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GERMANS DRIVE RUSSIANS BACK TO POLAND SOIL

Enemy's Stand East of Lakes Broken—Austrians Launch Galician Offensive.

French Counter Attack Retakes Heights at Norroy. Allies Claim Capture of Trenches at La Bassee, but Lose South of Ypres.

Albanian Rebel Raid into Servia Regarded as Formal Entry into War. Austrian Airmen Shell Montenegrin Palace—Warsaw Menaced by West and North Drives.

Russians operating north of Tilsit have been driven several miles into home territory, today's Berlin official report declares, and adds that Slav attempts to make a stand east of Masur Lakes have been broken up, while the German column at Mlawka again menaces Warsaw from the north.

Shifting of activity to the East Prussia-North Poland boundaries apparently gives advantage in the east to the Germans, who, according to Berlin dispatches, have cleared East Prussia of the foe and by their rapid advance are menacing Warsaw by a rear drive, the initial stages of which are developing at Osowitz.

Petrograd admits retirement along an extensive front to the fortified line of the River Niemen, but chronicles a halting of the German advances from Lyck and on Ostrolenka. Admission is made of stubborn resistance in Dukla Pass, where, however, the Slavs are still fighting on Hungarian soil.

Austro-German troops in Bukovina have made so rapid an advance that Zadautz, south of the Sereth River, was captured. The Austrians have launched a new offensive in Southern Galicia and have advanced 25 miles to the vicinity of Nadworna.

The recapture of the heights at Norroy, in Lorraine, from which the French were driven Saturday night, is reported in today's official communique of the Paris War Office. The statement also claims the capture of 250 yards of trenches on the La Bassee Canal, but Berlin reports that the Allies' attacks at that point failed. The German General Staff also announces the capture of a half-mile of trenches in the neighborhood of St. Elol, south of Ypres.

Refugees reaching France from Italy.

THE WEATHER

CLOUDY

More of this balmy winter weather. Aside from the inconvenience of straw-hat temperature in February, we are a bit chary of it for other reasons at this time of the year. It is a fact, and an all too significant one, that every blizzard that has dumped itself on Philadelphia has been preceded by high temperature. And most of them, further, have been booked for the closing weeks of the season. Thus, the famous one of 1908 occurred about the middle of March, and the inauguration of one of 1909 naturally enough fell on March 4. Then, of course, you remember the real blizzard that pounced upon us about a year ago and the great storm on Washington's Birthday a short time later. We have no particular reason for anticipating any blizzard at this particular writing, but high temperature, as we say, makes us nervous.

It reached 60 today.

FORECAST

For Philadelphia and vicinity—Unsettled and cooler tonight with probably showers; Tuesday fair and cooler; moderate southerly winds, becoming westerly Tuesday.

For details, see page 2.

Observations at Philadelphia

Table with weather data: Temperature, Wind, Clouds, etc.

Almanac of the Day

Table with almanac data: Sunrise, Sunset, etc.

Lamps to Be Lighted

Table with lamp lighting schedule: Main street, etc.

The Tides

Table with tide information: High water, Low water, etc.

WATER

Table with water level data: Chester Street Wharf, etc.

GERMANS HOT IN PURSUIT OF FOES ON POLAND BORDER

Russian Attempts to Make East Prussia Stand Reported Foiled.

Retreating before the German forces north of Tilsit, the Russians have been driven out of Pylkopenen in the direction of Paturgenen several miles within the Russian frontier, according to today's official report. General von Hindenburg's armies east of the Masurian Lakes have broken up every attempt of the Russians to make a stand and are pursuing the enemy over a long battle front. Fighting is in progress on both sides of the frontier.

The complete von Hindenburg's victory, German detachments are now marching through Kolno against the body of Russians that marched northward through Lomza, 75 miles northeast of Warsaw, to reinforce the rear's army in the lake region. This Russian force must retreat upon the Polish capital or face the danger of being surrounded.

General Francos' army operating near Mlawka is steadily pushing the enemy in a southerly direction and has taken several hundred prisoners.

OTHER WAR NEWS ON PAGE 4.

MASKED MEN IN AUTO CHASE THEIR VICTIMS

Brandish Revolvers at Man and Woman Near Girard College and Rob Them.

One of the most daring holdups in recent months, in which three masked bandits pursued their victims in an automobile and used the same means to escape, was reported by the police today.

Miss Helen Humphreys, 3023 Germantown avenue, and her escort, Anthony Humpel, 143 Myrtlewood street, were held up at the curb and three men, with faces screened, and brandishing revolvers, leaped out. Miss Humphreys and Humpel, warned not to cry out, were backed up against the wall of Girard College by two of the men, while the third seized the young woman's handbag.

He opened the bag while his confederates held the victims at bay. Seizing the contents of the handbag, the car drove off. The automobile, he gave a low command to the other two and the trio jumped into the machine and were whizzed away as quickly as they could.

The handbag contained \$17 in bills and other valuables. So quickly was the affair over that neither Humpel nor Miss Humphreys was able to give good descriptions of their assailants. Special Policemen Sibro and Dervin, of the 19th and Oxford streets station, are working on the case.

MASKED ROBBERS FORCE CASHIER TO GIVE UP \$2000

Level Revolvers at Night Worker in Washington Car Barn.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—Two masked men early today entered the car barns of the Washington Railway and Electric Company in Northeast Washington, and with their revolvers forced Jerry Hagerty, the night cashier, to give up his cashbox containing about \$2000 and a bundle of car tickets.

WILHELMINA CARGO BEFORE PRIZE COURT

Washington Hopeful of Delay in Settling Case.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—Great Britain this afternoon informed the United States that it had already placed in prize court the entire Wilhelmina cargo, and the vessel taken before Great Britain received a United States' request for delay of proceedings.

ATWOOD B. HOSKINS DEAD

Widely Known as Merchant and Breeder of Pigeons.

Atwood B. Hoskins, of Rockdale, Pa., died this morning after an illness of more than two months. Mr. Hoskins, who was just past his 50th year, was well known in this section. For nearly 30 years he conducted a general merchandise store in Rockdale, and the breeding of pigeons was his particularly hobby. He is widely known as the producer of the Blue Jacobin breed of pigeons.

FANNY CROSBY BURIED

Many Mourners at Funeral Services for Blind Hymn Writer.

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., Feb. 15.—First Methodist Church was crowded to the doors this afternoon when the funeral services were held over the body of Fanny J. Crosby, the blind hymn writer. The services were conducted by the Rev. George M. Brown, the pastor. The pallbearers were young men, relatives and friends of the deceased.

JUNKIN'S CAR STRIKES CHILD

Three-year-old Charles J. Fleming, of 231 South Sydenham street, was knocked down by the automobile of Joseph DeF...

SENATE VOTES FOR CLOSURE RULE ON SHIP PURCHASE BILL

Vice President Decides Tie After a Prolonged Parliamentary Struggle.

Norris Votes With Democrats.

Question of Ending Long Drawn Out Debate on February 19 to Be Settled by Vote Prior to Final Disposition.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—Administration forces are nearer a Senate vote on the ship purchase bill than at any time since the Republican filibuster began, as the result of a parliamentary struggle lasting a large part of the day in the Senate. It began when Norris, Progressive Republican, succeeded in tacking an amendment providing for a closure rule on to Gallinger's proposition to throw the rule for a vote on the bill into the hands of the Rules Committee.

The Democrats then voted with Norris for a straight closure rule. This leaves the question to settle first then the question of ending debate on the 19th and then—as the Democratic majority sees it—the vote on the bill.

Following the introduction of a resolution by Senator Burton, Saturday, providing for an inquiry into the alleged connection between the ship companies owning interned ships and the Administration, particularly the Treasury Department, the Democrats this afternoon approved the proposed probe, but suggested that its scope be so widened, as Senator Williams put it, as to "catch all the fish and not one kind."

The Burton resolution was reported favorably by Chairman Williams, of the Senate Contingent Expenses Committee, with a number of amendments.

DOCTOR LEE CLEARED OF SLANDER CHARGES

Suit Brought by Former Treasurer of His Church Voluntarily Withdrawn.

The slander suit against the Rev. Dr. J. Beveridge Lee, pastor of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 9th street and Baltimore avenue, brought by Paul Wilkins, former treasurer of the church, has been withdrawn. The suit was brought by Mr. Carr after the church, charged Mr. Wilkins with misappropriating church funds during his incumbency.

The action was withdrawn voluntarily and because George Wentworth Carr, attorney for Mr. Carr, after the church, charged Mr. Wilkins with misappropriating church funds during his incumbency.

GRAFT IN BATTLESHIP SUPPLIES ALLEGED

Manager of Brooklyn Concern and Steward of the Texas Arrested.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Charges of widespread graft in furnishing supplies to United States battleships were made today by Government officials in New York. Thomas J. White, manager of the Brooklyn Steamship and Hotel Supply Company, and Walter G. Beach, commissary steward on board the battleship Texas, were arrested. They were held by United States Commissioner Cochran for further examination.

United States Attorney Reid seized the books of the supply company in Brooklyn. He declared it had been found that many officials had been bribed by the company to permit inferior supplies to be sent aboard the ships and that the Government had been swindled out of thousands of dollars.

The disclosures followed a complaint by Paymaster James Ray, of the Texas, who asserted that on January 2, he was approached by White, who offered him \$200 if he would permit the poorer grade of supplies to be placed on the Texas. White told him, he said, that he (White) had been sent to Ray by Beach.

"CHI" STUDENT DOES "STUNTS"

Fully half a hundred "Medico-Chi" students charged through the shopping district this afternoon in a bathrobe and pajamas and performed obliging feats which were part of his initiation into a fraternity of the college. At Broad and Walnut streets he brushed the clothing of two traffic policemen and rubbed down their horses. He also knelt down on Broad street and wiped a clean spot for Policeman Hesse to stand on. Then he wiped off the electric light poles and a number of windows along Chestnut street. The students followed and tonight they expect to occupy the streets with a bucket of water so that he can clean out City Hall.

HEROINE IN SHIRTS-FOR-SOLDIERS ROMANCE



MISS ADELE LEUVILLE Louisiana girl who has sailed for France for the purpose, it is believed, of meeting her soldier-admirer.

SUNDAY TAKES FIRST REST IN WANAMAKER'S HOME IN JENKINTOWN

"Billy" and "Ma" Evade Usual Monday Program of Visits and Enjoy Quiet Sojourn to Prepare for Busy Week.

SUNDAY CAMPAIGN STATISTICS

Table with Sunday Campaign Statistics: Attendance, Converts, Sermons, etc.

This is to be one of the most restful "days off" that "Billy" Sunday has had since he came to Philadelphia more than six weeks ago to conduct the biggest revival campaign of his career.

"Billy" had one of his most strenuous days yesterday, and, while he was feeling very well, he was tired and he decided to accept the invitation of Mr. Wannamaker to go far away from the noise and excitement of the city. The "trail-hitters" for the three services yesterday totaled 135, mostly men.

Tonight Mr. and Mrs. Sunday and Bentley D. Ackley, the pianist and Sunday's secretary, will be guests at the Lincoln anniversary celebration of the John Chambers Friendly Union at 25th and Morris streets. It is expected that the evangelist will address the organization, and that Mr. Wannamaker will attend and give a short talk. The event was postponed from last Friday in order that "Billy" could be present.

Mr. Ackley was entertained today on the golf course at the Whitmanah Country Club by J. C. Sheahan and H. Wellington Wood. He proved himself a good player by defeating his hosts, covering the 18-hole course in 105 strokes. Mr. Wood, who is one of the widely known players at the Old York Road Club, was second in the contest. He took 107 strokes in making the 18 holes, while Sheahan covered them in 119 strokes.

Jack Cardin, puglist-trainer and body-guard of the evangelist, left for Reading, his home town, this morning. He will speak before members of the Olive Club tonight.

Word was received today that a delegation of about 100 Boston ministers are to arrive here in special coaches over the Pennsylvania Railroad tomorrow to attend the meetings in the tabernacle. There will also be delegations of clergy.

WOMAN KILLED BY AUTO

Mrs. Abbie Holt, 65 years old, of 421 South Front street, was struck and fatally injured by an automobile at 25th and Market street, shortly after 3 o'clock this afternoon. The machine was driven by William Webb, of 121 West Penn street, who rushed the victim to the Presbyterian Hospital, where she died shortly afterward.

STUDENT ATTEMPTS SUICIDE

Otto Woldemar, 22 years old, a medical student, of 222 South Carline street, was found unconscious today in a furnished room in Baltimore. Both his wrists were gagged. According to a dispatch from Baltimore, the wounds were inflicted with suicidal intent. Woldemar was removed to the Maryland General Hospital in Baltimore, where his condition is reported to be serious.

CHILD HIT BY TROLLEY

Tessie Cymwynsky, 4 years old, of 123 South Front street, was struck by a trolley car at Front and Fitzwater streets as she was returning from school this afternoon. The child in running hurriedly across the street slipped as the car was approaching. She was hurried to a hospital, but suffered only slight injuries. She was taken to St. Elizabeth's hospital and then sent home.

"JAKE" MELNICOFF INDICTED

"Jake" Melnicoff was indicted by the Grand Jury today on charges of aggravated assault and battery on "Young Jack" Henlon, a former puglist. Henlon is alleged to be in the custody of the Philadelphia Police Department. Melnicoff was arrested at his home at 123 South Front street.

LOST AND FOUND

Lost in care of Chester...

CUPID INVADERS TRENCHES ON THE ARGONNE FRONT

Comfort Kit Sent by Louisiana Girl Revives Old Romance.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Cupid has invaded the trenches of the French army. And therewith lies an interesting tale.

When the Lafayette Fund issued its appeal for money to be used in the purchase of comfort kits to be sent to the soldiers in the French trenches, it came in an envelope from Miss Adele Leuville, of Flaquemine, Louisiana, with hope that "this terrible war will soon be over."

Each kit that is forwarded contains a card upon which is written the name of the contributor. By odd chance Miss Leuville's kit was received by a soldier named Maurice Dubois, of the 27th Company, 6th Cavalry of the 4th Army Corps of France.

In the frosty weather of the Argonne trenches Comrade Dubois could not restrain a feeling of gratitude for the kind person who sent the warm stockings, the woolen underwear, the snug-fitting underwear and the comfortable cap and muffler which composed the kit. And as he thought of writing a letter of thanks to the donor, he remembered that his name was familiar to him. Dubois communicated with the Lafayette Fund, at the Hotel Vanderbilt, New York, saying that 17 years ago he went to school with a girl of the same name in Nancy, France, when he was 12 and she 11 years of age.

He asked that inquiries be made to establish her identity, if possible. This was done, and it was confirmed that Miss Leuville was Dubois' former schoolmate, and she wrote him that she would pray for his survival of the war and welcome his promised visit to America at that future time.

But this incident eventually aroused the patriotism of Miss Leuville or awakened romance in her nature. She wrote the Lafayette fund that she would like to go to France to act as nurse, in which capacity she had some experience. Saturday she sailed on the French Line steamship Niagara to aid her native France on the firing line—and see Maurice Dubois.

TWO DEAD, OTHERS INJURED, WHEN KENTUCKIANS FIGHT

General Battle in Mountains Follows Fracas in Gambling House.

LEXINGTON, Ky., Feb. 14.—Letcher and Beverly White, members of the noted feud family, were killed, Beverly Bailey was mortally wounded and several other persons injured in a general battle in the Clay County mountains early today.

The fight resulted from a fracas in a gambling house. Bailey is alleged to have shot both the Whites, who were sons of one of the wealthiest men in that part of Kentucky.

INCENDIARY SETS FIRE TO ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

Flames Discovered in Belfry Soon After Man Is Seen Leaving Edifice.

Two attempts to set fire to St. John's Roman Catholic Church, in 13th street, were made today. Deputy Fire Marshal Caldwell said after making an examination that the blaze, which was quickly extinguished, was of incendiary origin.

Today is the 14th anniversary of a fire in a laundry that nearly destroyed St. John's Church. According to the watchman, a man was chased away from the side door of the edifice several days ago. Two piles of burning rags were placed in the building, one at the bottom of the steps leading into the belfry and the other behind the organ.

The Rev. John J. Wheeler, assistant pastor of St. John's, was in the belfry adjoining when he saw the crowd forming and heard shouts of fire. He ran into the church, intent on saving the sacred vessels, but did not yet see the flames. At that time the blaze had been put out by a fire extinguisher.

Numerous letters from cranks, some of them of a threatening nature, have been received at St. John's parish since recently. According to Father Wheeler, it has been necessary nearly every day to sleep, sometimes drunk, in the benches. Threats had been made by some of the men, but no attention was paid to them.

Gates well be erected now to prevent entrance to the belfry of the church through the rear door. The department has been possible to get into the tower without difficulty.

About five years ago a candle loaded with dynamite was found in St. John's. The dynamite was placed on the altar. Examination showed this to be true. The candle had not yet been lighted. Nearly every engine company in the center of the city responded to the alarm turned in by Captain Tempest and Sergeant McMullin, who were passing at the time. The basement of the church was well filled with worshippers who saw the smoke coming from the belfry, but there was no disorder. Captain Tempest and Sergeant McMullin superintended the emptying of the church.

MISS ANNE LEWIS TO WED

Chestnut Hill Girl Will Become Mrs. Francis Clark Grant.

An engagement of much interest to this city which is announced today is that of Miss Anne Lewis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Francis D. Lewis, of Moreland avenue, Chestnut Hill, and Francis Clark Grant, son of William S. Grant, Jr., of 222 St. James' place. Miss Lewis is the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis. Her sisters are Miss Julia P. Lewis and Miss Mary C. Lewis. Joseph W. Lewis is a brother.

Mr. Grant is a nephew of Miss Alice Grant and Mrs. T. Learning Smith. His grandmother was a Miss Vedin, of this city. His mother, who was Miss Jennie Clark, died several years ago. No date has been set for the wedding.

TRANSIT ORDINANCES STARTED ON VOYAGE THROUGH COUNCILS

Subcommittee on Finance Meets and Acts Favorably on Measures—Connolly Says They Will Come Up Thursday.

Taylor Plan Likely Will Be Amended to Give \$6,000,000 Immediately—Proposed to Float Loan Under Personal Property Tax Act.

Council's Subcommittee on Finance met in the City Hall at noon today and acted favorably on the ordinance providing for a special election in April when a transit loan will be submitted to the voters. John P. Connolly, chairman of the Finance Committee, said the ordinance would be reported out of committee at the regular meeting on Thursday. Prompt and favorable action by both branches of Council is expected.

Directly before the meeting today, Councilmen McConnel and Seger were in conference with State Senator James McNichol.

The loan ordinance will call for \$6,000,000 and exclusively for transit, in accordance with the suggestion made by Director Taylor at the hearing before the State Senate Committee on Municipal Affairs in the City Hall last Thursday.

Another meeting of the subcommittee will be held Thursday at noon. The date for the special election then will be set. As the special report on rapid transit requested by Director Taylor by Council at its last meeting was placed in the hands of Councilmen Saturday, the last excuse for further delay was removed. Although the members of the Finance Committee make it plain that they do not approve all the features of the present Taylor plan, they have pledged that there will be no change in the program for a speedy election, so that the actual construction work can be begun early in July.

PLAN FOR FLOATING LOAN

It is proposed to float the \$6,000,000 for rapid transit under the authority of the personal property tax act passed by the Legislature two years ago, giving the city the right to use personal property assessments as a basis for floating loans for permanent improvements.

Senator McNichol, at the hearing last Thursday, indicated that the Supreme Court might rule the personal property tax act unconstitutional. John G. Johnson, however, at the request of Director Taylor, gave an opinion that the act not only was constitutional, but likewise fully upheld by judicial opinion.

Connolly in a statement intimated that Councils probably would amend the Taylor plan at several points. Mr. Connolly stated that he had written a bill of a broad street tube from League Island to Olney avenue instead of Pike street, opposed to the delivery loop and in fact the entire part of the plan. Director Taylor plans the money will be immediately expended.

Director Taylor, in his special report to Councils, urged that the 8-cent exchange ticket system be abolished by due process of law in case the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company should not endorse the co-operative agreement requiring that company to equip and operate the proposed city-built lines.

Among the changes from the original plan revealed by the supplementary report, is an announcement that the southern portion of the four-track subway line in North Broad street will be constructed in such a manner as to permit the laying of two additional tracks for railroad service. It is assumed that the Pennsylvania Railroad soon will desire to through-route its trains. The additional expense involved in such changes, however, would devolve upon the railroad, according to the plans of Director Taylor.

TAYLOR SUPPLIES DATA

Transit Director Sends Details of Plans to Councilmen.

Director Taylor told the members of the Mayor's cabinet at their meeting in City Hall today that he had furnished every member of Councils with the data which had been requested by Select Councilman Seger. The department directors at the same time as the members of Councils' Subcommittee on Appropriations.

Director of Public Health and Charities Ziegler told the Mayor and directors he had already sent to the Subcommittee on Appropriations the plans the alleged lack of which was given by Councilmen as the reason for refusing to grant the \$1,000,000 loan for improvements at Blockley.

P. R. T. VERDICT REVERSED

Samuel Kane, Awarded \$15,000, Died Before Court Order Was Issued.

A verdict of \$15,000 for John Kane against the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company, as damages for injuries received in a trolley accident which rendered him a helpless cripple, was set aside today by the Supreme Court.

News of the reversal of the verdict given by a jury in Common Pleas Court in 1911 was spared Kane, who died on Saturday. In Judge Von Moschcowitz's opinion, handed down today, the Rapid Transit Company was awarded a total of \$15,000. A cross-examination on irrelevant matters was permitted, and counsel for the plaintiff allowed to introduce relevant testimony in relation to some of the irrelevant statements.

Kane received a fractured spine in an accident that occurred on the evening of October 29, 1911.

Standard Oil Newspaper for London

LONDON, Feb. 15.—It is reliably reported that a new newspaper, to be titled with Standard Oil Capital, is to be started in London.