## PISTOL SHOOTS WHEN INNO-CENT GIRL PULLS RIBBON

# STRANGE SUICIDAL CASE

Young Man, Promising Swetcheart a Wonderful Surprise, Asks Her to Pull Ribbon-She Does so and a Pistol Fires, Fatally Wounding Him.

Emily Wheeler, beautiful twentytwo-year-old daughter of John De Forest Wheeler, of Stratford, Conn., at an early hour Tuesday morning told the tragic story of her last few hours with her flance, Arthur Hearn Cowl, grandson of the late multimillionaire merchant, James H. Hearn. She told it in a small, bare room in the hospital at Bridgeport, Conn., to officials of Stratford and Bridgeport and physicians, while in an adjoining operating room lay her fiance dying.

Young Cowl called on Miss Wheel Monday night and shortly after 10 o'clock said he would show her a wonderful new trick if she would just shut her eyes and jerk a piece of narrow baby blue ribbon, one end of which he handed to her. She did so and there came the sound of a revolver shot. Cowl slowly fell dying at her feet, wounded in his temple. The ribbon which he had induced her to jerk was tied to the trigger of a heavy calibre revolver.

This is Miss Wheeler's own story "Arthur wrote me that he was coming to see me Monday afternoon and would go to Bridgeport on a through train from New York, and there take a trolley to Stratford. I watched for his car and when I saw him step off ran down to meet him.

"Not for months had I seen him in better spirits or in better health. We walked home and had tea, and he was so bright and happy. After tea mother and father went to a meeting at Christ church and left us together. First we sat in the hall. We talked of our love; he told me how greatly improved his health had been by his trip to Bermuda; he told me that he felt sure that he would be entirely recovered by early fall and we sat there dreaming and planning our life together.

"He spoke of our marriage in the early fall as a certainty. He told me that he intended spending this summer in the country, and that he was

I want to tell you some thing. While I was sick and not enthrely responsible for what I was doing I wrote you a letter, but I didn't send it. I am glad I didn't but I want you to see it. I told you in that letter that I had ceased to care for you. There was a lot more, but that was what it all amounted tothat I had ceased to care for you.'

"Then he told me that he wanted me to see that letter. He said he had it upstairs, and he wanted me to been when he was sick. Then he wanted me to destroy it with my own hands. He told me that he loved me and that he only write what he did because he was sick. Then he talked some more of our marriage in the

"He went upstairs and got the let ter and brought it down for me to read. He did not seem at all excited and I didn't notice anything unusual in his manner. I read the letter and then he urged me to destroy it. Together we walked out on the porch and down the steps and sat on the lowest step so I could burn the let- church and taught a class in the Sunter. As we sat down my mother and father came back from their church meeting and, after speaking to us went on upstairs. It was getting

"I destroyed the letter. He waited for a few moments and then, fumbling in his pocket, pulled out a piece of ribbon and handed me the end of it. He told me he was going to show me a wonderful trick. 'You must shut your eyes, turn away your head and pull the ribbon,' he said. After hesitating I did so. He laughed and said it hadn't worked. Then he told me to try it again. 'Give the ribbon 'or my trick won't work. And you must keep your head turned away and your eyes closed.'

"I did as he told me. I jerked the ribbon again and then, then-Here Miss Wheeler for the first time during her narrative gave way

"There was a terrific explosion and

and screamed. After a while father cause it was sold en route to British lights was seen and understood on came running down. "I never, never thought anything like this. His voice was his own; he was smiling at me; he wasn't excit-ed; I thought he was just playing no precedent will be created warrantwas smiling at me; he wasn't excitwith me. I can't, can't understand. He was so well, he spoke so positively of his getting entirely well; he talked so earnestly about our mar-

riage soon. It had seemed to me that our troubles were over. He was very happy with me all the afternoon and evening. There was nothing to warn me. I can't believe it yet." The coroner said that; although he had made no formal investigation of

Cowl's death, newspaper reports the allies to join in the war against seemed to indicate so clearly that the Germany. case was one of suicide, in fact if not in deed, that unless something dif-ferent develops he thought it unlike-ly he would hold any inquest.

It seems to me it would be too

narked. This view is shared by

fellowtownsmen Miss Wheeler did not offer any exanation of how Cowl succeeded in hiding the revolver from her sight, nor can it be positively stated whether she actually pulled the trigger by pulling the ribbon or whether he supplemented her strength with his own.

Physicians are trying to figure out the physchology which prompted the tragedy. Drs. Wright, Garlick and Coggswell all unhesitatingly declare that the act was the act of a diseased mind, of a mind suffering from melancholia so morbid as to amount to practically perversion, in the sense that the sufferer derived a painful pleasure from his act.

Cowl's first physical breakdown is attributed to his ambition to emulate nis grandfather and become a "merchant prince." To further this ambition he went to night school and made a special study of such subjects as efficiency and economy.

Dr. Coggswell asserts that at worst Miss Wheeler only rendered some slight assistance to Cowl in pulling the trigger.

"Miss Wheeler," he said, "did not have the physical strength to pull that trigger by means of the ribbon She tried once and failed as she herself said. Now it is my opinion that Cowl was quick to realize this and simultaneously when she gave the second jerk he pressed the trigger. That would make it technically what in any event it is, a case of suicide.

Dr. Cogswell took out of his desk the revolver. It is a regulation .38 calibre blue steel Colt. Only one of the six chambers had been loaded. and that still had the exploded shell, lives. Some had been keeping them-Tied to the trigger was one end of a length of pale blue ribbon something wreckage for more than an hour less than a quarter of an inch wide. The ribbon measured perhaps three and a half feet, and the loose end for six or seven inches was red with young Cowl's blood.

With Dr. Coggswell holding the revolver in the position it is assumed Trrapp. The Austrian report also that the garrison will prove strong that Cowl held it the correspondent claims that the French cruiser was enough to protect them. jerked the ribbon sharply, but failed to pull the trigger. A sharper jerk succeeded. With the revolver fully cocked it was found almost impossible to pull the trigger by jerking. The Leon Gambetta, with her sis- are believed to have been affected by nas, former minister of finance of the ribbon, and the test proved that ter ship, the Jules Ferry, formed part the news from Constantinople. The Chile, on the occasion of the Argenin any case it required considerable of the French patrol squadron watchphysical strength to do so.

"We have been unable to learn, said Dr. Coggswell, "the exact position of the pistol. Miss Wheeler never saw it until after the shot had when she turned her head he moved the weapon from his coat and pointed it at his temple."

Mrs. Wheeler, mother of the girl, said to a correspondent: "There is in the Brest yards in January, 1901, nothing we desire to conceal. The poor boy was suffering from a nervous breakdown and was irresponsible. We have a great grief on our hands, and my daughter is complete- of sightly more than 23 knots. She sure at the end of the summer we could be married.

"Then he said to me: 'Emily, you know I have been a very sick man; I have not really been myself a lot of the time. I want to tell you some."

I have not really been myself a lot of the summer we could be married. She believes that she was his executioner. I don't know inch and sixteen 6.4-inch guns, with five 6.3-4 inches belt and 8-inch turbed where the revolver came from, but it did not come from this house. He outclessed by the battle cruisers of the time. I want to tell you some.

I have not really been myself a lot of the time. I want to tell you some. I want to tell you some. I want to tell you some. The time of the time of the time of the summer we large the want it understood that their engagement had not been broken and they expected to be married."

"I can state positively that my daughter 1 vd not broken her engagement with Mr. Cowl," said Mr. Wheeler

The fac; that there was a temporary severing of the engagement was it was larned, solely due to Mr. Cowl's breakdown in December or January. There never was any quarread it and see how foolish he had rel or estrangement after the young in the evening, the Leon Gambetta man had declared in a fit of despon- parted company with the Jules Ferry, dency that they could never wed and she had returned the engagement Italian coast, running up toward ring she had worn. He followed her to Bermuda where she had gone to visit her married sister, and there protested his love so ardently that the two quickly renewed the engage-

Misa Wheeler is a descendant of ful. one of the oldest and wealthiest families in Connecticut. She is an enthusiastic tennis and golf player and a splendid yachtswoman. She took an active interest in the work of her day school.

## NOTE TO BERLIN

Indemnity for Frye Accepted But Original Note is Upheld.

States to Germany concerning the sinking of the American ship William P. Frye by the commerce raider and in a few moments, as the ship Prinz Eitel Friedrich was dispatched began to list heavily to port, and to Berlin Wednesday. It is under- the intrushing water drove the men Guides of Taiping mutinied. These stood it accepts the German propo- below from their stations, it was sal to compensate the owners of the plain that the cruiser had received is now well in hand. a strong jerk this time,' he told me, Frye under the terms of the old Prus-1828, regardless of any prize court swing out and lower the boats. decision.

These treaties provide that contraeither party shall not be confiscated at his post, or moved promptly to by the other in any case, but may be obey orders. But the boats, swung to shuddering and hysterical weep- detained or used only in considera- inboard out of harm's way, and to tion of payment of the full value.

While willing to agree to payment my boy fell over on the ground and for the Frye, it is understood the could not be swung out in time and there without moving. I called United States stands by its original in a few minutes the ship, listing him by his name; I begged him to protest against the destruction of the rapidly, made it impossible to lower speak to me. For a moment I thought ship as a violation of international the boats on the starboard side. it only another of the jokes he liked law, and again denies that the wheat to play on me. But he lay there so cargo was contraband. No claim for cold and motionless I was frightened the cargo was made, however, bedealers.

An effort is said to have been made in the latest note to narrow the aping the lodgment under them in fu- tain to leave the bridge and save himture of claims gainst the American government under favored nation go with my ship."

Greece Ready to Join War. Christaker Zographos, foreign minister of Greece, is credited in Paris selves of this, and the majority of with having made the statement that Greece only awaits the invitation of

Von Tirpitz Honored. Admiral von Tirpits, minister of marine and commander of the Ger-

## ALMOST ENTIRE CREW OF THE FRENCH SHIP LOST

## TAKEN BY SURPRISE

Italian Accounts Tell How French Moonlight on Smooth Sea--Cap tain Refuses to Leave Ship and But Few Escape Destruction

Rome, Italy, reports: The 12,000 us to gather fairly reliable news of ton French armored cruiser Leon what is going on. Of course it canGambetta was torpedoed by an Ausnot be published, but it is passed on trian submarine in the Strait of Otranto the night of April 26 and went down in ten minutes, carrying with her her captain and more than 500 of her crew.

It is reported from Cape Santa the scene of the disaster, that not a tricts news of trouble has been resingle officer of the Leon Gambetto was saved.

The 136 petty officers and soamen rescued by boats from the Italian shore are in pitiable condition, without clothing, most of them having been awakened from sleep by the explosion of the torpedo and forced to leap overboard and swim for their selves afloat with the aid of bits of when help reached them.

According to an official report from Vienna, the Leon Gambetta was sunk by an Austrian submarine, U-5, a Holland boat of 273 tons, commanded by Lieut. George Ritter von sunk in the Aegean, which would make it appear that Austrian submarines are menacing the Dardanelles fleet.

ing the mouth of the Adriatic and ever. Nine of the ringleaders were penning the Austrian fleet in their bases at Pola and Cattaro, Since the for terms ranging from fifteen to opening of the war, this squadron has been on duty, and, although several been fired. It may readily be that times before attacked by Austrian submarines and aeroplanes, has hitherto escaped practically unscathed, and has kept the entire Austrian navy rigidly blockaded.

and put in commission in 1903. She was 487 feet long, displaced 12,416 tons and made a speed on her trails more recent construction, she was considered a fine ship of her class. Three French cruisers, the Leon

Gambetta, the Jules Ferry and another, believed to be the Victor Hugo. of the same class, were that night on active patrol duty for the French squadron in the western passage of the Straits of Otranto, between the island of Corfu. and Cape Santa Maria Leuce, on the Italian coast. The sea was calm, the night clear,

and the moon shone brightly. Early near Corfu, to steam across to the Brindisi, as was customary in the trigue. Probably if the Ameer is plans for patrolling arranged by the admiral commanding the blockading

For a long time the blockade had een quiet, and the patrol unevent-Although the Leon Gambetta was cleared for action and showed no lights, all the crew except the lookouts and the watch on deck, had been the regulars in the belief that they permitted to turn in, and were fast asleep in their hammocks.

The ship was about twenty miles northeast of Cape Santa Maria Leuca, and the lights on the Italian coast were plainly visible, when a terrific explosion shook the big cruiser from end to end. All hands tumbled out of their hammocks and ran, half permitted to write to their friends, awake and unclad, to their stations, hurriedly casting loose the guns and proach within fifty miles of the dissearching the placid waters for the A second note from the United trail that would mark the passage of a periscope.

Nothing could be seen, however, her death blow. The captain, stand-

All the survivors agree that there was not the slightest sign of panic. band belonging to the subjects of Every officer and man stood quietly clear the sweep of the turret guns when the ship was cleared for action,

The wireless and signal lights were already sending out signals for help, and the message of the signal the Italian shore, but help was too far away to be reached in time.

Several of the survivors say that, when it was seen the ship was doomed, many officers implored the capself, but that he refused, saying: "I

The crew, lined up on deck, were permitted to seize gratings, life-preservers, etc., and leap over the side to elear of the suction as she went down; but only a few availed themthose rescued were washed off the where they stood in line with their fellows as the ship careened be fore taking the final plunge: The officers, while encouraging their men to seize articles that might save them, followed their com ion of the torpedo, the Leon Gam- sel.

## DISORDERS IN INDIA

EFFECT OF GERMAN INTRIGUE AND TURK ALLIANCE.

Pathans in Revolt-Mutiny at Rangoon Suppressed—Severe Figliting

on the Afghan Frontier. A special correspondent of the New York Times in the Straits Settle ments writes as follows, dated March

8: The strictness of the censorship has prevented neutral countries and incidentally the British public from receiving full information of the serious disorders which are proceeding in India and Burmah. There is, however, sufficient travel between these and the Straits Settlements to enable

by word of mouth. The most startling report we have heard is that the Ameer of Afghanistan has been assassinated. This is doubtful, but it is certain that there is severe fighting along the northwest Maria di Leuca, the nearest point to frontier. From four different disceived, and there is no doubt that the Indian government just now has its hands full. Some of the sedition appears to be due to the deliberate attempts of German agents to stir up trouble, but a good deal is probably the result of the bazaar rumors con cerning the war, and especially of the appearance of the Sultan of Turkey

as the ally of the Kaiser. The first serious riots are reported as having occurred two days ago at Cawnpore. No details have been allowed to come out, but it is realized by all Anglo-Indians how dangerous a matter an outbreak at this point might be. A considerable number of stronger and more definite union. Europeans live there, and it is hoped enough to protect them.

After the outbreak at Cawnpore, a capital of Burmah, attempted to remutiny was quickly checked, howshot, 200 others were sent to prison twenty years, and the rest were disbanded. Coming as they do from the extreme northwest of India, it is not likely that the Pathans would be able to do much harm to the British rule among the Burmese, with whom they have nothing in common.

From the Central Province of In-dia word has come of riots in four different places. Martial law has been proclaimed throughout the empire; no one is permitted to land in any part of India unless he can extend the fourney of Dr. Lauro Muller, the their full rigor, and the vernacular newspapers have to follow a very circumspect course.

-The rumor that the Ameer of Afghanistan, Habibullah Khan, had been assassinated was accompanied by reports of severe fighting along the Afghan border. Habibullah has been on the throne since 1901, and his reign has been on the whole a satisfactory one so far as the British are concerned. Both Great Britain and Russia have undertaken not to interfere with the internal affairs of Afghanistan, and since they reached their agreement in 1907 Gabul has ceased to be so important a centre or indead. India would feel it most seriously through the loss of his influence over the tempestuous border tribes.

It is they who, according to what we hear, are giving trouble. Three land, who were sent out to relieve would not be required for anything worse than garrison duty have been moved up to the frontier. There they are face to face with conditions that have tried the perve and skill of

veteran Anglo-Indian fighters. How they are faring we have no definite information. They are not and no civilians are allowed to apturbed area. It is said, however, that the British losses have been heavy, and that reinforcements have had to be hurried to the front.

You may have heard that on February 16 200 of the Malay States were soon subdued and the situation

sian-American treaties of 1799 and ing on the bridge, gave the order to betta turned on her side and slowly disappeared from view. Not a man on board the ship saw the periscope of the submarine which destroyed

> The coast guards at the station at they sighted her distress signals, they telegraphed the news to Brindisi, Taranto, Otranto and Bari and immeset out to the rescue.

Boats of every description were at once hurried to the rescue from all government. the towns notified, but it was more than an hour before the boat from the cape, the first to reach the scene, arrived. Not a trace of the cruiser herself remained above water, but the sea was dotted with half-clad men, many of them wounded by the explosion, clinging desperately to the buovant objects.

By morning, all who survived had been brought ashore, most of them seing taken to Taranto, where clothing and supplies are being despatched to them, and the wounded and many others suffering from the exd and

Government to Pay.

The United States government has

MINISTERS OF ARGENTINE, BRA-ZIL AND CHILE MEET

Great Significance is Attached to Conference Between Three Mediat ing Nations-Expected That Joint Policy on European Affairs And Relations With the United States May Result.

A dispatch from Rio Janeiro Brazil, states that Dr. Lauro Muller, Brazilian minister of foreign affairs, set out with his suite Monday night on a journey to Uruguay and Argentina. A large crowd bade them as enthusiastic farewell. Primarily their purpose was to pay a visit of courtesy to Uruguay which has honored the tate Baron do Rio-Branco, formerly Brazilian minister of foreign affairs; by having a statue of Rrio-Branco placed behind the boundary line between the two countries. Dr. Muller will unveil this statue.

Yielding to the urgent requests of the governments of Argentina and Chile, however, Dr. Muller has been obliged to extend his itinerary, which now will bring about an exchange of visits by the ministers of fereign affairs of Argentina, Brazil and Chile, whose action is recalled in the recent crisis between the United States and Mexico, indicating the necessity of a

After the visit to Uruguay Dr. Muller will go to Buenos Aires, and from that point he will set out for Santiago with Jose Luis Murrature, regiment of Pathans at Rangoon, the the Argentine foreign minister. From Santiago they will return to Buenos Mohammedans by faith, they Aires, accompanied by Manuel Salitine national holiday. These various meetings will call

forth an exchange of views which augur farreaching results. The newspapers all comment upon the event as bound to mark a new era in the international politics of South Ameri-

Dr. Muller and his party will travel by railroad as far as Uruguay, and an Argentine warship will take them aboard at Montevideo. A Washington dispatch says offi-

the journey of Dr. Lauro Muller, the canal commission and dire Brazilian minister for Foreign afed quarters that Dr. Muller's visit dredging in harbors, marks the begining of an effort to establish a policy of Pan-Americansm which means in this case an arrangement among the South American republics to act together in all matters pertaining to South American affairs and possibly on the relations of these nations with non-American countries.

Commercially and industrially, Latin-America has been badly crippled by the European war. Up to the beginning of the great struggle the major part of the commercial dealings of South America was with Europe. Now South America's busi- yard. ness relations with foreign lands are in a state of uncertainty as to what appointment by Pre the future will bring forth. It is in subject to confirmati the hope of producing better and ate at the next s closer business relations that this government has called a conference of day with the rank of r the finance ministers of South and while on the same day Central America, which is to be begun in Washington on May 24.

Throughout certain interested circles there is apprehension that the ending of the European conflict may be the beginning of a new deal in the relationship between Europe and Latin-America. The victors in the gigantic struggle, it has been suggested, may be in a mood to take advantage of their military supremacy to demand on adjustment of matters that in the part have been the cause of more or less friction. To Brazil the navy. An assistant chief o the outcome of the war is of prime importance, for, whatever may be said officially, the fear has been prevalent for years that the great German colonization in that country might lead to complications, growing out of Germany's colonial ambition. Of course, any such fear is based on the assumption that the Monroe Doctrine would be disregarded by Germany, but it has been the cause of uneasiness nevertheless.

Charges that German wireless stations were established during the present war on Colombian and Ecuadorian territory were made by the Cape Santa Maria di Leuca were the British government, and it has been first to see that something was alleged that German warships coaled wrong with the big cruiser, which in violation of international law in they had been watching as she steam- Chilean harbors. Another war incied slowly up the coast. The moment dent grew out of the recent destruction of the German cruiser Dresden by a British squadron in the Chilean port of Juan Fernandez. This diately launched their own boat and brought a protest from Germany, a demand for rea ess by Chile, and an apology to Chile from the British

It is the opinion of some diplomats that the exchanges will result in overtures to the United States to join with the principal South American countries in an agreement to act in concert in the adjustment of purely American affairs and possibly in a definition of the relationship that this government will assume toward the smaller republics on this hemisphere if danger threatens from any outside source. It should be made plain, however, that this is purely speculative, and nothing has been said in any official quarter to justify a supposition that the United States will depart from its source of holding aloof from understandings as to a course of future actions. There is much opposition to Pan-Ameri

CULEBRA RENA SOUTH CA

President Wils name of Culebra cut canal to Gaillard cut, in late Lieut. Col. David lard, engineer corps, U Gaillard as a memi for more than six years tral division of the son

from Gatun to Pedro 1

cluding Culebra. Debilitated by the tr he so exerted himself, medical advice, in his ze his work that his street taxed. His death, therefor Hopkins hospital, Dece was directly ascribable to success of the canal pro

Col. Gaillard was secon Goethals. Had he lived have been placed in cha canal zone. He handled problems far more difficult that his associates in the encountered.

Born at Fulton, Sumter C., in 1859, David DuB was educated at Mount i Point He was married bore, shortly after he en army, to Miss Katherine F of Columbia, sister to the Means Davis of the Univ South Carolina. Mrs. Gail vives her husband, with a

Gaillard. Col. Gaillard's more tours of duty were as folk onel, Third U. S. V. Engin 7, 1898, to May 17, 1899; to Capt. W. M. Black and of various surveys and har provements at St. Augustine, and Withlacoochee river, 1887-91; member of the in al boundary commission States and Mexico, 1891-4; of Washington aqueduct, projects in vicinity of 1895-8; assisant to missioner of District of 1899-1901; in charge of all harbor improvement, Lak district, 1901-3; member o staff corps and Northern division, 1903-4 at Army War college, 190 of the military information

## BENSON NAMED

Secretary Daniels We nounced the appointme William S. Be ated post of chief of op navy. Capt. Benson mandant of the Phil

Capt. Benson was give He will take up his work Bradley A. Fiske, who for operations is absorb post, will begin his duties

of the naval war colle The chief of operations tremendous task, the tion of plans, under the direction, for operation of in time of war and their m in normal periods. In the a the secretary and the assi tary, he will be acting erations, not below captain in is to be named later.

## RECOGNIZE NO FACTIO

Washington to Go Slow in Cor ing Mexican Affairs

Recognition of any of the Mex factions during the present unce state of affairs is not contemplate the United States, according to pressions by high officials.

Secretary Bryan told inquirers the subject of recognition had reached the point of formal co eration. Persons close to the W House said President Wilson inte ed to study the question carefully fore committing the American ernment to recognition and tha did not propose to take any until the military situation in Me clarified itself.

# FRENCH CRUISER TORPEDOE

Submarine Wedne

Berlin reports by Wireless W The French arm Leon Gambetta has be by an Austrian submarine. to news received by the

The French arm