

LOCAL OPTION BATTLE TO BE FOUGHT IN OPEN

Speaker Ambler Guarantees Fair Discussion on Floor of the House.

The local option fight in the Legislature will be in the open, on the floor of the House, said Speaker Ambler today. He said he would see to it that the question has absolutely fair dealing.

350,000 GERMAN FACE SLAVS IN NORTH POLAND

Hindenburg Rapidly Shifts Force to Halt Foe's New Offensive.

PETROGRAD, Feb. 26.—By another rapid shift of his troops, Field Marshal Von Hindenburg has caused a German army believed to number at least 250,000 men on the front between the Bobr and Vistula rivers and is making desperate attacks in an attempt to cut through the Russians there before the newly assumed offensive of Grand Duke Nicholas' troops west of Warsaw compels the retreat of the weakened German army there.

U. S. STEAMSHIP REPORTED MINE VICTIM IN NORTH SEA

Vessel, Believed to Be Palmer, of New London, Sunk.

LONDON, Feb. 26.—The American steamship Theodore Palmer has been sunk, according to a Copenhagen dispatch. Surviving members of her crew were picked up by a Swedish ship. The sailors asserted, the dispatch adds, that the Palmer was sunk in the North Sea by a mine.

FIVE SEAGOING SUBMARINES

Senate Rejects Smoot's Proposal Making the Number 50.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—The Senate today rejected Senator Smoot's amendment to the bill providing for five seagoing submarines, at \$1,400,000 each, and 35 coast defense submarines, at \$500,000 each.

BLOCKLEY AGAIN CRITICISED

Grand Jury Condemns Overcrowding at the Almshouse.

The Philadelphia Almshouse, commonly known as Blockley, was again made the subject of criticism in the final report of the February Grand Jury, made today before Judge Little, of Susquehanna County, presiding in Quarter Sessions Court.

ACCIDENT MAY COST SIGHT

Aged Clergyman's Eye Cut When Car Knocked Him Down.

An operation was performed today at the Jefferson Hospital on the Rev. Charles Barrett, an aged minister, who was injured yesterday in a trolley accident. It is believed he will become totally blind.

BERGHEIM MURDER LIGHT

Verdict of Guilty in Murder Case.

At the trial of George C. Bergheim, the murderer of Harry and Alice Strick, who was conducted in an accident at San Francisco, today when his case was over.

NO P. R. T. ANSWER TO ACCUSATION

President of Hobo Union Scoffs at Education Board's Denial of Building.

"Philadelphia is going to have a Hotel de Gink all right. Don't you worry about that."

This is the announcement of Jeff Davis, president of the National Union of American Hoboes and proprietor of the hotel established in New York for the wandering gentlemen of the waterfront and freight car.

"I'm a little tired today," said Jeff as he stroked a two days' growth of beard on his chin. "You know I had to undergo a lot of entertaining at Washington."

The following men have been appointed as members of a federation medical council, which will act in an advisory capacity to the Board of Directors, and will be practically in charge of the activities of the federation:

SLAYER DYING, REPRIEVED

James Boyd, a negro murderer of West Philadelphia, who was the first man to be sentenced to death in the electric chair in this State, received another reprieve today.

TRIED TO ROB THREE SHOPS

A man who had made preparations with a glass cutter to open show-cases in South 2d street was just about to start operations with a padded brick when he was interrupted early this morning by Acting Detectives Wertsch and Fields.

KILLED IN FRIENDLY BOUT

WILLIAM M. STOKES, Senator in the House, was killed today in a friendly boxing bout with Andrew Schultz at a Turkish bath.

ORGANIZATION ACTIVE

The Republican Organization leaders, however, are using every underground method to stir up opposition to Director Taylor. Walter M. Stevenson, McNichol and Joseph P. Connelly, are among the most active of these.

POLICE REPLY TO CRITICISM

Lieutenants Savage and Ewing Deny Charges Against Them.

Two police lieutenants criticised today by Judge Gorman in the Juvenile Court denied the accusation in answer to them. Lieutenant Savage, of the 37th street and Lancaster avenue police station denied he had ridiculed the House of Detention, as charged by Miss Virginia Smith, a probation officer who had investigated the case of 15-year-old David Lutz, of 4213 Mount Vernon street.

EVERETT THOU SUFFERS BROWDOWN

Everett Thou Suffers Browdown.

Everett Thou, a well-known actor, today was taken to a sanatorium today suffering from a nervous breakdown caused by overwork. He had been appearing at the Grand Opera House in a play.

HOTEL DE GINK HERE? SURE, SAYS JEFF DAVIS

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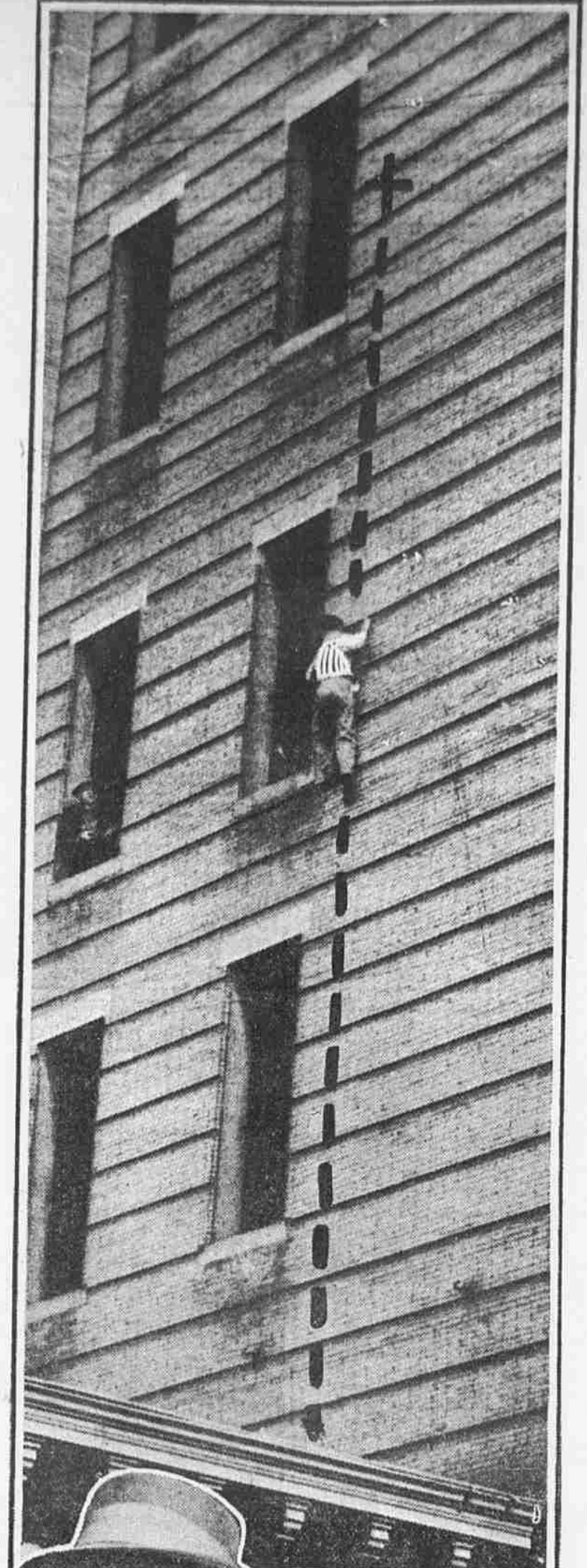
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"DAREDEVIL JACK" FALLS FROM BUILDING



The picture shows Reynolds on the side of the Mutual Life Building, at 1017 Chestnut street, just before his fall to the roof of the Philadelphia Business College.

His plunge is indicated by the dotted line. Below the acrobat himself is shown.

MOVIE MEN CONDEMN CENSORSHIP LAW

Blame Political and Saloon Interests for Statute—Breitinger Assailed.

Political interests and the saloons were named as the two factors behind the present moving picture censorship law in Pennsylvania at a public protest meeting against the censorship by the Pennsylvania Motion Picture Exhibitors in the Forenoon Theatre this afternoon.

BRIDGE CONTRACT AWARDED

New York Concern to Build South Broad Street Structure.

An important step in the development of South Philadelphia was made this afternoon when Director Cooke, of the Department of Public Works, awarded to Arthur McMullin & Co., of New York, the contract to construct a concrete bridge, 350 feet wide, with a 100-foot span, to carry the South Broad street boulevard over the right of way of the proposed Belt Line railroad near the entrance to the Philadelphia Navy Yard.

SEWER CONTRACT AWARDED

Robert Lombardi Successful Bidder for Locust Street Work.

The contract for one of the branch sewers in the district of the proposed transit loop was awarded today by Director Taylor to Robert Lombardi, a contractor of No. 601 Lincoln Building. His bid was \$22,000. The specifications call for the construction of a sewer from 8th and Walnut diagonally across Washington square to 7th and Locust streets, and up Locust to 8th street.

YOUTH ACCUSED OF SHOOTING BOY

Parents of 10-year-old Paul King, of 2106 South 7th street, who was shot during a battle between two gangs from the Paschal section and Darby, located Edward Sunstrom, of North Front street, Darby, today, and accused him of the shooting. Sunstrom, who is 18 years old, was held under \$500 bail by Magistrate Schuyler, of Darby. The King boy mentions a hand which frequently raids the youth of Darby, was shot under the left eye and lost his sight. Sunstrom, who carried a small calibre rifle, said he led it because he heard the other side was armed.

INDETERMINATE SENTENCE FOR MURDERER

A sentence of 10 to 15 years was imposed today upon Giuseppe DeSimone, of 73 South 7th street, who was convicted last week of killing Ernesto Volpandesta, of 73 South 7th street, in a revolver duel on the street on September 23. The fight occurred at Marshall and Fitzwater streets and Volpandesta died the next day from his wounds.

DAREDEVIL JACK FALLS FIVE STORIES

Continued from Page One blocks went up from the crowd when Reynolds rubbed the palm of his hand and started on his upward journey. The crowd stood and watched. Occasionally a new arrival would cheer. From the windows of office buildings across the street women and men were looking on.

COLD LOOBENS HIS GRIP

Theraplographers who were standing by an open window on the sixth floor watching the spectacle were waving handkerchiefs to Reynolds when he called out: "My hands are getting cold, I—"

HURRIED TO HOSPITAL

Everybody in the crowd who had witnessed the fall expected that Reynolds had been killed. After being revived by first aid to the injured, he was placed in an ambulance and hurried to the Jefferson Hospital.

The ambulance on its way was followed by hundreds of persons. Among those who followed the bus was the little newsboy who less than 10 minutes before had remarked that for Reynolds to climb up the wall of a building was just as easy as eating apple pie.

TELLS HOW IT HAPPENED

"My manager warned me not to climb today because it was chilly. My mind was made up to climb that house on Chestnut street, and I didn't want to disappoint that crowd. I'm sorry this happened, because there were a lot of people there who never before saw me in action. For a while I was tempted to change my program. It was that fine crowd which caused me to go through with the stunt."

HAS BEEN ARRESTED

In private life Reynolds is known as Charles Reynolds. He lives at 221 North 54th street. He has been arrested many times and was once imprisoned for an attempt to climb the face of the Flatiron Building in New York. He has been in various hospitals in the city with injuries received in falls. In many theatres where he has been advertised to make daring climbs it has been a common occurrence for the orchestra to leave the chairs in the pit.

THE WEATHER

Official Forecast WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.

For eastern Pennsylvania: Fair tonight and Saturday, somewhat of more light snow in the afternoon and evening. For New Jersey: Fair and somewhat colder tonight; Saturday fair.

U. S. Weather Bureau Bulletin

Observations made at 8 a. m. eastern time.

Table with columns for Station, S. & M., Rain, Wind, Veloc., and Weather. Includes data for Allentown, Altoona, Harrisburg, etc.

EMMET CELEBRATION

ACADEMY OF MUSIC Tues., March 2, 8 P. M.

Assignees WANTED, a specialized medical journal and other papers. For more information bring samples to Ledger Central between 9 and 10 Friday morning. See Mr. Brown.

BENNERS' JOY RIDE WITH BABY BUNTING

Ex-Cop Causes Sensation and Gives Companion Name That Doesn't Fit.

Ordinarily the appearance of a six-pound baby on the street causes no comment. But when it is in the arms of a 300-pound man and the man is the only occupant of a big touring car and the car is going down Broad street, and the man is feeding the baby from a bottle—then it attracts a few curious stares.

"Cap Benners," an ex-police man, had a joy ride down Broad street. Friends who remembered him as traffic director at 8th and Chestnut streets greeted him, it seemed, every few yards.

His old pals seemed dumfounded, and Benners explained that he was riding along unnoticed. It appeared that all his friends must have been holding a convention on Broad street.

Well-meaning friends, who delight in relaying gossip, told Mrs. Benners all about it. "What?" she exclaimed. "You saw my husband in an automobile feeding an infant in one arm and the milk bottle in the other, belonging to the other arm, he had to have the arm with the milk bottle at the end at his friends."

When Benners returned to his home his wife confronted him with the accusation and demanded an explanation. Then the ex-police man explained that since he volunteered to help the Emergency Aid Committee he has had to obey orders. A call came to the committee's headquarters for aid to a woman who was ill with a 3-weeks-old baby. Benners was sent to her home near Broad and Girard avenue to investigate. He believed in quick action in cases of distress.

He saw that the woman got medical attention and nourishment immediately, and jumping into an auto with the baby took it to the Shefferson Arms.

"What will we call the infant?" asked a nurse at the institution. "Oh, call it Elsie," said Benners. "When Mrs. Benners heard this explanation she immediately felt much relieved."

But when Benners returned to the committee's headquarters today the phone rang continuously. One of the women members of the committee answered it. "This is what Benners heard her say: 'Made a mistake? You don't tell me! W-h-a-t? Elsie is a boy?'"

VETERAN CITY EMPLOYEE DEAD

M. M. Coppuck, 42 Years a Highway Clerk, Victim of Heart Disease.

M. M. Coppuck, one of the oldest employees in the employ of the city and for the last 42 years assistant chief clerk of the Bureau of Highways, was found dead in bed this morning, at his home, 477 Franklin street. Coppuck was a veteran of the Civil War and served in the 7th Pennsylvania Volunteers. He was 53 years old.

Mr. Coppuck was graduated from the Central High School when the institution was at 18th and Market streets, where the Wanamaker building now stands. When first appointed to the Bureau of Highways the department was located in the headquarters of the American Philological Society, at 5th and Chestnut streets. Later the offices were maintained in Independence Hall before plans for the City Hall were completed.

He occupied his position in the Bureau through the incumbency of more administrations than any other employee in the service of the city. He was a widower and is survived by a daughter. Death is believed to have been caused by heart disease.

AUTO DIVES INTO EXCAVATION

John Jergon, Proprietor of the Motor Garage, 201 Diamond Street, and Three Companions Had Narrow Escape from Death Early Today When a Big Touring Car in Which They Were Riding Crashed at Feet of Excavation Under the Car Tracks at 4th and Market Streets.

The police say the car was going at the rate of 50 miles an hour. The machine was demolished and the occupants were hurled many feet across Market street. Jergon was arrested before Magistrate Eisenbrown for a hearing on a charge of reckless driving, but was discharged. Jergon, according to the police, had been to a party at 4th and Poplar streets with Joseph Kusek, Conrad Zunkke and Hans Goble. He had two ribs broken.