

100 YEARS AGO OCTOBER 1922

ALLEGED EYE WITNESS OF HALL-MILLS SLAYING REPUDIATES OFFICIAL'S STORY

Courier-News, Oct 24, 1922, Tues, p 1

Mrs. Jane Gibson, 50, widow, has told authorities she was an eye-witness to the murder of the Rev. Edward Wheeler Hall and Mrs. Eleanor Mills, an attache of the Prosecutor's office said today. According to the informant, Mrs. Gibson said she stumbled onto the gruesome murder scene on the night of September 14 when she was on the Phillips farm trying to locate some property that had been stolen from her home. Mrs. Gibson, when seen by reporters in her home, denied that she had told a story to the authorities. Mrs. Gibson, authorities stated, saw two men and two women under the crabapple tree and heard them engage in a heated argument. One of the men, Mrs. Gibson is quoted as saying, pulled out a pistol and fired on Mrs. Mills and Rev. Hall. The witness then fled from the scene. ...

"I was at home and in bed on the night of the murder," said Mrs. Gibson firmly. "I heard nothing. There isn't the slightest bit of truth in that story ..."[image: *Courier-News, 30 Oct 1922, p1*]



OLD LANDMARKS ARE NOW BEING REMOVED

Courier-News, 27 Oct 1922, page 15

The entire appearance of West Main street in Somerville is undergoing a transformation this week in connection with the widening of Main street by the Borough Council. ... The old Troutman property, one door east of the Regent Theatre, has moved back its fence and is building a sidewalk ... Adjacent to this, is the Vredenburg property and still further east the property owned by the Loomis estate. Still further east than this is the old Masonic headquarters, the building now owned by the Knights of Columbus and in addition to widening the sidewalk at this section, the agreement ... requires them to tear down a set of stairs and a porch on property at one time owned by Peter Struve. In the next block, namely that extending from Davenport St. to a point east of the Second Reformed Church ... are several buildings which will have to undergo alteration. Wednesday, the porch of the J. L. Matthews butcher concern was removed. ...

CAMPAIGN FOR \$150,000 BEGINS NEXT TUESDAY

Bernardsville News, 19 Oct 1922, page 1

To acquaint the public with the need of The Somerset Hospital for a modern, fire-proof building for which the campaign for \$150,000 will be launched on Tuesday, October 24, a group of public-spirited citizens has volunteered to present the appeal to photoplay audiences, club meetings, and public gatherings in the many sections of both Somerset and Hunterdon county served by the hospital. The clergymen of this wide area will ask their congregations to support this community welfare movement on Sunday, October 22, which has been designated "Hospital Sunday." Speaking at the Baby Show held by The Somerset Hospital last week, Dr. L. Ely, secretary of the Medical and Surgical Staff, showed the need of a new building, particularly from the standpoint of mothers and children. ... All the babies born in the hospital in the last five years, their mothers, brothers and sisters were invited and more than 200 attended. ... The grounds were decorated in carnival fashion and there was music by the Dixieland Serenaders Orchestra of Somerville.

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RIDGE PUPILS HEAR RETURNS

Bernardsville News, 5 Oct 1922, p 1

Never before were pupils of any school so anxious to stay in as were the boys and girls of the Basking Ridge school yesterday afternoon. The boys especially were more than glad to do anything their teachers wished if only they were allowed to remain in the school building. The reason for all this ... was simply due to the fact that the pupils happened to see Principal Stanley G. Wilson return from lunch with his radio outfit under his arm. "There'll be something doing" said the boys, and sure enough ... the principal was bent on giving his pupils a treat and at the same time providing some real experimental work for the science class. Getting hold of the pupils of the latter class, Mr. Wilson ordered the radio outfit rigged up. This was done in a jiffy and presto the pupils had before them the opening game of the world's baseball series. Were they delighted? It was a thrilling experience to receive the returns inning by inning. [image: 1922 Montgomery Ward catalog]

DEMONSTRATIONS OF YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK

Courier-News, 20 Oct, 1922, page 15

A special young people's demonstration will be held in the headquarters of the Salvation Army on East Main street this evening. Representatives from Perth Amboy, Plainfield, and New Brunswick will be in attendance and papers will be read by the young people. ... The young people of Somerville are especially invited. Few people realize the excellent work being done in Somerville by Envoy and Mrs. Lahey ... they are working from morning until night in the cause of the poor and broken-hearted in Raritan, Somerville and Manville and the surrounding community. The Salvation Army work in Somerville is a most deserving one and worthy of the support of all the citizens. It is earnestly hoped that there will be a large attendance at the meeting this evening.