

Thursday, February 2, 1933

Amanda Sprague, daughter of Argalus and Caroline Sprague, was born on the farm near Vermontville on October 26th, 1852, and died at her home in this Village on January 22nd, 1933, being aged at death 80 years, 2 months and 27 days.

As a young child she experienced the hardships of the children of the pioneers of those early days being born in a log cabin and growing up out in the country on a farm. Her parents were members of the original colony and had endured the privations to which those early settlers were heir to. Later on she came with her parents and settled in the Sprague home at the edge of the Village. Then came to the house which was her home during the latter years of her life and where she died.

Her mother was a very active worker in the Congregational Church and as an infant she was brought to the church and consecrated to the Lord by Baptism by her Godly parent, her father being a member of the M. E. Church in which relationship he continued all through his life).

Physically the deceased was never very strong and thus was unable to do what some other children could. She attended the country school, also was a student at the Academy, and also for a short time at Olivet College, but because of ill health could not complete her course. Her being particularly weak made her the special care of her mother who gave to her continuous thought as she was her constant companion.

On March 25th, 1887 she united with the Congregational Church and during the years while health permitted she was active in its work.

Though somewhat peculiar during recent years because of ill health, yet she had real sympathy for the needy and desired to be helpful as best she could.

She leaves to mourn her loss two sisters, Mrs. Licia Green of Kansas City, Mo., and Mrs. Elsie Cowles of Battle Creek, Mich., one brother Rev. Frederick P. Sprague of Vermontville, Mich., a large group of nephews and nieces and a great company of neighbors and friends who had been associated with her during her long and eventful life.

Funeral services were held at the Congregational Church, Wednesday afternoon, January 25th, at 2:00 o'clock, Rev. W. A. Briggs officiating. Miss Martin assisted with piano and an autoharp selection. Burial was at Woodlawn cemetery.

WELLER GARAGE-KROGER STORE ENTERED 140

Charlotte, Feb. 2.—The first new criminal case to be entered in circuit court since November 25 is that of The People vs. Lyle Hope of Vermontville, who was caught in the Kroger store in Vermontville early Sunday morning by Herman Hull, night watchman, who turned him over to Kenneth K. Ward, deputy sheriff. Deputy Ward aroused Sheriff Cribb about 4:30 that morning and Hope was taken to the county jail in Charlotte. He said that he found the door open while waiting there for a truck to take him to Grand Ledge, but he changed his story after the officers found in his home an inch bit, screw driver and hammer which bore evidence of having been used in breaking into the store, and knocking off the combination of the safes in both this store and the Chevrolet garage in the village, which also was broken into the same night. The bit had been used in boring a circle of holes around the night lock on the rear door of the Kroger store. The same stunt was tried on the lock in the partition at the back of the store, but was stopped by a nail. The partition, which does not reach to the ceiling, was sealed and the door opened from the inside. The tools and a gunny sack of groceries were taken to the Hope home, another sack of merchandise was concealed in the park, and Hope was at work filling a third sack when he was noticed by the night-watch. He could not open the safe in either of the two places, but did get the small change in the Kroger till. Arraigned Monday before Justice O. E. McLaughlin of Vermontville, Hope waived examination and was bound over to circuit court. He is held in the county jail for lack of \$1,000 bonds. The charge against him is breaking and entering in the night time with intent to steal, entrance being made in a forcible and destructive manner.

Gordon Lozo was taken to Hall Hospital Sunday afternoon in the ambulance where he underwent a major operation Monday morning for empyema following a severe case of pneumonia. He is resting as comfortably as can be expected.

Mrs. Clarence Faust underwent a major operation at St. Lawrence Hospital, Lansing, Wednesday morning. She recovered nicely from the anesthetic and is doing as well as can be expected. She is a popular operator of the local telephone exchange and her many friends hope for a speedy recovery.

family and Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Coffey and family were in Grand Rapids Thursday, called there by the sudden death from flu of their brother's wife, Mrs. Milo Rickle. They went to Grand Rapids Monday to attend the funeral services which were held at St. Francis Catholic Church. The burial was at Lonia.

The recovery of Mr. E. B. Hammond will seem almost a miracle after his long and very serious illness with pneumonia. Dr. Inwood says with nourishing food, good care and by keeping him quiet he believes he will continue to improve. It will probably be many weeks before he will be back in the store. Mrs. Chatfield, who has been helping care for him, has returned to her home. Harry and wife are nurses now and Mrs. Brewer is looking after the housework.

Francis Hopper of Muskegon spent the week end in town at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hopper. He motored on to Detroit, Monday.

Donald Kamiensky met with a painful accident early Sunday morning and was badly cut in several places on his face. He was taken by friends to Dr. McLaughlin who stitched the wounds together and stopped the bleeding.

Mr. and Mrs. Ora Frantz of Sunfield are parents of a little son, Ora Morrell, born January 26th. He weighed 6 3-4 pounds and is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Green.

Miss Grace Faust of Western State Teachers College, Kalamazoo spent the week end at home, returning Sunday evening with a friend, Mr. Arthur Trayer of Kalamazoo, who had visited at the Faust home Sunday.

Jesse Patterson, local agent for the State Farm Insurance companies, is Michigan's only representative for the 200 club in the life company for 1932.

Mrs. K. K. Ward came home from St. Lawrence hospital, Lansing, Saturday, where she went for observation. She is very weak, is on liquid diet, but gaining slowly.

W. L. Gehman and Eliza returned Tuesday from their visit at the home of Mrs. John McCarty in South Haven. Also called on Mrs. Elizabeth Tyler White and daughter, Mrs. Edith Wilson, former Vermontville residents. They visited the cities of Benton Harbor and St. Joseph and the sand dunes at the State Park.

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