



FLOODS SWEEP GERMANS FROM YSER TRENCHES

Entire Regiment of 3000 Men Reported Wiped Out by Inundation When Dykes Are Cut.

Fury of Battle Lessens as Blizzard From North Sea Rages, Causing Great Suffering in the Lines.

In their desperate efforts to cross the Yser Canal and continue their drive to the coast, the German invaders in West Flanders are again encountering floods let loose by the cutting of the dykes. The Paris War Office reports that an entire regiment of 3000 Germans has been wiped out by this sudden inundation of the country in the vicinity of Bixchoote.

A lull in the battle, owing to the floods and to the fact that the armies are now compelled to fight in a raging blizzard, is reported from both Paris and Berlin.

Ten thousand men have been landed from the French warships to reinforce the Allies' lines, and the Germans are also bringing up fresh men, as well as more big guns sent by rail to the front.

In the vicinity of Dixmude, according to the French official reports, the Germans have been dislodged from the positions they had won on the west bank of the Yser Canal and now have no footing across that waterway, which has been the scene of such stubborn fighting.

Turkish forces have defeated the Russians and driven them back from the invasion of Armenia. This is officially admitted in Petrograd. Constantinople reported such successes Saturday.

British and Indian troops drove the Turks from Sheikh-Said, a stronghold at the entrance of the Red Sea. Guns and several prisoners were captured.

Reports from Athens say that Turkish warships have sunk a number of British vessels in near-Eastern ports. French ships are reported bombarding towns near Smyrna.

Seven Russian armies are now moving on Germany from East Prussia to Silesia. Along the entire line the Germans are either pushed over their own frontiers or are in retreat before the Russian pressure. Chief resistance is being met beyond Stalluponen, in the eastern part of East Prussia, and at Plock, in Poland. Two converging Russian armies rapidly are moving to a junction at Cracow, which is virtually invested by the advance guard.

For the third time the Russians have seized Soudan, an important strategic point in East Prussia, across the border from Mlaw. Heavy forces have been left there to make the possession permanent. North of the Mazur Lakes the Germans are in full retreat. The advancing Russians have captured Angerburg in this region, in their progress to Koenigsberg.

Scores of cannon and thousands of prisoners have been taken by the Austrians in their invasion of Serbia, where two decisive victories were won, according to Vienna. The Serbs have concentrated near Valjevo and are offering stout resistance to further advance of the enemy. Austrian gunboats on the Save River are covering the passage of fresh troops into Serbia.

THIEVES REPORT ROBBERY

Notify Police by Telephone They Stole from News-stand. Considerate thieves who obtained 20 cents cash and \$1.20 worth of candy and cigars from the stand at the Logan station of the Philadelphia and Reading Railway, early this morning, telephoned to the Germantown station and told the police all about the robbery. They advised that, as they were in too much of a hurry to close the window they had smashed, the police had better put a guard on the station. The men then robbed the Olney station.

Burglars from the Branchtown station hurried to Logan and found that the burglars had told the truth. The entire station had been ransacked. Repairs to the window smashed by the visitors and fixtures damaged in their search for loot will probably cost more than the amount of the booty.

At Olney the thieves got 15 cents in cash, several packages of cigarettes and a pair of shoes.

AGED MAN FOUND DEAD

Had Hoped to Reach 95 Years, But Succumbs at 89. Issachar G. Williams, whose desire in life was to live to be 95 years old, at which age his father died, was found dead in the parlor of his home, 1004 Florsheim by his son, Frank, 20 years old. Had the man lived six more years his wish would have been gratified.

THREE BRITISH WAR CRAFT DISABLED BY GERMANS, IS REPORT

Cruiser and Gunboat Wrecked by Shell from German Guns Off Belgian Coast, Berlin Announces.

BERLIN, Nov. 15. A report received here from Geneva declares that the British cruiser Falcon and the gunboats Brilliant and Rinaldo have been disabled by German guns along the Belgian coast. This was given out in an official statement issued today.

All of the vessels reported disabled are small and old ships. The Brilliant is a light cruiser of 2600 tons. Her largest guns are two six-inch weapons. She also carried six 4.7-inch guns, eight four-pounders, one three-pounder and four torpedo tubes. She carried a crew of 273 men. The Rinaldo is a gunboat of 990 tons, which was in service as a tender. There are two Falcons, one a destroyer and the other an antique gunboat attached to the torpedo range. The one reported to have been disabled is most likely the latter.

B. AND O. WILL ANNOUNCE ITS RATE INCREASE TODAY

New Schedule Will Become Effective After December 15.

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad today will follow the example of the Pennsylvania Railroad and the Philadelphia and Reading Railway Company by announcing a schedule of increased passenger rates, effective after December 15. The Baltimore and Ohio officials will file a schedule of the new tariffs with the Interstate Commerce Commission at Washington this afternoon. The full details of their proposed increase will be made public at that time.

Officials in the Philadelphia passenger office of the Baltimore and Ohio Company stated this morning the proposed increases would be virtually the same as those announced last week by the Pennsylvania Railroad, their chief competitor.

Almost coincident with the announcement that the Baltimore and Ohio is to join the increased rate movement came news that a definite opposition to the fare increases is being planned throughout the suburban towns in this State and along the lines of the two railroads in New Jersey between Camden and Atlantic City and other seaside resorts.

Business men, daily commuters and officers in the various suburban building and improvement associations are up in arms over the proposed increase. The issue in every town affected, under the Interstate and the Public Service Commissions block the planned increase.

NO SHORT WEIGHT IN COAL WAGONS DURING OCTOBER

Inspectors Reweigh 69 1-2 Tons Without Finding a Violation. Inspectors of the office of the Sealers of Weights and Measures have found no short weight in coal wagons on the streets of this city during October. A rigid campaign of inspection under direction of Supervisor Virdin resulted in the re-weighing of 69 1/2 tons of coal during the month. The loaded wagons were taken at random from the streets to the nearest scales by the inspectors, and in no case was the weight below the 20 pounds margin allowed by the law.

DINE IN "DRY" HOTELS ONLY

Methodist Ministers Taboo Places Where Liquor is Sold. Hereafter Methodist churches and organizations in this city, in the State or not held banquets or dinners of any kind in a hotel that sells liquor. This was decided at the meeting of the Methodist ministers of Philadelphia and vicinity in Wesley Hall, 1015 Arch street, today. The motion was unanimously carried.

The speaker at the meeting was the Rev. F. A. De Joris, of Vineland, N. J. He talked on "The Emphasis of Methodism," and urged the importance of evangelistic work.

\$2,000,000 CARTED TO RESERVE BANK WITHOUT A GUARD

Hundreds See Trucks Bearing Fortune—Federal Institution Auspiciously Opened.

Two million dollars' worth of Federal reserve notes for the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, which opened today, were hauled through central streets, and hundreds of persons passed the heavy trucks which carried the money without realizing such an enormous amount of wealth was within reach.

With the exception of the drivers of the teams and a half dozen expressmen, who were unarmed, there was no one on hand to guard the money as the trucks were driven through the congested sections of the city from the Baltimore and Ohio station to the Federal Reserve Bank, in the old Western National Bank Building, Chestnut street above 43rd street.

The banknotes were packed in heavy iron safes and sealed in the Treasury Department yesterday. After the combination had been locked the official seal of the Treasury Department was placed on them and not broken until they were opened in the bank today.

When the new bank opened this morning, Charles J. Rhoads, governor of the bank, and Richard L. Austin, Federal reserve agent and chairman of the board of directors, were on hand to start the machinery of the new institution in motion. Shortly after their arrival Mr. Austin and Mr. Rhoads received the following telegram from Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo, who sent a similar message to governors and Federal reserve agents of each of the 12 regional banks.

"Please accept my cordial congratulations upon the opening of the Federal reserve bank of your district and my sincere commendation upon the effective work you are doing in preparing the bank for business in the short time allowed for the opening.

"I am sure the Federal reserve banks will serve a great and beneficent purpose in the future of our country, and I am sure this department and the Federal Reserve Board may count upon your loyal co-operation in the important work and duties which have been confided to you. My hearty good wishes for your success."

Although the bank was not scheduled to open until 10 o'clock, Arrington E. East, former special inspector of the Department of Public Works, who is the acting cashier, and 12 clerks were ready for business at 9 o'clock. Seven of the clerks are appointed men, while the others have been "loaned" to the bank by the Philadelphia Clearing House and other banks in the city.

Since last Thursday many of the 788 member banks in this district have been sending in their reserve deposits. Banks in this city are required to deposit 15 per cent of their reserve, while other banks throughout the district are required to place 12 per cent of their reserve with the Federal Reserve Bank. Mr. Austin said today this amount will be between \$15,000,000 and \$20,000,000, and will come in the form of Federal Reserve notes.

8000 A DAY NOW NEEDED TO STOCK THANKSGIVING SHIP

Belgian Relief Board Sounds Urgent Call to Aid in Sending Off Second Mercy Vessel.

The Norwegian freighter Orma, of 2000 tons, was chartered late this afternoon to carry provisions for the thousands of starving Belgians. Announcement of the name of the second mercy ship was made following a meeting in the private office of John Wanamaker.

WORKED WITH BROKEN SKULL

Carpenter Unaware of Serious Injury Dies After Operation. For six months John McCullough, of Haddon Heights, N. J., had been suffering from a fractured skull, not knowing the cause of pains in his head. He died today in the St. Agnes' Hospital, after an operation.

BLAMES COUNCILS FOR SLUMS

B. J. Newman Says Conditions Here Are Worst in Country. Councils was severely criticized today by B. J. Newman, secretary of the Philadelphia Housing Commission, in an address before the Congressional Ministers' meeting at 18th and Chestnut streets.

Philadelphia, Mr. Newman said, has the most unsanitary slums in the country. Mr. Newman declared that as long as Councils refused to enforce the laws which were enacted in 1913 conditions would not be changed.

"Ministers should tell their congregations about the true conditions in this city," said Mr. Newman. "They should know how the poor suffer."

U. S. ACCUSED BY JAPS OF NEUTRALITY BREACH

German Cruiser Emden Aided from Manila Is Charge. TOKYO, Nov. 15. The first allegation that the United States had failed to live up to the standard of neutrality it set is made in a dispatch received from Kobe today.

It declares that the German cruiser Emden was enabled to find and sink the steamship Troylus as the result of a wireless dispatch sent from Manila. The information contained in the wireless message, it was declared, was obtained in Kobe by a German merchant who has been arrested and will be tried as a spy.

GIRL VICTIM OF ASSAULT IDENTIFIES ASSAILANTS

Two Negroes Held for Attacking Lena Smith at Gun's Point. Two Negroes, one of them identified as one of four who attacked 16-year-old Lena Smith, 52 North 22d street, holding off her escort at the point of a revolver, were held without bail today by Magistrate Boyle for a further hearing next Monday.

The men were arrested by Special Policeman Wooten at 37th and Vine streets. He told Magistrate Boyle today he expected to get the others suspected of having been implicated in the assault within a few days.

COURT DISMISSES CAMDEN COUNTY PROBATION OFFICER

Prosecutor Kraft Calls Attention to Irregularities With Funds. J. Moore White, probation officer of Camden County the last 12 years, was dismissed from office today by Judge William T. Boyle, of Camden. Pleas Van Hise, prosecutor of the Pleas William J. Kraft had called the Court's attention to conditions in White's office.

Formal charges, which may result in a prosecution, will be lodged against White, according to Prosecutor Kraft. Edith Van Hise, who has been assistant probation officer, will have charge of the work until a successor can be appointed. At present there is no eligible list.

The Prosecutor notified Judge Boyle that he and County Collector Bell had demanded \$44, said to have been collected by White as fines. White admitted that he did not then have the money, the Prosecutor asserted, but promised to turn it over within a few days.

BABY'S COUGH SAVES NINE

Two Families Aroused in Time to Escape Flames. The coughing of a baby choking from the smoke acted as a fire alarm early this morning and saved two families.

Samuel Ziegler, 210 South 7th street, was aroused from his bed on the second floor by hearing his 2-month-old baby Jennie coughing violently. Smoke was pouring into the room and curling up through the floor.

With the baby in his arms and followed by his wife, Ziegler crawled out upon the fire escape and broke into the second-story window of the building next door.

Giving no thought to his own property, Ziegler told his wife to run in an alarm, and he rushed to the fire alarm.

He roused the family of Abraham Kaplan, who slept on the second floor. Kaplan's father, Nathan Kaplan, 89 years old, was overcome by smoke and broke into the second-story window of the building next door.

TWO MEN OPPOSED TO SYSTEM OF SUBWAYS AND ELEVATED BLAMED FOR INACCURATE UNDERSTANDING

Interest in the attitude of Union Traction stockholders to the proposed agreement with the City Transit Department and Philadelphia Rapid Transit for a new system of subways and elevated lines has been growing as the time for the Union Traction stockholders' decision draws near.

Investigations among directors and stockholders of the Union Traction Company reveals that the opposition to the Transit Department's program has been actuated by a small group of Union Traction stockholders, who are the largest holders of stock, and that it does not necessarily represent the attitude of the Board of Directors.

WOMAN DIED FROM BLOOD POISONING, WHICH DEVELOPED FROM PIMPLE

A form of blood poisoning, and not anthrax, as originally diagnosed, was the cause of the death of Isabella McFadden, 128 North Front street. Miss McFadden died last Friday after an illness of three days. She was 25 years old.

Chief Medical Inspector Dr. A. A. Keams, of the Bureau of Health; Dr. William I. Wadsworth, Coroner's physician; Dr. Charles H. Mercer and Dr. John H. Hoffman made an examination today of the body. The physicians reached the opinion the woman died of streptococcus, a form of blood poisoning, she became infected by picking at a pimple on her face. There was no proof the she died of anthrax, a disease which attacks cattle and man and alike.

BEATEN AND ROBBED OF WATCH AND \$200 ON TAXICAB DRIVE

Battleship Steward Victim of Daring Hold-up by 18-Year Old Youth, Is Charge in Court.

That Drew Hastings, commissary steward aboard the United States battleship Connecticut, of 2428 South Broad street, was the victim of a daring robbery when riding in a taxicab last Thursday, became known today in the arraignment of Edward McKenna, 18 years old, of 2127 Fernon street, before Magistrate Tracy, on a charge of highway robbery.

The robbery, which took place in the heart of the city, in many respects was like the recent one in which D. Lynn Magruder, Jr., a prominent physician of Bryn Mawr, was a victim.

Doctor Magruder was robbed by two men, one of whom was a sailor aboard a United States battleship.

News of the Hastings robbery, which the police of the 11th and Winter streets station, describe as the boldest which has taken place here in months, has been kept secret.

When McKenna was arraigned today before Magistrate Tracy, in the 11th and Winter streets station, Mr. Hastings was not present. The hearing was postponed until next week in order to have him attend.

McKenna was arrested late last evening by Special Policemen Stocker and Barron after he had been under surveillance for two days.

According to the police, Mr. Hastings said he and McKenna were riding in a taxicab early last Thursday evening. They had met a few hours before.

Charles Smith, chauffeur of the taxicab, testified in court today he heard a scuffle. He stopped the machine and opened the door. McKenna was pummeling Mr. Hastings, he says.

McKenna, he asserted, then leaped from the machine at Juniper and Race streets and ran down Race street. He was chased for several blocks, but escaped.

When McKenna was arraigned today the police declared he admitted taking a gold watch, fob and a wallet, all valued at \$200, from Mr. Hastings.

McKenna, on the stand, asserted he took the watch and the jewelry for safe keeping.

On being questioned as to what he had done with the jewels, McKenna, according to the police, answered that he took them to New York where he pawned them.

McKenna was held by Magistrate Tracy without bail, pending a further investigation by the police.

FRANCE ORDERS STEEL HERE

Pittsburgh Company to Furnish 18,000 Tons for Shells. PITTSBURGH, Pa., Nov. 15.—The French Government has given the Jones & Laughlin Steel Company an order for 18,000 tons of 3 1/2-inch steel bars, of 1,330,000 feet of steel bars.

50-MILE GALE HAS SEASHORE IN GRIP, CAUSING BIG LOSS

Fierce Nor'easter Sends High Seas Over Atlantic City Streets—Boardwalk and Bulkheads Shattered.

ATLANTIC CITY, Nov. 15.—New Jersey's shore line from Sandy Hook to Cape May is in the grip today of the heaviest northeast storm that has battered the sea front since January last, when storm tides played havoc.

Great seas lashing the strand last night made breaches in a bulkhead at New Haven avenue, Ventnor, where hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of cottage sites have been created by the process of building timber sea walls and pumping in sea sand to fill the newly made area to grade.

The swirling waters, thrown back by the bulkheading, shifted the Boardwalk and destroyed a number of approaches from the strand.

Here the great seas which broke over the bulkheads between Pennsylvania and Tennessee avenues and sent the tide rushing up cross-town avenues in the lower section tore away a part of wreckage at the seaward end of the old Ocean Pier, which was destroyed by fire two years ago.

Piling twisted out of place and great girders broken loose were picked up by the irresistible combers, and hurled against the concrete supports of the Boardwalk between midnight and daybreak. Gangs of men went along the beach this morning and pulled the heavy timbers high on the sand to prevent their again being used as battering rams tonight, when another high tide equally as rough as that of last night is expected.

At noon the gale showed little sign of diminishing.

The turbulent sea piled into Absecon Inlet here and Great Egg Harbor Inlet at Longport by the 50-mile gale, turned the meadows back of Absecon Island into an inland sea and flooded the tracks of the Atlantic and Suburban Railway, which crosses the marshes from this city to Pleasantville on the meadow level.

Severe damage is reported among small shipping at Mullica River, Pleasantville and the main points along the shore of the mainland.

NEW YORK DUE TO SHIVER

NEW YORK, Nov. 15.—A bulletin issued by the Weather Bureau this morning promises a cold wave for this section. That the temperature will drop 25 degrees in the next 24 hours is the prediction of the weatherman.

NORRIS ASKS \$20,258 FOR DOCK DEPARTMENT

Estimated Cost for Operation Next Year Includes Needed Repairs. The amount estimated necessary for maintenance of the Department of Wharves, Docks and Ferries during 1915 is \$20,258, or \$200 more than the appropriation for the year.

Councils' Committee on Commerce and Navigation approved the budget of the dock department and referred it to the Finance Committee.

Director Norris and Assistant Director Meigs attended the meeting of the committee. The employment of two additional assistant engineers at \$2300 was declared necessary.

An appropriation of \$15,000 was also asked for repairs, extensions, and alterations to city wharves, bulkheads, landing and recreation piers.

Other amounts asked are \$16,000 to pay temporary employes to operate the ice-boats; \$15,000 for labor and material to repair the boats, and \$12,000 for payment of temporary employes at the dredging plant.

FARMERS GAIN MANY MILLIONS BY RAINFALL

Eastern Pennsylvania Crops Saved and Optimism Replaces Forebodings Caused by Long Drought.

Earth Drenched by Steady Downpour—Ample Yields of Wheat and Rye Virtually Assured.

The copious rains of Saturday night and Sunday, which had not entirely ceased today, benefited the farmers of Eastern Pennsylvania to the extent of millions of dollars.

From agricultural sections within a wide radius of Philadelphia come reports all of the same tenor, jubilant and optimistic. The precipitation was steady, hour after hour, and the rain of warm temperature, just the sort for which the farmer had been praying through the period of drought which had lasted for the greater part of three months, with only slight and widely separated interruptions.

The rain "soaked" into the parched earth, and its effect was scarcely short of magical. In many places the ground had been baked by the prolonged dry spell, and when plowed, with the utmost difficulty, the powdery substance offered small hope of germinating the seed.

As a result of the rainfall this condition is changed, and from every point comes the word that the yield of wheat and rye promises to equal the usual dimensions.

Streams have been replenished, forest fires quenched and in every view the rain has been of immense value to the agricultural and industrial interests. Reports from various districts, printed below, give a view of the wide extent of the benefits of the downpour.

GRAIN MUCH BENEFITED

Montgomery County Farmers Rejoiced by Copious Rainfall. NORRISTOWN, Pa., Nov. 15.—Yesterday's rain was gladly welcomed by the farmers. The seedling is especially benefited, the wheat which in some places was beginning to show the effect of the dry weather, will be unharmed if mild weather shall continue for a week.

The rain will be a freeze-up, it will be different, and wheat may suffer. Another benefit from the rain is the filling of the wells and streams. Especially was it welcome on the dairy farms, where the foot and mouth disease is prevalent.

NEW LIFE FOR THE WHEAT

Chester County Farmers Believe Crop Long Retarded Will Be Saved. WEST CHESTER, Pa., Nov. 15.—The rain of yesterday and last night came as a great boon to the farmers of this section, where the drought had prevented much of the wheat planting and had retarded that already in the ground. The fall was gentle for many hours, moistening the earth to the depth of several inches. Many who had not yet planted their wheat will start that work at once, and say the wheat will develop as well as though planted earlier, especially if the nights continue damp. They believe the crop is safe.

The rain was also of much value to falling wheat and sprouts, but do not cause much rise in the streams. At Marshalltown water is still being hauled by some of the residents, but the springs and wells showed improvement.

IN DELAWARE COUNTY

Wheat and Rye Crops Greatly Aided by Rainfall. MEDIA, Pa., Nov. 15.—The rain of yesterday and last night, but do not cause much rise in the streams. At Marshalltown water is still being hauled by some of the residents, but the springs and wells showed improvement.

"LIFE SAVER" IN BERKS

Farmers Believe Wheat and Rye Will Yield Their Usual Crops. READING, Pa., Nov. 15.—Yesterday's rain came at the opportune time to prevent disastrous effects in fall seedling threatened by the drought of the previous 25 days. Farmers throughout Berks County say it was a life-saver to wheat and rye, and with a continuance of warm weather the 1915 crop will not suffer materially. Streams started flowing Sunday night, but a rain of a week's duration is necessary to replenish the water supply. A beneficial result of the heavy downpour was the extinguishing of forest fires. During the dry spell approximately 1000 acres of forest land were burned, the loss being estimated at \$25,000.

SCHUYLKILL CO. DRENCHED

Immense Benefit to Cereals—Precipitation Exceeds Four Inches. POTTSVILLE, Pa., Nov. 15.—All through Schuylkill County, and especially in the lower section, the rain of Saturday night and Sunday was a life-saver to wheat and rye, and with a continuance of warm weather the 1915 crop will not suffer materially. Streams started flowing Sunday night, but a rain of a week's duration is necessary to replenish the water supply. A beneficial result of the heavy downpour was the extinguishing of forest fires. During the dry spell approximately 1000 acres of forest land were burned, the loss being estimated at \$25,000.

THE WEATHER For Philadelphia and vicinity—Cloudy tonight, Tuesday clear and from 10 to 15—dear colder. For details, see last page.

President Appoints Postmasters WASHINGTON, Nov. 15.—President Wilson this afternoon made the following recent appointments of postmasters: Mandala, Ill., E. J. Hase, Trappe, Md., Mary W. McKnight; Maricopa City, Mich., Charles J. Tarte; Grand Rapids, Mich., Charles E. Haggaman; Ennis, Tex., A. H. Bule.

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