

RUNNING THE CITY LIKE A BUSINESS! That's what the city manager plan aims at. Don't overlook a fine chance to learn about it—Page 3.

The Tacoma Times

WEATHER
Tacoma: Fair tonight and Wednesday.
Washington: Same.

25c A MONTH. THE ONLY INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER IN TACOMA. 25c A MONTH. VOL. XIII. NO. 193. TACOMA, WASH., TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 1916. 1c A COPY

SAM BRIDGES TAKES POISON

SUICIDE LEAVES A TOUCHING NOTE TO HIS WIFE

"EMPTY WORDS"

BY THE EDITOR

My outstanding impression after a faithful reading of Candidate Hughes' acceptance speech is that he has delivered the campaign cry of "Empty words!" over to his adversaries.

In a studied oratorical effort that requires columns of small newspaper type to record, he has produced not one forward-looking, constructive idea.

He has cited not one valid reason why Woodrow Wilson should be displaced, nor why Charles Evans Hughes should be sent to the nation's helm.

His widely-heralded speech is purely a speech of destructive criticism. Its ablest and most convincing passage is his indictment of the president's Mexican policy. Even there he is the office-seeking candidate rather than the statesman or the fair-minded judge, for he withholds praise for Wilson's many undisputed achievements in Mexican affairs, while bitterly attacking him for his errors.

Nor does Hughes tell the country what HIS Mexican policy would be, nor give any guarantee against his committing Mexican mistakes quite as numerous and grievous as Wilson has been guilty of.

Empty yet are his words on such subjects as labor, conservation, suffrage, the Philippines and tariff. Balanced statements, all of them, designed to conceal the speaker's meaning, rather than to elucidate it! What are Hughes' convictions on these subjects? You must look elsewhere to learn, the speech does not set them forth. The words are worse than empty, they are "weasel."

The address will be a disappointment to every progressive minded citizen. For it is a typical old-style harangue designed purely to catch votes.

IT IS EMPTY WORDS—EMPTY WORDS, IT IS TRUE, THAT ARE HIGHLY POLISHED, LIKE HOLLOW GLASS BEADS, AND STRUNG TOGETHER ON A SILVER STRING—BUT HOLLOW GLASS BEADS STILL.

HOT ON CHASE FOR A WITNESS

The deadlock in the grand jury appears to be no nearer solution Monday than it was when the investigation of the strike situation began.

Throughout the entire morning the jurors balloted behind closed doors, only to adjourn shortly before noon without reporting to the court any results of the investigation of the fatal shooting at the east end of the 11th street bridge.

Meanwhile Deputy Prosecutor Phelps was busy scouting through the city in an automobile trying to run down a witness said to be able to identify the person who fired the shot that killed Rangwald Letman.

All the witnesses so far have been unable, or have refused, to identify the slayer. The prosecutor's supposed clue is reported to be the last resort in obtaining indictments in the case.

Up to noon, Phelps had been unable to locate the wanted witness.

Several documents were being carried in the hip pocket of Foreman S. E. Gange when the grand jury adjourned to meet again this afternoon. It could not be learned whether there might be some more "no true bills."

Nobody was ready to make a prediction as to when the grand jury will break up.

"I can't see the end in sight," was all that Foreman Gange had to say.

It is possible the jurors may continue balloting throughout the afternoon.

Prosecuting Attorney Remann stated there are one or two other matters to bring before the grand jury when they have called a halt to the strike investigation.

BODIES OF FOREST FIRE VICTIMS ARE LAID IN TRENCHES

HAILEYBURY, Ont., Aug. 1.—Scores of forest fire victims are being buried in deep trenches.

Total casualties probably can never be ascertained, but relief workers believe over 500 perished. The fire swept hundreds of square miles in northern Ontario.

A BOY'S TRICK



FLASHES

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 1.—Germany handed Ambassador Gerald a note Tuesday refusing to negotiate further for Polish relief work. Conditions imposed by England are given as the reason. Relief, it is asserted, will be unnecessary after October 1, as crops are good.

NEW YORK—Charles Evans Hughes declares for a woman suffrage amendment to the constitution. In a letter to Senator Sutherland of Utah, made public Tuesday.

CHICAGO — Two bombs were exploded Tuesday morning under the plant of the Jewish Daily Press. A. M. Lieblich, publisher, was a state witness in the recent trial of labor leaders conspiracy. He was blown out of bed but is unharmed.

NEW YORK—Unless the right to unionize is granted, New York street car men threaten to tie up all surface, elevated and subway lines. in the city. Governor Whitman, Mayor Mitchell and Police Commissioner Woods are in conference Tuesday over the situation.

BALTIMORE—After a pilot had been ordered aboard the German submarine Deutschland and all was ready for a dash to sea Tuesday preparations were abandoned and no information is now available as to when she will leave.

STEARNS WRECKED; 40 LIVES ARE LOST

SANTIAGO, Chile, Aug. 1.—The Chilean steamer Ecuador is wrecked near Coronel. Forty lives were lost. The vessel belonged to the Argentine Navigation Co.

ALLIES LOSE 49 SHIPS; GERMANS 80

BERLIN, Aug. 1.—Total naval losses of the allies are stated by the admiralty today to be 49 vessels. The Teutons, it is said, lost 30 vessels.

Talk o' the Times

Greetings, after reading the Great Effort of Chas. Hughes were you able to figure out how he would make YOU a better president than the one we have?

NEVER JUDGE WOMEN AND CIGARS BY THEIR WRAPPERS.

Gulf stream changes course. On account of the war?

A nickel is now worth 6 cents, but you can't make a slot machine believe it.

It comes out now that Hughes once sang in a church choir. It looks as though this was going to be a mud slinging campaign.

How thick-headed those long-shoremen are! The employers' association as much as a week ago

One thing we do hope the grand jury will do, and that is to let the public in on the secret trouble of the beleaguered Mr. Armstrong.

Rockefeller can't tell how much he's worth. Could you tell off-hand how much money you have in your pockets?

Nearly time for some general to announce where he will have his Christmas dinner.

"The onions in my garden have lovely soft, pink skins," writes Charles Sannnon, "but a few of them have been suburned. I rub them with cold cream every morning and hold an umbrella over them till the sundown."

"My corn is doing fine. I can reach almost to the top of the lower stalk."

"I have had great success with my onions this year," Lon Moore writes.

"The great secret in raising onions is never to pull one before it is ripe. I find it is easy to tell whether or not an onion is ripe by biting it."

LOSES HIS MONEY; STARVES IN CAVE

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 1.—After losing all his money to black doctors, Gustav Yarges of Goldfield, Nev., was too proud to beg for help, and lived in a cave on the beach, with mussels for food, until he grew too weak to catch the mussels, and was found by a policeman, as he lay starved in the cave.

MUST BE MEXICANS

EL PASO, Aug. 1.—The Mexican ministry of justice today sent a message saying that aliens desiring to exploit Mexican oil fields must become Mexican citizens.

The Poor

People are often poor because of neglect of early training in habits of saving. The secret of acquiring wealth lies mainly in the habit of SAVING.

PUGET SOUND BANK

INSURANCE EXPIRING, ARRANGES TO CARRY POLICY OVER A DAY

Samuel D. Bridges, for 25 years deputy clerk of the United States court in Tacoma, who served a recent term of one year in the McNeil's island penitentiary for diverting federal funds, was found dead in bed in his apartments at the Exeter, 5th and J streets, at 8:30 o'clock today.

On a small stand beside the bed stood a partially drained glass, containing a colorless, odorless fluid.

A cluster of crystals covered the bottom of the glass. By a cursory examination, the coroner today decided that Bridges had taken a combined solution of strychnin and bichloride of mercury. His lips and chin were burned, and his tongue was almost bitten in two by the sudden contraction of his jaw muscles.

Uncertainty whether his death was suicide was cleared up late this forenoon by the discovery of a sealed note to Mrs. Bridges bidding her farewell.

A telegram from Mrs. Bridges, former Portland society girl, who has been visiting her relatives in Portland for several days, caused the discovery of Bridges' death.

Telephone unanswered. Friends had tried to telephone the former federal court clerk several times yesterday and received no response.

When a telegram came for Bridges today, and no response could be induced from the apartments, a janitor forced his way into the Bridges' rooms.

He lay in bed, partially dressed, wearing a bathrobe and slippers. Death had occurred at least 36 hours earlier.

Mrs. Bridges traveled south with the family of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Donnelly, who left last week on a motor trip to Kansas City.

Prolongs Stay. She spent several days with relatives in Portland and her telegram, which came after Bridges' death, announced that she had decided to remain a day longer in Portland but would leave for home today.

"I would be glad if you would meet me," concluded her telegram.

Bridges was suspended from federal service four years ago after federal examiners had discovered a discrepancy in his financial records.

Felt Disgrace Keenly. After a long delay, he was tried and convicted. Judge Cushman sentenced him to 18 months' imprisonment.

At the end of 13 months Bridges was released. Since that time he has lived in Tacoma, apparently dejected and gloomy over the disgrace of his penitentiary term.

Friends say that he has been a different man since leaving prison, and that his gloom has increased steadily.

Guilt Technical. Bridges' sentence to McNeil's island much aroused his many friends, who believed he had not been treated justly.

The bank in which he was empowered, as federal court clerk, to deposit court moneys, was bonded to take a limited amount of federal funds.

When Bridges received a judgment of over \$100,000, to be held in trust during the pendency of an important case, he found that he could not deposit the money under the federal account, so, on advice of a banker friend, he temporarily placed it in his personal account.

Government investigators discovered the act, and had him arrested.

Bridges did not gain a penny by the act, it was alleged, and had no criminal intent. But he was guilty, at least, of violation of a technical court rule, and was sent to prison.

(Continued on Page Eight.)

"Two Perfect Women --- Wife and Mother"

My Dear Katie: Sunday Night.
"My insurance policy expires at midnight tonight but to avoid any question I have arranged to have it carried over until noon tomorrow. * * * * * I have known only two perfect women in this world—my mother and my wife. * * * * * With love, Sambo."

This brief note, part of which is omitted because of its personal nature, was left by Samuel D. Bridges to his wife, Mrs. Charlotte Bridges, former society belle of Portland. The note will be turned over to Mrs. Bridges by Coroner Stewart late today.

THE PRICE SOCIETY MADE BRIDGES PAY

By the Editor

Usually the important, the thrilling, the dramatic, the tragic and the merely human news stories of the day pass through the consciousness of an editor, leaving little personal impression.

In the concentration of getting the written account into his editions, an editor has no time to register the usual human emotions for any but fleeting instants.

But once in a while a story strikes home. And when it does, I believe, it hits the editor a little bit harder than anybody else.

Thus, this pleasant August forenoon am I stricken to the quick by the news that Sam Bridges is dead—a suicide.

Not that I ever was numbered among Sam Bridges' close friends, for my acquaintance with him, though dating back perhaps 10 years, was casual.

As a youthful reporter, I remember meeting him years ago when he was an attaché of Judge Hanford's federal court. Suave, competent, reserved, yet cordial, he challenged my interest.

Some years passed. Bridges became head of the office where he had been a subordinate, and in the slow maturation of newspaper advancement I developed from cub reporter into a full-fledged one, then into a sub-editor.

Five years ago I sinned, as that particular newspaper classified reporters' sins, and was urgently requested to resign.

A few minutes later, walking along the street and pondering over the ways of providence, I encountered Bridges.

He confided in me that he, too, had just lost his position.

We held a mutual sympathy session and parted, I for a newspaper job in Los Angeles, and he, as I learned later, to face a serious court charge and to spend many months on McNeil's island.

Another whirl of time brought us both back to Tacoma, he a discharged convict and I an editor. And by pure coincidence it found us occupying apartments in the same tier of the same building.

He was a vastly changed Sam Bridges. Outwardly,

he was as suave, as competent, as reserved—yet as cordial, as before. That is, when he met you and spoke. BUT HE PREFERRED NOT TO MEET YOU. HE FEARED LONESOMENESS, YET HE FEARED, APPARENTLY, EVEN MORE THE EYES OF HIS OLD ASSOCIATES. QUESTIONING EYES, I PRESUME, HE FELT THEM TO BE.

I have seen him in recent months meet my three-year-old youngster in Wright park or on a stair landing, and the sight made my soul ache.

It was so evident that Sam Bridges was throwing the whole force of the beautiful, lovable side of his old nature into an effort to gain the child's warm friendship.

It was as if he felt that here, at least, was a human being who would accept him for what he was at that minute and who would raise no recollections of the painful past.

So it comes about that there is one rosy spot, at least, in my contemplation of Sam Bridges' sad career. It is the knowledge that in his heart-touching campaign to make friends with a wee boy, his efforts were crowned with success. The hearty greetings and the warm smiles of an uncontaminated baby heart, I know, were dearer than gold to him.

FARMERS EAST OF ROY TO PICNIC AT LACAMAS SCHOOL

The farmers east of Roy will hold an all-day picnic at the Lacamas school on Friday. The program is to include a basket lunch and speeches of general interest to farmers.

HOLD PEACE MEETINGS

BERLIN, Aug. 1.—Although the German national committee for honorable peace held meetings everywhere today, the public hardly discussed the peace plans. The newspapers gave prominent place to peace speeches simultaneously delivered in 50 different cities.

TODAY'S CLEARINGS
Clearings \$362,177.36
Balances 52,044.78
Transactions 944,284.72