in Northern Italy, Monday, Nov. 5.—(By the A. P.)—The crossing of the Tagliamento at Fimmano by a considerable force of the enemy should not be a surprise, as this had been foreseen from the heavy pressure the Austro-German forces concentrated on the Italian left wing. The river Tagliamento is only one of a series of defenses. Its main purpose was to retard the enemy advance and to gain time for the Italians to rehabilitate and reconcentrate.

The Tagliamento has served that useful purpose and the enemy now is faced by another main line of defense. What line the Italians have chosen for their final stand cannot be indicated.

Two theories prevail concerning the outcome of the present operations. (Continued on Page 12)

PENNY SHORTAGE SINCE WAR TAX HAS BEEN LEVIED ON THEATRES BECOMES SERIOUS PROBLEM HERE

Shortage of pennies because of six cent trolley fare and the new tax at the theatres is now one of the most serious propositions the local banks have to contend with. Each day the Connecticut Co. sends around to every bank in the city to buy pennies, the theatres have followed the example of the Connecticut Co. and make daily efforts to corner the local penny market.

Then comes Uncle Sam's post office with as great a shortage as any other institution. The cigar stores with a penny or two tacked on to the price of every cigar, also use a lot of valuable time in trying to secure pennies.

Yesterday one of the leading national banks of New York attempted to buy pennies in Bridgeport, but to no avail. According to local bankers the situation is acute. There is an over-abundance of other coins of all denominations but it would seem that at the present time the government is not capable of coining enough pennies to meet the demand.

A prominent banker said today that the only way to relieve the situation is for every person who has pennies to keep them in circulation. If any person has a few pen-

WILSON VOTES IN HOME TOWN

Washington, Nov. 6.—President Wilson left today for Princeton, N. J., to vote in the local election, planning to return here immediately afterward. It was his first visit to his home since last summer.

The President was accompanied by Mrs. Wilson, Secretary Tumulty and Rear Admiral Grayson, his physician.