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CLEMENCEAU WOUNDED BY ASSASSIN; WILL RECOVER IF COMPLICATIONS INCIDENT TO AGE DO NOT DEVELOP

Wounded Premier Grappled With His Assailant, and the Latter Was Arrested—Five Shots Were Fired, One Bullet Taking Effect in Clemenceau's Shoulder.

ANOTHER BULLET STRUCK POLICEMAN IN THE EYE

The Assailant Gives the Name of Emile Cottin, Aged 25 Years, and Said He Was Born in Creil, France—Police Are Inclined to Think That He Is a Russian.

Paris, Feb. 19.—Georges Clemenceau, France's aged but vigorous premier, was shot and slightly wounded this morning, as he was entering his automobile for a drive.

Five shots were fired by the assassin, and it was at first reported that the premier had been wounded in the head. It developed later, however, that the wounds were in his back and shoulder and that he seemingly was not dangerously hurt.

The shooting took place at 8:55 o'clock this morning, as the premier was leaving his house in the Rue Franklin to go to the war office.

The assassin was an ordinary-looking man, dressed as a workman. Five shots were fired, of which one took effect in the premier's shoulder.

The assailant was arrested.

The premier's wound is not regarded as dangerous in itself, but it is felt that there might be serious consequences from it, considering his age. About 11 o'clock this morning, however, it was officially announced that M. Clemenceau was not seriously wounded.

Policeman Goursat, who was wounded in the right eye, although not seriously, by one of the assassin's shots, told a representative of The Associated Press that Premier Clemenceau rushed up to the assassin and grappled with him.

Policeman Goursat gave his description of the shooting to The Associated Press representative in the city hall, where the man arrested was brought.

An enormous crowd which observed a respectful quiet gathered near M. Clemenceau's residence after the occurrence. Within a half hour, President Poincare arrived. He was quickly followed by various members of the cabinet, high officials of the government, and representatives of the army and navy, as well as of the diplomatic corps, including William Graves Sharp, the American ambassador.

Assailant Is Tall and Fair.

It was learned that the assailant was a man named Emile Cottin, 25 years old, and born at Creil. The man said his home was in the Montrouse quarter of Paris. The police, however, do not believe the papers he possesses belong to him and are inclined to think him a Russian. He is tall and fair, with long, light hair.

One of the witnesses of the shooting, Henry Moulin, a barber's assistant, told The Associated Press representative that when he heard the first shot he believed it was the Americans firing in the air, "as they are in the habit of doing," he said. Moulin rushed out of his shop when he saw what was happening, however, crying: "They have assassinated Clemenceau." He closed with the premier's assailant, Moulin added, and the man threw away his revolver and held up his hands.

Waiters from a nearby restaurant joined in holding the assassin, whom the police had some difficulty in getting from them. Before the police secured the assailant, he was beaten by the crowd, as was also another man who seemed inclined to help him.

According to Policeman Goursat, the assassin emptied his weapon. All the windows of the premier's automobile were smashed by the bullets.

When the first shot was fired Premier Clemenceau immediately tried to open the door of his car. It was while he was attempting to do this that he was struck. He was able to go on foot into his own house, where, shortly before noon, The Associated Press was informed, he was sitting up in an arm chair, smoking and laughing with his staff of assistants.

The only sign of trouble from the wound, it was stated, was a slightly increased temperature.

First reports of the incidents of the shooting were somewhat contradictory. Facts established, however, that M. Clemenceau was in his automobile, which had started and was turning a corner into the Rue Delessert, when a man standing on the sidewalk jumped toward the door of the automobile and fired several times.

One of the bullets penetrated the interior of the car and struck the premier in the right shoulder. The premier tried to open the door when the first shot was fired, although the automobile was under considerable headway, and while he was thus engaged the bullet hit him. His chauffeur, Brabant, was also slightly wounded. Thus three of the assassin's bullets, it appears, took effect, one upon the premier, another upon the chauffeur, and the third upon Policeman Goursat, who was one of the police agents who guard the premier. It was in the struggle with the assassin after he had shot into the automobile that the police officer was wounded. Meanwhile, the premier had stepped out of his automobile and walked into his house.

The actual arrest of the assailant was made by Police Agent Labaugh. He also made the first examination of the prisoner.

Georges Clemenceau has been one of the leading statesmen of France for decades, but it was not until the critical stages of the great war came and he took the reins and guided the country through to the end of the struggle that he became the world-renowned figure that he is to-day.

With the fighting ended, M. Clemenceau has continued at the head of the French government during the trying peace-making period. Head of the French delegation in the peace conference, he has been an outstanding figure in the deliberations of that body over whose sessions he presides.

Of an extremely vigorous and aggressive personality, Premier Clemenceau, while attracting to himself a large and warmly loyal following, has also determined and outspoken opponents. At every turn of affairs in Parliament, however, he has been able to wear down the opposition to him, and, just before the opening of the peace conference, he and his administration were given a striking vote of confidence by the chamber of deputies.

Premier Clemenceau, while formerly classed as a radical, has come to be known in later years as a representative rather of the more moderate elements in the French body politic, and it is in this phase of his activity that he has been opposed by the more extreme elements in the French political world, who have accused him of giving his policies too much of an imperialistic trend. He was credited at first with being opposed to the plan for the league of nations in its broader phases, expressing a preference for a balance of power secured by France, Great Britain, the United States, and Italy. His representatives, however, have joined freely in the work of framing the covenant of the league and, with some reservations, expressed approval of it as it was laid before the peace conference.

Despite his advanced years—he is 76 years old—M. Clemenceau has continued to justify the sobriquet of "The Tiger," which long has been applied to him, going through the trying work of the peace conference, with its many long consultations, without often showing signs of fatigue.

WAS ABLE TO WALK HOME.

Clemenceau's Wound Is Described as Only Slight.

Paris, Feb. 19 (Havas).—Premier Clemenceau was very slightly wounded in the attack upon him this morning, when he was struck in the shoulder by a bullet. He was able to walk to his home.

STRUCK BACK OF SHOULDER.

Bullet Penetrated Without a Visceral Lesion.

Paris, Feb. 19.—Professors Laubri, Gosset, and Cuissier examined the wound in Premier Clemenceau's shoulder and made a diagnosis. According to the diagnosis, the premier was struck in the posterior part of the right shoulder blade. The bullet penetrated without a visceral lesion. The doctors reported general and local conditions as perfect.

HAPSBURG DYNASTY PAST.

Formal Abdication of Former Emperor Charles Will Be Demanded.

Vienna, Feb. 18.—President Seitz of the German-Austrian republic, in a speech yesterday, declared that the republic was firmly established and that the Hapsburg dynasty was a thing of the past. He said that the formal abdication of the throne would be demanded from former Emperor Charles, who up to this time had only withdrawn from the government and had not abdicated.

ATTACK ON CLEMENCEAU WILL NOT HALT PROGRAM

American Delegates Think That Comprehensive Plans Already Laid Out Will Not Be Delayed Long.

Paris, Feb. 19.—The American delegates to the peace conference, when they learned of the attempt upon Premier Clemenceau's life to-day, began to consider the effect of the event upon their own plans in connection with the conference. On the assumption that the official reports minimizing the nature of M. Clemenceau's injuries were correct, the belief was expressed that there would not be any great delay in the execution of the comprehensive plans laid out for the proceedings of the peace conference during the absence of President Wilson and David Lloyd George, the British premier.

Premier Clemenceau when he was shot was on his way to a conference with Colonel E. M. House, of the American peace delegation, and Arthur J. Balfour, the British foreign secretary. The conference had been fixed for 10 o'clock at the war office, when an important question was to be taken up concerning more rapid procedure before the supreme council.

The news of the attempted assassination reached Colonel House by telephone from the foreign office just as he was starting from the Hotel De Crillon with Secretary Balfour to meet Premier Clemenceau at the Quai d'Orsey. The two men at once began to consider what steps should be taken regarding the general situation created by the event.

Word soon came that the results of the first examination indicated the wound was not serious, but it was realized that, owing to his advanced age, the premier might for some time be unable to give his personal attention to the completion of the peace conference's work. Since he had attended personally to certain subjects now under consideration, it follows that so far as these are concerned there must be a temporary suspension of activity. These subjects were very important, affecting the whole plan of the conference's operation, inasmuch as they related to the consummation of an early treaty of peace.

KAISER'S WEAKNESS IS NOW BLAMED

But German Peasants' Union Is Reported to Be Ready to Stand Back of Monarchist Movement.

Basle, Feb. 19.—At a general meeting of the German Peasants' union, held at Berlin on Tuesday, the president of the organization declared in an address that the former emperor was to be blamed for having delayed too long the drawing of the sword, and that his weakness caused the rise of socialism, according to a Berlin dispatch received here. He said that British money had fostered dissatisfaction in the navy and had led to the military collapse last November.

All the speakers, it is said, asserted that the peasants' union would be loyal to the monarchist movement.

ITALIAN PRESS INDIGNANT

At Proposal for Wilson to Arbitrate the Claims on Adriatic.

Rome, Tuesday, Feb. 18.—The Italian press indignantly condemns the step taken by the Jugo-Slavs in asking that President Wilson arbitrate conflicting claims to territory along the Adriatic. The Epoca says:

"Arbitration is a means for avoiding war, not concluding it when it has already been decided by arms."

"Italy can despise the unworthy attacks brought against her," says the Idea Nazionale. "She must keep a sharp outlook and have faith in herself. In that way she was able to give her hereditary enemy a mortal blow. Now she must be firm at Paris so that her best blood shall not have been shed in vain."

OFFICIAL PEACE REPORT.

Told About Hearing Territorial Claims of Serbs, Slovenes and Croats.

Paris, Feb. 18.—The official statement on the session of the supreme council to-day reads:

"The representatives of the allied and associated powers met to-day at the Quai d'Orsay from 3 to 6 o'clock p. m.

"M. M. Vesnitch, Zolger and Trubitch explained the territorial claims of the Serbs, Slovenes and Croats, repectively. It was decided to submit the question of the frontiers claimed, except those in which Italy is directly interested, to the commission already charged with the examination of the question of the Banat.

"The next meeting will take place on Thursday at 3 p. m."

REX SOX SCATTERING.

Waivers Asked on Five of Championship Team.

Boston, Feb. 19.—Manager Edward Barrow of the Boston American league baseball club, announced to-day that waivers had been received from all the league clubs on Fred Thomas, third baseman; Richard Hoblitzel, first baseman, and Outfielders James Walsh, Paul Smith and George Whiteman. All five were members of the world's champion Red Sox team last season.

WORKERS CLAIM WAGES CUT.

They Go to Federal Railroad Adjustment Board.

Springfield, Mass., Feb. 19.—Having failed to reach an agreement with Federal Director H. M. Biscoe on an interpretation of a wage award made some months ago to the Boston and Albany shop employes, the issue to-day was taken to the federal railroad adjustment board in Washington by Andrew J. Grimes, business agent of the Machinists' union here. Union labor officials hold that under the interpretation applied the workers are deprived of between $2 and $5 a week.

U. S. NAVY MEN ARE ACCUSED

Two Officers Are to Be Tried for Alleged Bribery and Graft

OTHER CASES ARE NOW DEVELOPING

Courtmartial to Be Started at Once, Sec. Daniels Announced

Washington, D. C., Feb. 19.—Trial by courtmartial of two naval officers in connection with charges of bribery and graft in the third naval district has been ordered by Secretary Daniels.

It was announced to-day that sufficient evidence had been submitted this morning, in a preliminary report by investigators to warrant these trials immediately. Secretary Daniels said at least two other cases were developing.

No names were made public, but it was learned that one case involved the acceptance by a naval medical officer of a bribe of $1,000 for passing an applicant who was not physically qualified for the duties he sought, and another case involved a bribe of $500 to secure a detail which would permit the applicant to remain at home indefinitely.

Mr. Daniels said there was no evidence of similar conditions in other districts or stations and that he personally believed the extent of the irregularities in the third district, which has headquarters at New York, had been greatly exaggerated in unofficial reports.

Official confirmation was given the report that all honorable discharges in the third district have been suspended temporarily except upon an investigation of the record of each applicant for discharge.

WOULD CONSOLIDATE RAILROADS IN 25 SYSTEMS

This Is Solution Suggested by Daniel Willard, the Consolidation to Be Established on Geographical Basis.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 19.—Daniel Willard, president of the Baltimore & Ohio, continuing testimony to-day before the Senate interstate commerce committee, proposed ultimate consolidation of all the country's railroads in about 25 great systems along present lines, as an alternative to the plan of establishing regional systems on a geographical basis. By his plan, the big roads would absorb the weaker ones.

Under the proposed regional system, he said, competition would be eliminated in each region and service would suffer.

Funds for purchasing the small roads should be provided, the committee was told, from excess earnings of the prosperous ones, which otherwise would go to the government. In this way, Mr. Willard said, the big roads would be induced to promote the plan, and he predicted that within five years there would remain not more than 40 systems. At present, he pointed out there are 162 railroads earning more than one million dollars a year.

AN ARMY OF 175,000 FOR THE UNITED STATES

Is Fixed in Bill Passed by the Senate Last Night and Which Goes to Conference with the House.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 19.—The peace time army of the United States for the year beginning next July is fixed at 175,000 men—the number authorized by the national defense act of 1916—under a Senate bill sent to conference to-day after passage last night by the House. The House refused the request of the war department for a military establishment for the next year of approximately 540,000 officers and men.

Immediately after passing the temporary army bill the House adopted the annual army appropriation bill setting aside $1,070,000,000 for the war department for the next fiscal year.

The appropriation bill was sent to the Senate to-day. Its passage there at this session is regarded by leaders as doubtful.

WIRELESS 'PHONE TO WILSON

Is the Plan Now Being Considered in in Boston.

Boston, Feb. 19.—Plans for greeting President Wilson by wireless telephone as he approaches this port on the steamer George Washington for the visit he will make here next Monday were advanced to-day by army officials. Co-operating with a radio research laboratory, Major Foster Veitenheimer, chief signal officer of the northeastern department, arranged the apparatus which will be placed at the disposal of Mayor Andrew J. Peters to extend the city's welcome.

The distance at which this greeting can be given is uncertain, depending largely upon atmospheric conditions, it is said, but it may be possible to reach the George Washington when she is from 250 to 750 miles off shore. Major Veitenheimer said it was expected that the George Washington would be within call of radio telegraph stations to-night or to-morrow, and arrangements for the telephone conversation would be completed by wireless telegraph as soon as communication was established.

BATES AGAIN HIGHWAYS HEAD

Senate To-day Confirmed the Appointment of State Commissioner

HOUSE HAD FIGHT ON "MULE BILL"

Measure Was Passed After a Sharp Debate

In a short executive session this morning, the Senate confirmed the reappointment of Stoddard Bates as highway commissioner for the next two years.

Once again the "mule bill," H. 76, which was finally advanced to a third reading, as amended yesterday morning, after a long discussion, took up the big end of the morning in the House to-day, after it had been further amended by Mr. Luce of Pomfret. The amendment was finally accepted and the bill passed 112 to 95. The big fight came on the new amendment, which qualifies the amendment offered yesterday imposing a penalty of $2,000 for exposing infected carcasses for sale. The new amendment adds, "unless such stock has been inspected by an agent of the bureau of animal industry of the United States department of agriculture." This allows the sale of meat coming from a condemned animal, provided that it is passed by the federal board, the same as is the case in other states.

After Mr. Luce had received permission from the House to offer his amendment, and had explained it at length, Mr. Potter of Pownal remarked that it looked to him as though the gentleman from Pomfret were arguing for the finances of the farmer and against the public helath. Mr. Hills of Chittenden wanted to know how meat coming from an animal which had been declared unfit for dairy purposes could be fit for eating. Mr. Thompson of Shelburne thought somebody must be getting a rake-off on the deal somewhere.

Mr. Davis of Rutland Town maintained that the question is whether we are good enough Americans to abide by the verdict of the federal board in the inspection of meat. He favored the amendment, as did Mr. Dunklee of Vernon and Mr. White of Woodstock.

Mr. Witters of St. Johnsbury interrogated the committee, and then stated that, as he understood it, a cow was condemned and killed and then if the meat did not smell too bad it was served up to us as meat. He thought the amendment ought to be killed. Mr. Connal of Newport Town answered that we are already eating the same kind of meat sent in from other states, and that even condemned meat from this state is made up into sausages and sent into Massachusetts, where the people seem to thrive on it. Mr. Orton agreed with this view of the affair and favored the amendment. Mr. Connal, Mr. White of Woodstock, and Mr. Luce again spoke in favor of the amendment, and Mr. McNally of Milton opposed it.

The closing argument in favor of the amendment was made by Mr. Edmunds of Bristol, a physician, who said that he considered the meat inspected by the federal government and passed to be much safer than that which we are now eating, which has not been inspected.

The amendment went to a vote and was adopted, 107 to 81, and the bill was passed without further discussion, 112 to 95.

The House also passed:

H. 86, relating to the solemnization of marriages.

H. 222, relating to the licensing and keeping of dogs.

H. 174, providing for the removal of a poor and indigent person to the town from which he last came.

H. 169, as amended, providing assistance to the attorney general in certain cases. The amendment provides that this assistance shall depend upon the approval of a superior judge.

With a short preliminary discussion by Mr. Dunklee of Vernon, who introduced the bill, the House refused to concur in any of the three amendments proposed by the Senate to H. 40, relating to the membership of the board of control. The amendments substituted the secretary of state and the lieutenant governor for the director of state institutions and the commissioner of agriculture provided for in the bill as it formerly passed the House.

Discussion of Dogs.

The House yesterday afternoon debated the dog bill, H. 222, and, after sitting as a committee of the whole and cutting out the section which would have sentenced dogs to their owner's premises between sunset and sunrise, the bill was advanced to a third reading.

In order to "save time," Mr. Tracy of Johnson moved that the House go into committee of the whole to consider the bill, which was done, with the gentleman himself in the chair. Soon afterward the proceedings took on a humorous hue.

Mr. White of Georgia moved to amend by striking out the provisions for the license fee of $10 for dogs added to the family after the first registration, which was lost. Then, after Mr. Buxton of Middletown Springs had explained that the provision was inserted in order to keep down the number of dogs, Mr. Blood of West Windsor moved that the committee report the bill favorably, which was so voted, 113 to 82, but, as no one moved that the committee rise and report, the amendments went on merrily. Mr. Elliott of Coventry moved to strike out that part of section three that per-

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EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, G. C. I. A., ASKS FOR A CONFERENCE

Will Meet Special Committee Representing Granite Manufacturers in Boston on Monday.

The executive council of the G. G. I. A. at Quincy has asked for a conference with the special committee from the Monumental Granite Producers' association for next Monday. This meeting will be held, most likely, in Boston. The Barre members of the producers' committee are James T. Marrion and George Straiton. S. Hollister Jackson is chairman of the committee.

The report also comes from Quincy that the cutters', tool sharpeners' and polishers' branches of the G. C. I. A. of that city are to have a joint meeting this evening. The purpose of the meeting is not stated.

The meeting of the executive council, G. C. I. A., with the special committee from the Monumental Granite Producers' association next Monday suspends automatically the move of the manufacturers to close their plants March 1 until such time as the two committees fail to agree and break off further conferences.

The quarry owners met this morning and made plans for the closing down tight all quarries when a lockout is declared.

QUARRY OWNERS' ELECTION.

J. K. Pirie was Elected President at the Annual Meeting To-day.

The annual meeting of the Barre Quarry Owners' association was held at the manufacturers' rooms this forenoon, and the following officers were elected: President, J. K. Pirie; vice-president, Alex. Milne; secretary-treasurer, J. A. Healy; executive committee, J. M. Boutwell, H. J. M. Jones, Donald Smith and J. G. McLeod.

HAD DIED DURING NIGHT.

W. H. Sanborn Returned to Barre Last Evening from Chelsea.

The death of W. H. Sanborn of Chelsea occurred at the home of Mrs. Ida Currier, 116 Washington street about midnight last evening. Mr. Sanborn had been employed in farming work in the suburbs of this city since last July and had been boarding at Mrs. Currier's home. Last Wednesday he left for his home in Chelsea to spend a short visit and also to consult a doctor, as he had been slightly ailing for the past two months. He returned to this city last evening and seemed as usual. This morning he did not make an appearance at his usual time and his brother who also boards at the same place went to call him and discovered he was dead. The doctor called stated that death was due to heart trouble and that he must have died about 12 o'clock last evening.

Mr. Sanborn was born in Chelsea on May 17, 1865, and had lived nearly all his life there. Most of his life was spent in the agricultural industry, at which he was quite adept.

He leaves to mourn his loss, two brothers, W. E. Sanborn of this city, and H. N. Sanborn of Chelsea; also two sisters, Mrs. J. A. Field and Mrs. H. B. Sanborn, both of whom reside in this city.

There will be a prayer at the home of Mrs. Currier, 116 Washington street, Friday morning at 9 o'clock, with the funeral at 2 p. m. at the home of his brother, Harry Sanborn, in Chelsea.

PLENTY OF COAL.

So Vermont Fuel Administration Has Practically Ceased Its Work.

The following order which has been sent by the Vermont state fuel administrator to the fuel committees, practically ends the restrictions which the state administration has had over the handling of coal for fuel. It reads:

To Local Fuel Committees and Coal Dealers:

Dear Sirs: Referring to the last paragraph of my instructions No. 65, I have a telegram from Mr. W. H. Williams, vice-president of the Hudson Coal company, reading as follows:

"The anthracite committee having removed all restrictions, we can take care of any and all requirements of your state."

The anthracite situation has eased to such an extent that dealers should now have no difficulty in obtaining all the supplies they need. Very truly yours,

H. J. M. Jones,
Vermont Fuel Admr.

SUIT OVER FARM DICKER.

E. D. Rudd and Trustee Defendants in Two Actions.

The following cases have been entered in Washington county court: D. A. Perry Real Estate agency vs. E. D. Rudd and trustee, for $1,000, and A. C. and M. A. Barber vs. E. D. Rudd and trustee, for $2,000, the cases growing out of a dicker over the Cate farm.

The case of C. L. Parmenter vs. Mrs. Susie Hanson has also been entered, it being a suit for $300 for house rent. These divorce cases have been placed on the docket: Henry Magoon vs. Cora Magoon and Katherine Lawrence vs. Otis Lawrence.

TRANSPORT CANOPIC IN.

And the Steamship Henderson Reports She Is Coming.

New York, Feb. 19.—The transport Canopic arrived here to-day with 34 officers and 1,201 men of the 162d infantry of the 41st division, 184 casual officers and men, and 24 naval officers and civilian employes. The Canopic left Brest on Feb. 8.

A wireless message from the steamship Henderson, with 1,272 troops, of whom 1,165 are sick or wounded, said the vessel was being delayed by unusually high seas. She was due here last Saturday, having left Bordeaux Feb. 3.

TUG NEPTUNE BURNED.

All of Her Crew of 21 Men Escaped the Flames.

New Bedford, Mass., Feb. 19.—The tug Neptune, owned by the Neptune line of New York, was virtually destroyed today by fire.

The Neptune arrived here last night from Norfolk, Va., in charge of Captain William Sheldon. She carried a crew of 21 men, all of whom escaped. The vessel was said to be valued at $350,000.

Will Resign at Head of Polish State.

Warsaw, Feb. 19.—General Joseph Pilsudski has announced his intention of resigning as chief of the Polish state.

CHIEF OF POLICE IS APPOINTED

Andrew Mitchell Was Unanimously Confirmed Last Evening

IS NOW EMPLOYED AS GRANITE CUTTER

Trustees of Aldrich Library Appeal to the City for Financial Assistance

At a special meeting of the board of aldermen last night following a protracted meeting of the city council, Mayor Glysson presented the name of Andrew Mitchell of Pleasant street as a nominee for chief of the Barre police department and the aldermen unanimously confirmed the appointment, the whole board being present. Arrangements for the new chief to begin his services were left with the police committee.

The appointee is a stonecutter by occupation, who formerly worked for Marr & Gordon and who is now employed by Andrew Barclay. He is of Scotch nationality but is an American citizen. He is comparatively a newcomer in Barre, having resided here since 1914 when he came from Hardwick. Prior to his residence in Hardwick he was in the West, having worked at his trade in Rockville, Minn., for a time. He is spoken of highly by those who are acquainted with him. Mr. Mitchell is 34 years of age and is of large physique, standing about six feet one inch in his stocking feet and weighing in the vicinity of 210 pounds. He is a married man. He has had no experience in police work.

The appointment will, of course, run only during the balance of the municipal year, which is two weeks, until the annual election in March. He succeeds Samuel Sinclair, who presented his resignation recently to take effect Feb. 15.

Aldrich Library in Need of Aid.

The matter which caused the prolongation of the city council meeting beyond the usual length was the presentation of a request from the trustees of the Aldrich library for an increased appropriation from the city treasury because of the fact that the trustees find themselves somewhat pressed for funds. The case of the trustees was frankly stated by E. W. Bisbee and H. H. Jackson, who, with H. E. Averill, appeared before the council. Mr. Bisbee recited at some length the history of the Aldrich library fund coming from the estate of Leonard F. Aldrich and willed to the people of the city and the town of Barre in trust for the purpose of a library. Mr. Bisbee explained that the library is really the property of the people of Barre albeit it must remain in trust for all time through stipulation of the will; and he stated, further, that the trustees had endeavored to consult with the public through the city council and the individual citizens and local organizations in various matters pertaining to the erection of the library building. The library building, he said, cost $46,302, exclusive of the site, which was generously donated by the city.

When the erection of the building was started the trustees had only $19,389.47 in hand but they had realized on the sale of the Aldrich farm $10,800 and on western investments the additional sum of $1,000. The old bank building at the corner of North Main and Elm streets which was included in the benefaction was torn down and was replaced by a modern business structure; and from this structure comes the chief income to support the library, with $300 contributed annually by the city for maintenance of the library and the dog license account for the purchase of books.

At this point Mr. Jackson took up the presentation of the trustees' case and said that there is a mortgage of $18,000 on the Aldrich business block; that the trustees had to sign a note for $1,000 during the past year to meet increased expenses incident to the war and the high cost of living; and that certain imperative repairs that are contemplated would necessitate an outlay of $400. The trustees have pared expenses in every possible way and they find themselves beset with a serious situation, so serious that they cannot continue to keep the library operating as at present without aid.

If the Aldrich business block were free of debt and the $900 interest charges thus wiped out, it might be possible for the library to be self-supporting; but there is little prospect of wiping out the mortgage debt, as they had hoped to do through income from the business building. If the trustees could keep their heads above water on current charges they would consider the situation as far less serious.

So they (the trustees) made the request that the city appropriate $1,200 in addition to the $300 usually appropriated.

After the trustees had presented their case the council indulged in a brief discussion and expressed the hope that something might be done to aid the trustees; but they considered that it was a matter which should come before the citizens inasmuch as the appropriation might become a fixed charge. Therefore, the motion prevailed to have the mayor call a city meeting at the earliest possible moment so that the citizens might have the facts fully presented to them.

It was suggested that inasmuch as the library was at the disposal of the people of the town of Barre, as well as the city, the town should lend some financial support to the trustees annually.

Routine Matters Soon Attended To.

Other matters were quickly disposed of by the council. The water department's report for December was accepted. Notification from the Barre railroad that it declined to pay its paving assessment of $461.28 was promptly followed by a vote to refer the matter to the city attorney. The importance of the hearing at the State House in Montpelier next Tuesday evening on the proposed barge terminal was emphasized and it was urged that every member of the council be present, the date of the regular weekly meeting of the city fathers being changed to Monday evening in order to make it possible for all to attend the hearing. The matter of distribution of soldiers and sailors' medals was left with the medal committee. The property committee was

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VtStateLibrary