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LOCK HAVEN'S BAD PLIGHT.

Bellefonte Rendered Very Efficient Aid to the Stricken City.

Lock Haven is rapidly recovering from its devastation of water and ice last week and in a short time all evidence of the disastrous effects will have entirely disappeared. But it will be many days before the affair will be forgotten. The flood at its highest was only a little over a foot lower than the flood of 1889 but it was far more terrible because it was accompanied with floating ice and zero weather the next day. Although most of the water had gone out of the town on Thursday some of the streets were impassable owing to huge piles of ice, while every cellar in the flooded district was filled with water and the inmates of such homes had not the wherewithal to build a fire or cook food.

Appeals for help were sent to the surrounding towns and the response was prompt and generous. Bellefonte on Friday afternoon sent down 1600 pounds of bread, 200 pounds of butter, as many eggs as could be secured, forty-five oil stoves and a quantity of oil, with the Logan fire engine to assist in pumping water out of the cellars. The relief train reached Lock Haven at 8:30 o'clock on Friday evening and the supplies were promptly distributed and the steamer put to work. The steamer was kept there, at work most all the time until Monday afternoon and the men who manned it and kept it in operation almost continuously were James D. Seibert, Edmund Blanchard, Thomas Caldwell, Milton R. Johnson, Alexander Morrison, Elmer Yeager and George Eberhart. Most of them remained in Lock Haven until Monday evening.

A SUNDAY RELIEF EXPEDITION.

Realizing the urgent need of workmen to help clear the ice from the streets of the flooded city and get the thoroughfares open for business Robert F. Hunter, president of the Bellefonte Board of Trade, with the assistance of W. G. Emerick, organized a relief expedition to go to Lock Haven on Sunday and assist in the work of cleaning up. Just 135 men volunteered and this number in fourteen big auto trucks and a full complement of picks and shovels went down early Sunday morning and spent the entire day digging and hauling ice and other refuse to the dump. Railroad shopmen were also present from Renovo and Jersey Shore and the result of their combined efforts was the opening up of Henderson and Water streets, both of which were jammed with ice. Several of the Bellefonte trucks were also utilized in delivering coal and other supplies to the flood sufferers.

The Bellefonte contingent not only went to Lock Haven fully equipped for work but baker Harry Clevenstine acted as commissary of the crowd, taking in his big truck sandwiches, baked beans and coffee, so as not to impose upon the hospitality of Lock Haven, and after cleaning out Achenbach's restaurant a substantial dinner was served there to 152 people.

Knowing that Lock Haven was under martial law every truck that went down bore a placard marked "Bellefonte Truck Fleet, Volunteer Relief," and every man was tagged as a worker of the Bellefonte relief expedition.

The total loss is estimated at a half million dollars. Both the Lock Haven Express and Times offices were flooded and were unable to get out papers before Monday.

Two Bellefonte women, Mrs. J. Robert Cole and Miss Sallie Fitzgerald, were returning from Williamsport on Wednesday evening and got caught at Lock Haven. They managed to get to a hotel where they were marooned until Friday morning.

Three horses were caught in the water and ice and were drowned, while quite a number of chickens met a like fate. One colored man saved his chickens by taking them up to his bedroom on the second story of the house while two cows were saved from drowning by being pulled up onto a high porch.

All the business places have been cleaned out and opened up, but the ones who feel their loss the most are the poorer residents in the lower part of the city, and they will probably be given help in repairing their houses and making good their furniture loss.

A Peculiar Engine Wreck.

On Wednesday evening the shifting engine and crew of the Bellefonte yards were on their way out to White-rock for a draft of loaded cars and on the sharp turn this side of Axe Mann, where the passenger train was wrecked a number of years ago, the tire came off of one of the driving wheels of the engine with the result that it was derailed. Fortunately the engineer was not running fast and was able to stop the engine before it fell over. The Tyrone work train was summoned and responded promptly. Going out to the wreck the engine was lifted up by the big crane the tire heated white hot with an acetylene heater and in less than an hour it had been put back on the wheel and welded as solidly as ever.

WEAVER.—Mrs. Laura G. Weaver, wife of James C. Weaver, died very suddenly at 11:50 o'clock last Thursday night at her home at No. 5125 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, of acute indigestion.

She was the seventh child of Philip W. and Rebecca Leathers Barnhart and was born on the old Barnhart homestead near Curtin over sixty years ago. Her early life was spent on the farm but after her marriage to Mr. Weaver she resided in Bellefonte until the family moved from here to Philadelphia in 1907. The suddenness of her death was a great shock to her family and many friends. Though of a quiet and unassuming nature she leaves a record of good work that cannot fail to be a compelling force for righteous living in the lives of the many who came under the influence of her sweet spirit in the community and in the church. From early girlhood she belonged to the Presbyterian church and was not only faithful in her attendance but a great Bible student. In fact she was frequently consulted regarding facts in the bible, owing to her great knowledge of the book. In her home life she was ever kind and loving and was always willing and ready to minister to the wants of those in need to the limit of her ability.

She has gone to her reward and to mourn her death are her husband and the following children: Mrs. Roy McCalmont, of Saranac Lake, N. Y.; Harry, of Los Angeles, Cal.; Philip B., of Roanoke, Va.; Fred D., of Baltimore, and Robert, at home. She also leaves one sister and three brothers, namely: Mrs. H. G. Herd, of Mill Hall; Joseph L. Barnhart, of Baltimore; Harry O., of Whittier, Cal., and James K., of Bellefonte. The latter with Mrs. Herd went to Philadelphia last Saturday to be present at the funeral which was held yesterday. The services were in the Bethany Temple Presbyterian church and interment was made in the Allington cemetery.

HOLTER.—Following a lingering illness with nephritis Henry C. Holter, one of the best known residents of Howard and an old veteran of the Civil war, died at his home in that place last Saturday morning.

He was a son of Jacob and Catharine Holter and was born in Howard township on September 2nd, 1843, making his age 74 years, 5 months and 21 days. He served during the Civil war as a member of Company D, 45th regiment, and had an enviable record as a good soldier. He was a member of Grove Bros. Post No. 276 G. A. R., of Howard and at the time of his death held the office of commander. He was a man who had the esteem and confidence of his fellowmen, and for some years past had been a member of the school board of Howard. He also served one term in the borough council. He was a lifelong member of the Methodist church and always quite active in church work.

He was married to Miss Mary E. Hall who died on March 10th, 1911, but surviving him are the following children: John S. Holter, of Johnsonburg; Mrs. L. C. Thompson, of Port Matilda; Mrs. W. I. Gordon, of Columbus, Ohio; Mrs. J. A. Kunds, of Toledo, Ohio; H. Holter, of Toledo; Cameron B., enlisted in the Aviation section of the U. S. signal corps and stationed at Camp Lee, Va.; D. W., David A. and Philip C., all of Howard. He also leaves three sisters and four brothers, namely: Mrs. I. R. Williams, Mrs. J. Z. Loder, Mrs. Bower Schenck, M. P. Holter, J. Shuman and J. L. Holter, all of Howard, and John B. Holter, of State College.

Funeral services were held at his late home at 1:30 o'clock on Tuesday afternoon by Rev. C. W. Rishel, after which burial was made in the Schenck cemetery, his six sons acting as pallbearers.

CALDER.—A Russell Calder, forty-three years superintendent of the health department of the old Pennsylvania Steel company at Steelton, died at his home in Harrisburg on Tuesday, aged sixty years. He was a son of Dr. James Calder and was educated at State College while his father was president of that institution, graduating there in the scientific course in 1877. He assisted in making the first heat of basic Bessemer steel made in the United States. He is survived by three brothers and one sister, William C., a Baptist preacher in Philadelphia; Mrs. Small, of Harrisburg, and James and Frank, also living in the east.

SAXON.—Elijah B. Saxon, a native of Centre county, died at his home at Dungarvin, Huntingdon county, on Monday night, following only four days' illness with a complication of diseases. He was 73 years and 2 days old, and had been a farmer most of his life. Fifty-five years ago he was married to Miss Julia A. Keith who survives with eight children, one of whom is William Saxon, of Snow Shoe. The funeral will be held today, burial to be made at Pennsylvania Furnace.

LUCAS.—Mrs. Nicholas Lucas died at her home on Marsh Creek on Friday, February 15th, of heart failure. She was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Miller and was born on Marsh Creek, forty-two years ago. She was a splendid woman in every way and her death was deeply deplored by her many friends in that community. Surviving her are her husband and three small sons. The funeral was held on Tuesday of last week, burial being made in the Disciple cemetery at Blanchard.

Rev. Hewitt Died of Toxic Poisoning.

Regarding the death of Rev. John Hewitt, at his home in Coldwater, Mich., on Tuesday morning of last week, information has been received that his death was the result of toxic poisoning after less than one week's illness. His funeral on Thursday was largely attended. The services in the church, of which he had been pastor, were conducted by Rev. L. P. Franklin, of Newark, Ohio. Rev. P. T. Sargent, of Grand Rapids, Mich., personally represented the Bishop of that diocese.

Jacobs Commandery and members of Tyre Lodge, F. and A. M., attended in a body and burial was made with full Masonic honors. It might further be stated that burial at Coldwater was only temporary as members of the family expect to have the remains taken to Sunbury, probably in April, for final burial in the lot where repose the remains of his father and mother.

Rev. Hewitt was an honorary member of Gregg Post, No. 95, G. A. R., of Bellefonte, and at a regular meeting held last Saturday evening the following resolutions were adopted and ordered spread upon the minutes of the Post:

Resolved, That we, the Supreme Commander to summon to the last roll call our late esteemed comrade and friend, Rev. John Hewitt; therefore be it Resolved, That Gregg Post No. 95, Dept. of Penna., G. A. R., while sincerely mourning the loss of our dear comrade and friend, humbly bow to the will of our creator, guide and protector; that we fondly cherish the memory of Comrade Hewitt, a true friend, a brave comrade and conscientious minister of the gospel, and one who loved his fellowmen. Rest in peace.

Resolved, That the action of Post 95 be printed in the town papers and a copy forwarded to the family of our deceased comrade.

SAUERS.—Mrs. Nora Sauers, wife of John W. Sauers, died at her home in Altoona on Sunday afternoon, following an illness of some weeks with a complication of diseases. Her maiden name was Nora Jacobs and she was born at State College on March 27th, 1867, hence was almost fifty years old. She was married to Mr. Sauers about twenty-eight years ago and their early married life was spent at State College. For a number of years past, however, they have resided in Altoona. She was a member of the Simpson Methodist Episcopal church and of the Pythian Sisters.

Surviving her are her husband and two sons, Guy A. and Linwood C., both of Altoona. She also leaves two sisters and two brothers, namely: Mrs. Eliza Leach, of State College; Mrs. William Resides, of Bellefonte; John Jacobs, of Boalsburg, and Luther C. Jacobs, of Lena, Ill. Funeral services were held at her late home in Altoona at ten o'clock on Wednesday morning by her pastor, and the same afternoon the remains were taken to Boalsburg for interment in the cemetery at that place.

LYON.—Mrs. Estelle Lyon, widow of the late Bernard C. Lyon, died on Wednesday of last week at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Jonas Lichten, in Philadelphia, of general infirmities, aged 85 years. She was a native of France but came to this country when a girl and the most of her life was spent in Bellefonte. She left here twelve years ago and since then had been living in Philadelphia. Her husband died over thirty years ago but surviving her are the following children: Gustave Lyon, Mrs. Jonas Lichten and Mrs. Alfred Gordon, all of Philadelphia, and Mrs. Louis Grauer, of Bellefonte. Funeral services were held at the Lichten home in Philadelphia at 8:30 o'clock on Saturday evening by Rev. Dr. Mayer and on Sunday morning the remains were brought to Bellefonte and taken direct to the Jewish cemetery for burial.

SHANNON.—Mrs. Jane Shannon, widow of the late Edward Shannon, of Moshannon, died last Friday at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Catherine Snyder, of Rutherford, N. J., aged 82 years. Before her marriage she was a Miss Dale and her early married life was spent at Curtin. Later the family moved to Moshannon where she lived until the death of her husband two years ago. In addition to Mrs. Snyder two other daughters survive, namely: Mrs. Olive Lymen, of Austin, Pa., and Mrs. Annie Hartle, of Cambria county. The remains were taken to Moshannon on Monday for burial. Bellefonters who attended the funeral were Mrs. C. D. Tanner and Mrs. J. Kennedy Johnston.

HUNSICKER.—Rev. and Mrs. J. D. Hunsicker, of Rebersburg, are mourning the death of their eight year old son, Leonard Hunsicker, who died last Thursday after a week's illness with diphtheria. The funeral took place on Saturday.

Marriage Licenses.

Following is the list of marriage licenses granted during the past week by Register Frank Sasserman: Archibald Frantz, Sandy Ridge, and Mary E. Law, Patton. Leonard E. Breen, Axe Mann, and Helen R. Sliker, Milesburg. Paul M. Wert and Grace N. Heckman, both of Centre Hall. Winfield Scott Peters, Altoona, and Elsie Mae Bowen, Bellefonte. Christie D. Shook and Annetta K. Decker, both of Spring Mills. Frank J. Miller, Julian, and Rhoda Esther Lamm, Phillipsburg. Harris G. Bechdel and Esther Gardner, both of Howard.

For high class job work come to the "Watchman" office.

FEBRUARY TERM OF COURT.

One of the Shortest Ever Held in the County.

The February term of court which convened on Monday morning was one of the shortest ever held in Centre county. The grand jury, of which A. R. Richards, of Phillipsburg, was made foreman, had only one bill to consider and it took only a short time to do this. They then inspected the public buildings, made their report and were discharged Monday afternoon. In their report they recommended new linoleum in the office and hall at the jail, a steel partition to be installed between the male and female portion of the jail, that the old stable be sold and either a stone or brick garage be built for the sheriff's use. They also recommended that the jail roof be repaired and the interior walls of the court house to be cleaned and calcimined.

Nine cases on the civil list were continued for various reasons. The first case called was that of Wallace Immel vs. Conrad Immel, a petition for the appointment of a guardian for the latter, who is eighty-two years old. After hearing the evidence of the plaintiff the court granted a compulsory non-suit on the grounds that while quite feeble there was no testimony to prove that Mr. Immel was weak-minded, as claimed by the plaintiff.

In the case of Roland Ickoff vs. Edward Gross, an action to recover an alleged balance on a book account the jury returned a verdict of \$28.75 in favor of the plaintiff.

The last case tried was that of the Cash Register company vs. A. C. Mingle, an action to recover a balance on a credit filing device. From the evidence it appeared that an agent of the company got a signed order from the defendant for one of the filing devices and a partial payment of \$15.00, leaving a balance of \$160.00 to be paid on the delivery and approval of the device. The defendant contended the device was not as represented as the reason payment was refused. The jury returned a verdict for the defendant. On Wednesday afternoon Roman Codric, who shot a fellow countryman at Sandy Ridge some weeks ago, the victim dying two weeks ago, pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter and was sentenced to not less than two nor more than three years in the penitentiary.

Frank Harris, a former resident of Millheim, who pleaded guilty to stealing wearing apparel from a house near Pine Glenn, was also sentenced to not less than two nor more than three years in the penitentiary. Both men were taken to the penitentiary yesterday.

All of yesterday morning's session was consumed in taking testimony in the case of Mary and Edward Keon vs. Louis Lonsbury, being an appeal from the decision of a justice of the peace on an action of trespass. Mrs. Keon owns a property right on the corner near where the old brewery was located near Roopburg. To keep people from driving too close to her property she erected a post alongside the road and put a sign on it, "No Trespass." Mr. Lonsbury, in driving along one day, got too close to the post and knocked it down. The Keons then brought an action in trespass before Squire Rees who found for the plaintiffs and imposed a fine on Lonsbury. That gentleman appealed the case to the quarter sessions and it was heard yesterday morning. Argument on the same will be made later, probably at the next term of argument court. Court adjourned for the week at noon yesterday.

Housewives Notice.

Meetings of mutual interest to both women and girls will be held in Bellefonte, March 5th and 6th. These lectures and demonstrations will be given by a member of the Home Economics Extension department of the Pennsylvania State College, in cooperation with the Farm Bureau, and will include discussions and demonstrations of the underlying principles in food and clothing covering such subjects as:

- I The values and uses of grains and grain products.
II (a) The meat savers and substitutes.
(b) The selection and use of clothing and materials.
III (a) What fats and sweets may be used and how.
(b) The making of a foundation pattern to be used for cutting and making under-garments, simple house dresses and shirt waists.
IV (a) The selection of food materials and planning of meals.
(b) The care and repair of clothing.

The work has been planned to be presented at four sessions to be arranged to suit local conditions. The meetings in Bellefonte will be held at 2 p. m. and 7:30 p. m. of both days. The afternoon meetings will no doubt be held at the High school building and the place for holding the evening meetings will be announced later.

On Monday morning while a number of school children were playing "crack the whip" Margaret Taylor, daughter of Col. and Mrs. H. S. Taylor, had her right arm injured at the wrist. She was taken to the Bellefonte hospital and an X-ray made which showed that the muscles and tendons were torn a little but no bones broken.

Peters—Bowen.—Scott Peters, of Altoona, and Miss Elsie Bowen, were married at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Bowen, in Spring township, on Friday of last week, by Rev. W. J. Shultz, of Snydertown. They will reside in Altoona.

Nine More Men Sent to Camp Meade.

Centre county's quota of the first call for national army men was completed with the sending to Camp Meade, Md., on Wednesday morning of nine additional young men. Sixteen had been summoned to appear here on Tuesday to be sent but by reason of a number of inductions in service in other places the county was given a credit of seven men so that only nine were required to fill the quota. Of the sixteen men summoned, a list of whom was published in last week's paper, Amos Fye, of Waddeford did not appear, but Wednesday forenoon the sheriff was officially notified that he had gone away with the Lewistown young men that morning, to Camp Lee, Va., and had been credited to Centre county. Following is a list of the nine men sent:

- ANDERSON, ROBERT W., Wilmburne.
BARBER, HARRY W., Bellefonte.
BIERLY, KARL R., Rebersburg.
DUNLAP, H. A. A., Waddle.
HUGHES, JOSEPH F., Osceola Mills.
HULL, FRED M., Bellefonte.
NOVSEKI, PETER J., Osceola Mills.
RASHIDORFF, WILLIAM, Snow Shoe.
WEBER, CLARENCE R., Rebersburg.

The young men were quartered at the Bush house during their stay in Bellefonte and Tuesday evening they were given a smoker as a fitting send-off. Among those in attendance who made brief speeches were Capt. H. Laird Curtin, Major S. M. Huff, Sheriff George H. Yarnell, Col. H. S. Taylor and Judge Henry C. Quigley. Karl Reed Bierly, who had been given charge of the squad, responded for the young soldiers and after thanking the sheriff for his kind and courteous treatment pledged the loyalty of every one of them.

It might here be added that the local exemption board has completed its work of classifying the registrants in the county and their statement of same is as follows.

Table with 2 columns: Category and Count. Includes: Single men without dependents (1190), Men without dependent children (23), Men with dependent parents (23), Men with dependent brothers or sisters (5), County or municipal officers (14), Married men (1450), Ministers of the gospel (11), Ministerial students (3), Men in military service (280), Alien enemies (chiefly Austrians) (86), Aliens claiming no exemption (44), Men physically or mentally unfit (58), Men morally unfit (2), Duplications of registration (2), Dead over or under age (9), Dead since June 5, 1917 (9), Total registration (3174).

The exemption board also calls attention to the fact that the surgeon general of the army reports that the need of enlisted men for the medical department at the present time is urgent, and attention is called to the provisions of general orders No. 161, which provides that registrants who so desire can be inducted into military service for assignment to any particular corps or department.

Unionville's Big Drive on Thrift Stamps.

Residents of Unionville borough furnished an example on Monday of what can be done in the sale of government war savings and thrift stamps when the right kind of an effort is made. That was the day they had set for a big drive and they made it most successfully, too, as the final summing up in the evening showed that the amount sold averaged over three dollars for every man, woman and child in the borough. And as proof of the above statement Howard Holzworth, chairman for that section of the county, came to Bellefonte on Tuesday and going to the postoffice purchased just \$1,200 worth of the stamps. Now this is a concrete example of what can be done when there is push and determination back of the movement.

W. Harrison Walker, chairman of the War Savings committee for Centre county, states that his weekly report for the week ending February 16th, shows Centre county as having an increase of 13 cents per person for the week. Instead of being next to the lowest there were only four counties that had larger per capita sales for that week and one the same as Centre. Centre county's standing up to the 16th instant was 68 cents per person.

The Centre Hall public schools have organized the second War Savings society in the county. Although Centre county is expected to have 140 of these societies only two have been organized so far.

Mr. Walker has received reports from several postmasters in some of the most prosperous parts of Centre county in which they state that so far they have not been able to sell a single stamp, and he is unable to understand the attitude of the people of those localities who display so little interest in the welfare of the government and the success of the war in which we are now engaged.

State College Will Train School Boys for Farm Work. Hundreds of high school boys from all parts of Pennsylvania will be trained at the Pennsylvania State College during the next two months for summer work on farms. After learning some of the fundamentals of farm labor there the boys will be put on farms to help relieve the labor shortage. Advanced students in the school of agriculture will supervise the boys training, and later the students will be in charge of farm camps, where the youngsters will be quartered while at work. Twenty-four boys, a camp leader and a cook will compose each unit. The preliminary training there is designed to develop the boys physically so that they will be able better to endure the work they will be called upon to do on the farms.

'Squire Schenck Consulted as to Fraudulent Probates.

Readers of the "Watchman" will recall the conviction of Squire Hayes Schenck, of Howard, at the February term of court, 1916, on the charge of issuing fraudulent bounty probates and his subsequent sentence to the penitentiary for two years. At the time the evidence showed that from July 1st, 1913, to April 1st, 1915, the County Commissioners had paid out in bounties the sum of \$8,057.00. Of this amount \$3,053 were paid on probates issued by Squire Schenck, representing the bounties on 121 gray foxes, 779 weasels, 34 wild cats, 18 goshawks, 92 sharp shinned hawks and 80 great horned owls, a total of 1144 noxious animals.

After the conviction and sentence of Squire Schenck the State refused to reimburse Centre county for the money paid out on the Schenck probates. In order to get a basis of settlement game wardens E. W. Kelly, of Clearfield, and Charles Batcheler, of Phillipsburg, came to Bellefonte last Friday and in company with the County Commissioners and their attorney went to the Rockview penitentiary with a complete schedule of the Schenck probates and asked Mr. Schenck to check off the fraudulent ones. This he willingly did, and the entire number as checked off amounted to about \$300. In addition to the above there was about \$67 worth represented in court proceedings which the Commissioners voluntarily threw out, making a total of approximately \$367 that the county stands to lose if the State Game Commission will accept the statement of Squire Schenck as to the fraudulent probates. But the matter, of course, is still up to the Commissioners for final adjustment.

An Enthusiastic Temperance Meeting.

One of the most enthusiastic temperance meetings held in Centre county in many years was that in the W. C. T. U. rooms last Thursday afternoon. Workers from every part of the county assembled with one purpose, to organize as never before for an aggressive campaign this year. All present were absolutely and unanimously opposed to any candidates who had ever opposed temperance effort or who would not emphatically declare their support of all anti-liquor measures.

Dr. C. F. Swift, of Philadelphia, superintendent of the Anti-Saloon League of Pennsylvania, and C. H. Brandt, of Altoona, superintendent of the Anti-Saloon League of the Altoona district, delivered stirring addresses and were ably supported by several local speakers. An organization was formed by the election of the following officers:

- President—Prof. Irving L. Foster, State College.
Secretary—Prof. A. L. Wright, State College.
Treasurer—Rev. R. Raymond Jones, Centre Hall.
The president was empowered to select representatives in every district in the county as vice presidents. Messrs. Ives L. Harvey, J. Kennedy Johnston, C. C. Shuey and James R. Hughes were appointed a committee to investigate the attitude of candidates on the temperance question and report at an early date.

Daniel Sharer Declared Sane by Commission in Lunacy.

It took a day and a half's time last week and the evidence of more than a score of people to enable a commission in lunacy to determine that Daniel Sharer, of Taylor township, is not insane.

Mr. Sharer is a son of the late Christ Sharer, of Taylor township, and a warrant had been sworn out for his arrest by his brother-in-law, J. R. Mattern. Mr. Sharer has been in trouble on various occasions and on petition of district attorney James C. Furst a commission in lunacy was appointed to inquire into his condition, mentally. The commission consisted of Dr. M. J. Locke, W. Harrison Walker and A. L. McGinley. Last Friday morning was set as the time for the taking of testimony but so many witnesses had been summoned that it took all day Friday and most of Saturday morning to hear them, and at the conclusion of the testimony the commission decided that Mr. Sharer is not insane.

Three U. S. Soldiers Killed by Poison Gas.

Washington, Feb. 27.—Artillery bombardments on the western front have increased in intensity, especially in the Ypres sector, along the Chemin des Dames and on both banks of the Meuse near Verdun. On the American sector northwest of Toul the Germans have attempted unsuccessfully to wipe out the Americans with flaming gas and gas shells. Two American soldiers were killed in two such attacks and nine suffered seriously from the effects of the gas. The American artillery is shelling the enemy position heavily.

No official recognition has yet been taken of the Chancellor Von-Hertling's speech. It is regarded in Washington, London and Paris as a war speech and not a peace statement. The Chancellor's purpose, an official of the French foreign office says was to separate the entente allies, stimulate peace talk and impress Germany and the outside world with the notion that the military caste had lost its power. Belgium, it is declared, hardly will answer the Chancellor's peace hint. German submarines have not let up in their campaign against Spanish shipping. The steamer Neguri, of 1,859 tons, is the latest victim. She is the fifth Spaniard to be torpedoed within five weeks.

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