

BARRE DAILY TIMES

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What Your Tailor?

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Middlebury will always have occasion to remember the name of Hsley with thankfulness, just as Barre constantly has such a spirit when recalling the name of Aldrich.

There's a new field for liability insurance; a "hired man" in Westfield, Mass., has sued his employer because one of the farmer's cows bumped him, laming the fellow so badly that he didn't feel disposed to get up the next morning, whereupon the farmer exerted some physical persuasion. Suit is brought for the double damage from bovine and human.

If the league of nations is to become the effective agency it should become, what's the need of compulsory military training among the youths of the United States? The standing army of the United States, taken in conjunction with the standing armies of all the other nations signatory to the league of nations covenant should be sufficient to meet all the needs that may arise. At least such is the theory.

Official report states that the precipitation for July in Vermont was only 1.47 inches, which was the least for any July since 1888. This precipitation of 1.47 inches was against the normal of 3.78 inches for July, or considerably more than one-half below normal. When it is taken into consideration that June was also a dry month and August has started out on the same line, one can readily understand why the reservoirs, the brooks and the ponds are lowering to an alarming extent.

VERMONT TOWNS UNPREPARED FOR FIRES.

Many a Vermont town would be caught with inadequate fire protection because of lack of water should the emergency come to them as it did to Swanton recently when a grain elevator caught fire and was destroyed with loss of approximately \$100,000. The only difference between them and Swanton is that they have been lucky and are hoping for a continuation of good luck. However, Swanton is already taking steps to get out of the inaction by looking about for some way in which the amount of water available in a dry season will be equal to the needs of the situation whether in case of fire or in case of domestic consumption of water. By engaging an engineer to investigate the situation, Swanton is several steps in advance of those towns which are living in the hope that the fire fiend and the drought worry can be staved off a little while longer.

THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR YESTERDAY'S TRAGEDY.

The tragedy which took place in a Barre fruit store yesterday afternoon in which the proprietor murdered his clerk and then committed suicide must be put down to a diseased mind. Many indications that have come to general notice since that tragic event combine to form the belief that the slayer of his inoffensive clerk had been laboring under the strain of incipient insanity, with the likelihood of breaking forth into violence at any time. He had been given to brooding over wrongs, or fancied wrongs. He had been prone to fall into fits of violent anger. He had been so strange in his manner as to frighten clerks, even the young man whom he slew yesterday afternoon. He had ab-

sented himself from his rooming place for days at a time, seeking seclusion at night by making his bed on the floor in his store, there to labor over his delusions. He had even gone so far as to acquire firearms and to display those weapons (one of which had been taken from him) and to boast what he could do and even what he would do with them. All of which pointed unmistakably to the fact that the man was a menace to be at large.

Yet in spite of the somewhat common knowledge of his condition, society, as represented by constituted authority, had made no effort to place the man under restraint, or even to bring him before the courts as a preliminary step toward determining his sanity through the usual course of procedure. Instead of being placed under restraint, this man was allowed to continue in his delusions and to grieve over his wrongs, or fancied wrongs—a menace to anybody with whom he might come in contact. It so happened that the young clerk, a bright, amiable and energetic fellow, a patriot who was one of the first in Barre to enlist in war service, fell a victim to the dangerous man's whim of passion. Society failed miserably in handling the case of this man, and the tragedy of yesterday is drastic warning of powerful responsibility which rests on constituted authority—a warning because of society's miserable failure to meet its responsibility in this instance.

CURRENT COMMENT

Expedient Justice.

The killing was in June and on Aug. 1 the slayer was sentenced to prison for manslaughter after due trial. This happened in Burlington. If the dispatch of justice in every case in Vermont was equally prompt, there would be less dissatisfaction with courts and less complaint of the cost of the administration of them.—Rutland News.

Why Do Pedestrians Get Mad?

Ernestly endeavoring to understand human nature, the Hartford Courant asks why pedestrians who are in danger of being struck by an automobile "get their mad up when the horn sounds," yet feel grateful to the locomotive engineer who blows his whistle to give warning of an approaching train. The only answer one can think of is that the pedestrian feels that he has as much right to the road as the drivers of automobiles and does not see why he should be expected to jump for his life when the driver refuses to slow down. Eventually automobiles may have roads for their exclusive use, with specially designated places at which humble pedestrians may cross, at grade or otherwise.—Springfield Republican.

Municipal Electric Plants.

Washington county and central Vermont finds itself in the grip of a water-power combine which is not now measuring up to the necessities of that part of the state. It appears that several splendid power sites are held by concerns who have developments in that general territory, and now, when water is low, the developments are not equal to the demand, while auxiliary steam plants have been allowed to become obsolete. Industry and wage earners are therefore suffering because of this condition. While this part of Vermont may not have any large developments of water power such as central and southern Vermont boast, its powers are in the hands of independent and dependent individuals, who must listen to public demands. As time goes on, and the need for electrical energy is more and more a public necessity, these conditions will be more and more appreciated. Barton has a municipal electric plant which is a great blessing to the entire southern part of Orleans county. Island Pond has a municipal plant of which it may be proud and Newport and North Troy have plans owned by independent individuals or concerns which must listen to the voice of the community, or should. Perhaps a more sensitive ear to public needs in some instances would be a wiser policy even here.—Barre Monitor.

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CRAZED FRUIT DEALER MURDERED HIS UNOFFENDING CLERK AND SENT BULLET THROUGH HIS OWN HEART

(Continued from first page.)

ment. Joseph Rioux, father of the murdered young man, says he never heard his son speak of any trouble with his employer, although the boy had told of DaPrato's threats to make way with himself. Mr. Rioux hadn't seen his son since Thursday night, having started for his work as a polisher at A. J. Paradis' stonemason before the young man arose yesterday morning.

Long Wait Before Body Was Moved.

The sad-eyed father was soon summoned to the store by the news of the tragedy and after taking one look at his son's body went to the rear of the store, where he kept solitary vigil until the body of his boy was removed to the undertaking rooms of Perry & Noonan, which was a long wait, indeed, because of the imperfection of the new health officer system which assigns a single death officer for 35 towns and cities, including Barre and Montpelier.

DaPrato Had More Cartridges in His Pocket.

As the word came to move the bodies, prosecuting officer, police, physicians and others who had been admitted behind the locked door vacated the scene of the tragedy, some evidences of the agencies of the crime having been removed. Chief of Police Mitchell took possession of the revolver, which proved to be a new weapon with two chambers empty. In DaPrato's trousers' pocket were a number of cartridges of the same calibre. DaPrato was clothed in trousers, underclothes, shirt, shoes and stockings. The shirt and the flesh were powdered-stained on the front, showing that the thoroughly crazed man had placed the muzzle of the revolver against his body. The bullet had penetrated the heart and death was probably instantaneous.

Bodies Lay Near Together.

The bodies lay with the feet pointed toward each other and barely six feet apart. Dr. Archambault thinks there was a faint pulsation in young Rioux' body but life was almost immediately extinct after the doctor's first examination. The bullet had entered the boy's brain from the back side and had come out at the top of the forehead. The bodies were prepared for burial at the Perry & Noonan undertaking rooms and prepared for burial. Dr. Burr, on viewing the remains, turned the matter over to Grand Juror Sargent, who ordered the bodies removed. Later State's Attorney Davis arrived.

Members of the Barre board of health were present among those on the scene before the belated arrival in Barre of District Health Officer Burr, but the local board has no authority in such a case. Drs. Goodrich, Jackson and McFarland were physicians in addition to Dr. Archambault, but their services were of no avail. Several members of the police force were also in attendance but the details in the tragedy were locked up in the mute breasts of the two principals and the police had to do with keeping a crowd of people from breaking into the store in their morbid curiosity.

Rioux Was Popular Young Man.

On all sides were heard expressions of sorrow for the family of the murdered young man and regret for the passing of a life which gave considerable promise. Edmund Rioux, although a comparatively new-comer in Barre, having moved here with his parents from East Barre but two years ago last April, was considered a capable young man, cheerful and a good comrade. The boy was 20 years old on April 1, last, and he was one of the first boys in Barre to enlist in the nation's service at the outbreak of the

war with Germany. He had been a resident of Barre only a little more than a month and it was only a month after the declaration of war by the United States that he offered his services at the age of 18 and was accepted for the navy.

Was in Naval Service Two Years.

In the two years next ensuing Gunner Rioux had varied and exciting experiences in Uncle Sam's service and he was proud of the chance that came to him to serve. He made many trips across the Atlantic ocean, being assigned to transport duty. He did his part in getting a large number of American soldiers across the ocean, being a seaman on the transport Occident during the latter part of his service. After two years in the navy and five months after the armistice was signed, he received his honorable discharge from the navy and returned home. The date of his discharge was April 17, 1919. After a time he went to work on the Boutwell, Milne & Varnum quarry but he left that employment to enter upon clerkship in the store of the man who was to be his murderer. As already stated, that engagement started two months ago.

DaPrato Came to Barre Only Recently.

Not much is known of DaPrato. He was a man of Italian nationality and was said to have been unmarried. He came to Barre alone last spring and bought out the Vermont Fruit & Confectionery Store, paying spot cash for the same, it is said. He had made considerable money, his acquaintances judged, by conducting a similar store in Winooski, where he sold out when he expected to be called in the draft. Those who had talked with the man gained the impression that he was worth several thousands more than he had paid for the store, some rating him as high as \$10,000 or \$12,000. It is known that money losses worried him a good deal and that he was easily excited and quick to become resentful of any wrong or fancied wrong. The fruit stand here in Barre had not turned out to be as good a venture as he had hoped for, according to the belief, which caused him to complain of the price which he had paid for the store.

DaPrato Hired One Clerk and, in Addition, Engaged a Helper Now and Then.

The most recent man in the latter capacity being George LeClair, who was sent on the fateful errand to 3 Shurtleff place yesterday morning to carry DaPrato's message that young Rioux' services were very much needed at the store. The suicide has a brother in Swanton, who is also engaged in the fruit business. This brother came to Barre to-day. The scene of the murder and suicide is within a hundred yards of the spot where the body of Mrs. Lucina P. Broadwell was found on the morning of May 4, last, the woman having been maltreated and strangled to death and in which case George A. Long and Mrs. Isabel Parker were indicted by Washington county grand jury and are now in county jail awaiting trial. The Wheelock garden, in which Mrs. Broadwell's body was found, is the next property to the store of the Vermont Fruit & Confectionery Store. On the decision of the authorities that there would be no autopsy in yesterday's case, arrangements were made for the burial of the bodies. The body of DaPrato will be taken by his brother to Swanton for interment, and the funeral of the young man will be held from St. Monica's church Monday morning at 9

o'clock, with interment in the Catholic cemetery.

Most of DaPrato's Relatives in Italy.

Da Prato's brother from Swanton, Peter DaPrato, supplied the information to-day that Antonio was born in Lucca, Italy, Jan. 17, 1890, and came to the United States when he was 15 years of age, locating in Winooski, where he later entered the business of the Winooski Fruit Co. with which he continued 10 years, just prior to coming to Barre. Besides the brother in Swanton, the suicide leaves his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sebastian DaPrato, two brothers, Ardenna, aged 37, and John, aged 27, and three sisters, Amelia, aged 40; Irma, aged 32, and Mariana, aged 20, all of whom reside in Italy.

Antonio DaPrato was a member of Camp 8940 of Modern Woodmen of America at Winooski and of No. 936, Loyal Order of Moose.

Peter DaPrato said that he came to Barre about the time the first revolver was taken away from Antonio and that he did not take Antonio's intentions seriously. Antonio told Peter at the time he was not satisfied with the business in Barre and was advised by Peter to sell out even at some financial sacrifice.

BASLE STRIKE A FAILURE.

Communist Party and Extremist Labor Leaders Beaten.

Berne, Friday, Aug. 8.—The general strike at Basle ended to-day in a complete failure, like the one at Zurich. The communist party and the extremist labor leaders who hoped to spread the strike over all the country, even predicting the establishment of a Swiss soviet, have been entirely defeated.

Quickly Over.

Bix—I'm going to see a mind reader. Dix—You'll have a short session.—Boston Transcript.

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