

CHRISTMAS SPIRIT SEEN IN LEDGER'S SANTA CLAUS STORE

Thousands of Toys Ready for Poor Children and Fund Growing Hourly to Increase the Stock.

Outside, the driving rain beat down in long, slanting drops. Inside the "comfy" Kris Kingle Storehouse, at 605 Chestnut street...

"Please, ma'am," said a wee voice at her elbow, "I got 25 cents I saved all by myself that I want to give to some kid who ain't gonna get no Christmas."

Almost 250 have found their way into the hole in his back and thence into the pocketbook of the Santa Claus Lady, who makes straight away for the shops and invests in new toys to supplement those sent in by sympathetic youngsters.

EUGENE KNOBLAUCH'S WILL

Estate of Terminal Cafe Proprietor Exceeds \$120,000. Eugene R. Knoblauch, the Reading Terminal restaurant proprietor, who died in the Hahnemann Hospital, December 14...

OVERWORK CAUSE OF DEATH

Woman Drops Dead Among Shoppers in Father's Store. Physicians say overwork caused the death of Mrs. Stella Fossa, 30 years old, wife of Philade Fossa...

RISKS LIFE, SAVES CHILDREN

Policeman Finds Small Boys Overcome by Smokes. Two children, overcome by smokes when a defective flue started a fire in their home today, were rescued by a policeman, who risked his life to pass through a smoke-dilled hallway to the second floor.

CUBA IN NEED OF COFFINS

War Cuts Off Supply and Inquiry Is Made Here. Cuba is suffering from a scarcity of coffins as a result of the European war. An inquiry was received here today from the National Bank of Cuba, at Camaguey...

THOMAS SHARPLESS

Prominent Chester County Farmer Succumbs to Lung Illness. WEST CHESTER, Pa., Dec. 21.—Thomas Sharpless, one of the leading farmers resident in Birmingham township, died today at the age of 72 years...

HUSBAND'S DESIRE TO "SOW WILD OATS," DIVORCE PLEA

Former Philadelphia Society Woman Would Not Give Consent. The alleged desire of her husband, George Leavitt, to be given a leave of absence so he might "sow his wild oats," has prompted Florence Kendrick Leavitt of New York, and a former Philadelphia, society woman, to sue him for divorce.

COAL MEN BELIEVE MANY PLACES MAY DEMAND RATE CUT

Inequality in Hauling Charges Likely Will Cause Municipalities to File Petitions With State Commission. Drastic cuts in the hard coal rate to many points in Pennsylvania not included in the decision reducing by 40 cents a ton the rates to this city may be demanded after the State Public Service Commission issues its order to the railroads to make the 40-cent reduction.

Coal men believe today that hundreds of municipalities in the State may file petitions with the Public Service Commission demanding reduced hard coal freight rates based on the cut in the rates to Philadelphia. A movement already in on foot in Reading, Pa., along this line. Comparison of the new Philadelphia and the Reading rates shows that the latter city, nearer the mines, will have to pay a higher rate.

Meanwhile, the small coal dealer is chafing over the opportunity that would be his should the rate cut be confirmed by the courts. Men with little stock could offer the benefit of the 40-cent cut to the consumer immediately. The big companies which had paid the higher rates on large stocks would have to maintain the old prices or undergo a loss in the attempt to compete with the small dealers. Independent mine owners also see an opportunity in the rate cut. They expect the rate cut, should it be supported by the courts, will be a great development of independently owned properties and coal lands, many of which are now undeveloped or lying idle.

NO GUARDIAN FOR WOMAN

Judge Dismisses Petition of Octogenarian's Brother. Judge Audenried today dismissed the petition of John Wesley Miller, 82 years old, for the appointment of a guardian for his octogenarian sister, Hanna Frances Miller. The aged woman resides in the Bartram Apartments, 23d and Chestnut streets, and has an annual income of \$15,000 from an estate valued at upward of \$100,000.

A Winter Favorite, \$5

Any sort of shoe you'll need. You can choose at short notice, and with great comfort, in the New Boot Shop.



MALTON CO. Give Men who Smoke these Imported Cigars. Our Stock is the largest in Philadelphia, coming direct from the best factories. Humidor Boxes, Cabinet, Variety Boxes—Moderate Prices.

'BILLY' SUNDAY MEN CALLED UNFAIR TO ORGANIZED LABOR

Building Trades Council, in Resolution, Declares Members of Committee Ignored Union Protest. The "Billy" Sunday revival movement was declared to be unfair to organized labor in a resolution given out today by the Building Trades Council of Philadelphia, which calls upon all affiliated locals, their members, friends and sympathizers, to act accordingly.

A strike of electricians employed by Cates & Shepherd, electrical contractors, on the Sunday Tabernacle at 19th and Vine streets, brought about the action of the union. The men struck a week ago last Saturday because, according to their representatives, the firm tried to make them work over time for regular wages when agreement had been made for time and half time.

Officers of the "Billy" Sunday committee refused to act on the complaint of the Building Trades Council, according to the resolution. The document declares that all the trades working on the building with the exception of one trade are unfair to organized labor. James Meade, business agent for the council, said today the firm was employing strike-breakers in an effort to finish the tabernacle.

Whereas, there is a movement throughout the country known as the "Billy" Sunday revival movement holding religious meetings addressed by the Rev. "Billy" Sunday, and

Whereas, it is the intention of the Rev. Mr. Sunday to hold some of the aforesaid meetings in Philadelphia, which has caused to be erected at the north-west corner of 19th and Vine streets a building for that purpose, and

TOYMAKER'S TRAGIC XMAS

Child Dies, He Cannot Find Work, and He Kills Himself. NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—Joseph Indelicato used to make toys for little boys and girls. He worked in a stuffy shop. He was conscientious and his deft fingers turned out many a soldier and many a jumping jack. Then Joseph got sick. He had consumption. He tried hard to find work. Mrs. Indelicato also got sick of the same mysterious coughing spells her husband had. The three indelicate babies got to coughing, too.

Trousers A Specialty JONES 1116 Walnut Street.



CHRISTMAS REMEMBRANCE The statue of Stephen Girard, merchant, mariner and founder of Girard College at City Hall, bears a wreath inscribed from "One of his old boys."

FLAMES IN THREE NORTHERN SUBURBS CAUSE HEAVY LOSS

Hatboro the Scene of 20,000 Blaze. Glenside and Jenkintown Suffer. Three fires in suburban towns north of Philadelphia entailed losses aggregating nearly \$25,000 early this morning. Hatboro being the heaviest sufferer with a \$20,000 blaze that for a time threatened the entire business section and called out companies from six other towns. A barn was destroyed near Glenside, two horses and a large number of chickens being burned to death, and a dwelling at Jenkintown was ablaze. The Hatboro fire was in the three-story brick building owned by W. W. Wilcox, at Moreland and Depot streets. The first floor was used for a general store and the upper floors as meeting halls.

JACOB REED'S SONS Knitted Silk Motor and Evening Dress Scarfs. An especially attractive and well chosen variety. \$3.50. \$5.00. Tubular Scarfs, in white or pearl color, and plain and crocheted weaves in extra quality silks, in pearl, white or black. A special grade in accordance weaves is remarkable value at this figure. Very effective styles in black and white and black and colors in accordance weaves Scarfs, at \$6, \$7.50 and \$8.50. At \$7.50, plain white or pearl crocheted Scarfs, in assorted weaves and exceedingly handsome plain colors with border. At \$8, Scotch Heather effects in varied colorings. Woolen Motor Scarfs, \$1.50 to \$5. These are largely used for women's wear. Mullers in Fraternity and Club official colorings, made of English "rep" silks, at \$3.50—here only. Proof of membership required. Closing Hour 6 P. M. JACOB REED'S SONS 1424-1426 Chestnut Street.

UNCLE SAM FINDS IT IS NO EASY TASK TO PLAY SANTA CLAUS

Postoffice Engages Extra Force and Makes Plans Expected to Avoid Last Year's Congestion. Thousands of Christmas shoppers passed today before the stamp windows of the various postoffice stations of the city purchasing large quantities of stamps for their Christmas mail, and as many and more crowded about the parcel post desks depositing innumerable bundles labeled with Santa Claus stickers.

Preparations for handling the large amount of holiday mail in this city have been completed by the postal authorities. It is necessary to put a tremendous human machine into working order to handle the Christmas mail. From the moment a letter or a Christmas package is dropped in the box on the street corner and transportation to its destination is accelerated by many hundreds of agents. It is estimated by the postal authorities that 12,000,000 pieces of mail will be handled every day by the postoffice in this city from now until Christmas. This includes the regular flow of postal matter as well as the additional amount of the holiday season. More than 35,000 sacks of parcel post alone are expected to pass through postal hands daily. In each of these there are about 150 pieces.

Extra clerks, carriers and collectors have been engaged; numerous wagons, automobiles and trucks hired, and additional mail cars put into service on the car lines. The large Metropolitan Building, at Broad and Wallace streets, has been taken over and will be used for all incoming mail except letters. Forty thousand square feet of space are available there. Already this is nearly filled with Christmas packages.

HEADS MASONIC LODGE AT 28

Being elected worshipful master of Soho Lodge, F. and A. M. at the age of 28 was the honor conferred upon Ralph D. Baker, of Camden, last night. Mr. Baker has passed through the various chairs in exactly seven years, the shortest possible time. In addition to being prominent in Masonic circles, the youthful worshipful master is president of the Camden Rotary Club, having been elected to that office when the club was organized two years ago. He was re-elected for another term the following year.

DREKA STATIONERS Four Charming Christmas Suggestions For Ladies Hand Bags \$3.50 to \$20. Sewing Cases \$2.50 to \$15. Electroliers \$10 to \$35. Piccolo Parasols \$10. MANN & DILKS 1102 CHESTNUT STREET

Christmas Gifts at Kind's Diamonds Watches Gold Jewelry Silverware The 22,000 photographic illustrations of Diamonds, Watches, Jewelry and Silverware in our new catalogue give some idea of the wide variety of attractive Christmas gifts you will find at our store. This book is so conveniently classified that selection is easy and pleasant, and you can use it for all-year-round reference. Call or write for a copy. It is free. S. KIND & SONS DIAMOND MERCHANTS JEWELERS-SILVERSMITHS 1110 CHESTNUT STREET

THAW SURROUNDED BY SPECIAL GUARDS TO PREVENT ESCAPE

Three Orphans Taken From Custody of Stepfather. Three orphaned children stood before Magistrate Glenn today in the 4th and York streets police station. They appeared to be frightened and bewildered as they testified against their stepfather, Charles Langdon, 40 years old, 267 West York street. Agents of the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children presented an affidavit to the effect that Langdon was not a proper guardian for the children. Magistrate Glenn looked at them and then inquired if there was a spectator in the courtroom who wanted to be a "big friend" to the little children. Miss Paschley, a social worker and assistant to the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children, came forward. She volunteered to take charge of the children. Magistrate Glenn then committed Virginia, 10 years old; Johnnie, 7, and Robert, 10, to her care. The children were taken to the rooms of the Children's Society. They will have a chance to view a Christmas tree and participate in the distribution of toys. The mother of the children was buried yesterday. Langdon was discharged with a reprimand.

BEGGARS GO "UP THE RIVER"

Sent to Correction for Attacking Man Who Refused Them Five Cents. Five cents sent Charles Robinson, 24 years old, 2238 North 28th street, and Joseph Frel, 2018 Ridge avenue, to the House of Correction this morning. The former for a year and the latter for 30 days. They were sentenced by Magistrate Morris in the 28th and York streets station. The two men were charged with assault and battery on Thomas Cusack, 2005 Marston street. It was testified that when Cusack passed the corner of 28th and Frederick streets last night, he was accosted by the two men, who asked for 5 cents. When he refused, he said, he was attacked.

How A President Saved His Bet

One of our presidents (of the U. S. of A.), a distinguished angler, was telling a friend about a trip he took with two countrymen, both of whom were perfectly familiar with his reputation as a fisherman. Said one of the countrymen before starting: "Mr. President, we'll agree that the first one to catch a fish must treat the crowd."

For Xmas give Him a fine warm Angora jacket, or a handsome silk or silk-and-wool shirt, or a bath robe, or a scarf, or hosiery or gloves! You will find here, indeed, a greater number of most desirable Xmas presents for men, gifts that combine usefulness, beauty and style-correctness to a high degree.

Our Suits and Overcoats are FEASTS fit for Kings; or—PRESIDENTS! Up to \$40 for Suits; up to \$55 for Overcoats. Perry & Co., "N.B.T." 16th & Chestnut Sts.

Christmas Gifts at Kind's Diamonds Watches Gold Jewelry Silverware The 22,000 photographic illustrations of Diamonds, Watches, Jewelry and Silverware in our new catalogue give some idea of the wide variety of attractive Christmas gifts you will find at our store. This book is so conveniently classified that selection is easy and pleasant, and you can use it for all-year-round reference. Call or write for a copy. It is free. S. KIND & SONS DIAMOND MERCHANTS JEWELERS-SILVERSMITHS 1110 CHESTNUT STREET

MANCHESTER, N. H., Dec. 21.—Special guards were assigned today to watch Harry K. Thaw and prevent another attempt to escape, pending the proceedings which William Travers Jerome says will land the slayer of Stanford White back in Massachusetts, following the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States ordering his extradition to New York State. From now on there will be a constant watch over the prisoner, and any attempt to leave his present abiding place at Manchester will be checked. To all intents and purposes he is now as much a prisoner as though he were back in the asylum, surrounded by attendants. The law gives Thaw 30 days of nominal liberty under the jurisdiction of New Hampshire. It is possible that this time will be extended, for the Thaw forces are prepared to fight to the last ditch. In the long battle with Jerome, Thaw seems to have absorbed some of his prosecutor's grim determination, and he has become something more than an amateur in his ability to advise his attorneys in their attempts to free him. The fact that Thaw bought a high-power auto upon his arrival here and that he has become an expert at driving is believed to have been one of the reasons of the increased vigilance of his guards. It is just the sort of vehicle which would be extremely useful if the fugitive contemplated another spectacular dash similar to the one which ended in Canada last year.

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Said one of the countrymen before starting: "Mr. President, we'll agree that the first one to catch a fish must treat the crowd." "I agreed," said the President; "but do you know that those fellows had a bite and were too mean to pull them up!" "So you lost, eh?" said his friend. "Oh, no!" replied the President. "I didn't have ANY bait on MY hook!"