

THE THOMAS STRIVE TO SPLIT RUSSIAN ARMY IN RETREAT

Hindenburg Strikes in Baltic—Linsingen Hits Blow in Galicia

PETROGRAD IS OBJECTIVE

Germans Hope to Trap and Capture Entire Centre of Czar's Forces

LONDON, Aug. 28.—The Austro-German armies are now attempting the greatest stroke of the war. By concentrating heavy forces against the weakest spots in the Russian lines the Czar's enemies are seeking to split his field forces into three armies before the arrival of winter.

Great masses of men and metal are being hurled against the retreating Slavs in the region of Vilna. General von Hindenburg is directing the drive. He hopes to cut off the Great Litovsk armies.

In the southeast the Austro-Germans, under General von Linsingen, evidently reinforced by detachments from Mackensen, are attempting a rush northward through Kovel. Their object is to throw another wedge between the Great Litovsk armies and the Russians under General Tyanoff in Galicia.

The heavier blow is being struck by von Hindenburg. Petrograd dispatches today predict that von Hindenburg will be heavily reinforced if he has not been already. The belief in military quarters here is that von Hindenburg plans to gain a favorable position for a stroke against Petrograd.

General Polivanov's statement that Russia is raising new armies of 2,000,000 men ready to take the field in the spring aroused the general War Office. Reports indicate Russian munition factories have responded to fresh stimulus and are now turning out great supplies.

BREST LITOVSK GARRISON OF 100,000 MEN ESCAPES

Germans Fail to Trap Big Army in Capture of Fortress

PETROGRAD, Aug. 28.—The Great Litovsk garrison of 100,000 men escaped from that fortress before it was abandoned to the Austro-Germans, and has joined the Russian field forces. The War Office announced today. Before Brest Litovsk was evacuated the Russians destroyed the fortifications and bridges. All valuable property that was portable was removed.

The following statement of the fall of Brest Litovsk was issued by the War Office today: "Berlin statements that the fortress of Brest Litovsk fell after an assault by German and Austro-Hungarian troops are incorrect."

"It was decided some time previously that to shut up the garrison in this position was inexpedient. Consequently the most favorable material was removed in good time and the forts on the left bank of the Bug resisted only in order to allow the armies operating in this region to retire eastward."

"When the movement was effected, the fortifications and bridges were destroyed and the garrison in the forts rejoined the army in the field."

BRUMBAUGH AND VARES JOIN HANDS IN FIGHT

Continued from Page One

before in their political history. Four years ago Senator Penrose wielded against them the influence of the national and State administrations. This year the Senator will be unable to bring either influence to bear in the fight, because the national Administration is Democratic and the State Administration will support the Vares.

TO ELIMINATE PENROSE

The fight to overthrow the Penrose-McNichol State machine was planned several months ago. Every political move that has been made by the Governor and his friends since the first of the year has been made with a view to strengthening their battle lines.

Soon after Brumbaugh was inaugurated as Governor of Pennsylvania, Senator Penrose went to see him. The Governor made it plain to Penrose that he considered the Senator the representative of the people of Pennsylvania and that he himself was the spokesman for the people of the Commonwealth in State affairs. He served notice on Penrose to keep "hands off" in local matters.

All of the appointments that have been made by Governor Brumbaugh, in spite of several indications to the contrary, have borne out the Senator's contention immediately after this conference to build up a machine that would eventually eliminate Penrose as the Republican leader in the State. The Governor has assured himself of the assistance of powerful political interests in Pittsburgh and Scranton.

Francis Shunk Brown, his Attorney General, is a bitter personal enemy of Penrose, and for many years has been the legal adviser of the Vares. Brown, who was Currier's attorney, is credited with having conceived most of the intricate schemes and adroit political moves of the Vares.

The Governor appointed Cyrus D. Woods to be Secretary of the Commonwealth, and thus got rid of Robert McAfee, who had been Secretary of the Commonwealth during three Administrations. Woods is a powerful Pennsylvania-Ohio leader in western Pennsylvania. Woods comes from Westmoreland County, where Republican conditions were chaotic last year. Nearly all of the appointments to the new Public Service Commission have been made, with the end in view of strengthening the anti-Penrose combination throughout the State.

By appointing former Mayor William A. Magee, of Pittsburgh, the Governor secured the unwavering support of the powerful Magee family in Allegheny County. William Flinn, who led the fight of the Progressives in 1912 and 1914, has returned to the Republican party and the Vares. Magee and Flinn in Allegheny, with Woods in Westmoreland County, are building up a powerful part of the Brumbaugh-Vare machine in Western Pennsylvania.

For a short time it looked as though Governor Brumbaugh had the support of the Oliver faction also in Allegheny County. He appointed Robert J. Cunningham, an Oliver man, to the position of State Highway Commissioner, and United States Senator George J. Brumbaugh in his local option fight during the session of the last Legislature. Factional jealousy, however, caused Oliver to break with Brumbaugh when the Governor appointed Magee to the Public Service Commission.

SERVICE COMMISSION FRIENDLY

The appointment of Commissioners Ahey, Abbott, Monaghan and Smith gave Brumbaugh added political strength in the southeastern section of the State

and in Lancaster county, and gave both Brumbaugh and the Vares added strength in Philadelphia. A key in an independent Republican. His appointment materially helped in rallying to Brumbaugh the independent voters who were inclined to support the Governor because of his attitude toward the war and his advocacy of progressive, humanitarian legislation. Frecht is not looked upon with favor by Lieutenant Governor Frank B. McClain, who is aligned with Penrose.

John Monaghan, a considerable politician, was appointed by Governor Brumbaugh to go on record as favoring the Vares in preference to Penrose and McNichol. The much discussed appointment of Thomas B. Smith, made in the manner in which it was a notice to Penrose and McNichol that Brumbaugh is with the Vares in the Philadelphia Mayoralty fight.

The Penrose-McNichol machine has farred just as badly in the smaller appointments that have been made under the Brumbaugh administration as it did in the important appointments, and the Penrose-McNichol followers who are now holding State jobs are not resting very easily under Brumbaugh, as which they expect to strike them at any time.

GOVERNOR BRUMBAUGH'S AIM. Governor Brumbaugh felt justified in making political appointments because he considered that the end justified the means. The appointments, however, were not entirely political, as the Governor in most cases carefully considered the qualifications of the appointees before he named them.

The Vares aligned themselves with Brumbaugh at first because they saw an opportunity to eliminate their political rivals, Penrose and McNichol. They added to the Brumbaugh machine a powerful organization that extends into nearly every ward in Philadelphia. Every move by the Vares in the last four years has been made with a view to perfecting an organization that would defeat the Penrose-McNichol machine in the Mayoralty fight.

By adroit political moves they have brought into their camp several powerful ward leaders who were formerly with Penrose and McNichol. John J. McKinley, Jr., of the 33d Ward, deserted McNichol during the primary campaign of last year. Thomas B. Smith, of the 28th Ward, who had always been with McNichol, deserted when McNichol was the first ward leader to assure the Vares that he would support William S. Vare for Mayor.

The Vares first brought out Peter E. Costello for Congress and thus won his support for William S. Vare in the Northeast. Other ward leaders, through whose pledged support the Vares have gained strength for William S. Vare, include Republican City Chairman David H. Lane, ex-Recorder of Deeds David Martin and State Senator E. W. Patton.

These men, with the exception of Lane, supported Earle four years ago and by securing their strength for the Vares they have gained considerably in the Northeast, and Northeast and in West Philadelphia.

With these affiliations, which the Vares believe gives them the whip hand of the Republican Party in Philadelphia, Brumbaugh and the Vares considered that the best opportunity to strike the deciding blow in the fight against the Penrose-McNichol machine was in the Mayoralty election.

KOLB BOWLED OUT. The next problem was to find the strongest candidate to lead the fight. The name of Louis J. Kolb, warm patriot of the Governor, was especially among the list considered. The Brumbaugh-Vare alliance had become so strong, however, that the Governor refused to help Kolb to help. Kolb, though he agreed in the event of his nomination to support him, Colonel Kolb's friends dropped his campaign soon after.

In connection with the mention of Kolb, the fear of the Brumbaugh-Vare alliance, that Penrose and McNichol showed at that time is interesting. Expecting the Governor vigorously to support Kolb, Penrose and McNichol reported their tenants, both attached to the Municipal Court, to Chicago last spring to study the political conditions that caused the unexpected defeat of Carter Harrison.

Penrose and McNichol reported that anti-German sentiment had contributed largely to the result of the Chicago municipal election, and the word was soon passed around in Philadelphia that Kolb was a man of consideration because of his German name. The Penrose-McNichol workers spread this word.

W. S. VARE FEARS "KNIFE"

William S. Vare was decided upon and will be the candidate. All of the Vares followers are united in urging him to make the race. The Vares themselves have no fear. They feel absolutely sure of success in the primaries, but are not so sure that William S. Vare will not be "knifed" at the polls by Penrose and McNichol.

Soon after the election of Governor Brumbaugh, the Vares have planned to forestall the campaign arguments of Penrose and McNichol by making a victory speech on the issue of national politics. They will take the argument of protection and the plea that Philadelphia pave the way to the Democratic victory in the election of the mouths of Penrose and McNichol. They will point to the "hard times" under the Wilson Administration and declare the Democratic tariff has hurt the country, particularly Philadelphia, with its immense business interests.

For the benefit of citizens who will not swallow national political arguments in a campaign, the election of the Vares will be the election of William S. Vare, that the city would place in the hands of a thoroughly experienced man the handling of the State's affairs. The Vares are to be awarded during the next four years.

The Vares intend to get out of the contracting business altogether, so that William S. Vare, as Mayor, would be unfettered in the great public interests that will be his next administration. His brother, equally experienced in large business affairs, would be his chief adviser.

Penrose, of course, will forewarn all of these preparations for the fight against him and the State machine. He has made alliances with Joseph R. Grundy and other malcontented manufacturers, and through them has promoted various so-called protective associations and similar organizations throughout the State.

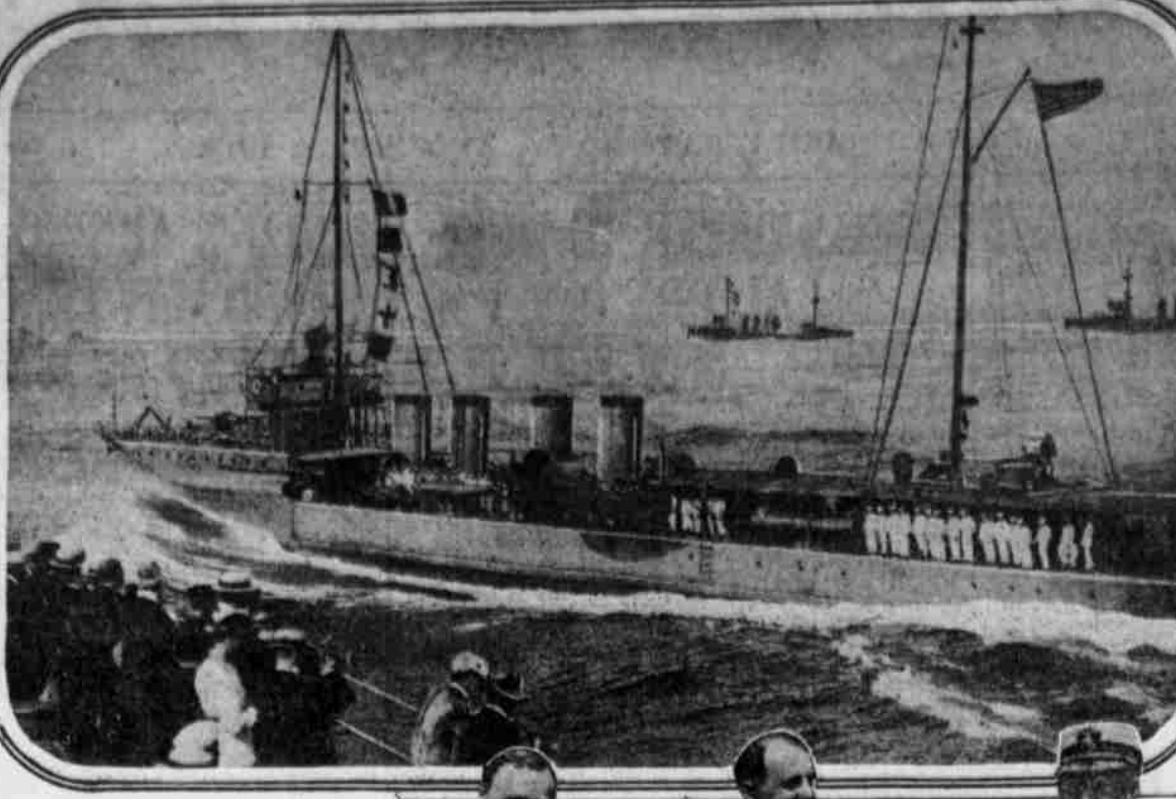
All of the moves that have been made by the Vares, Penrose and McNichol during the preliminary skirmishing in the Mayoralty campaign have indicated a bitter fight.

From the first Edwin H. Vares has stuck to the Vares, considering only the candidacy of his brother, William S. Vares. Penrose and McNichol have assiduously spread talk of "harmony" on the Mayoralty, and all of the numerous "slates" and most of the candidates for Mayor who have appeared, had their names launched in the Penrose-McNichol camp.

Even while predicting harmony, however, both Penrose and McNichol have seriously said that the candidacy of William S. Vare would mean a bitter fight. That prediction is about to be realized. This is the situation as it stands today. The possibility that McNichol, realizing that the Vares dominate the situation, will seek to delay the first blow against the Penrose-McNichol State machine by openly supporting William S. Vare's candidacy, is being considered. "Harmony" on Vares, however, only would be a move to delay the first blow against the Penrose-McNichol machine after the Mayoralty.

A doctor's prescription for the capsules was found on Brustaletti.

GOVERNORS AT CONVENTION REVIEW ATLANTIC FLEET



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WORKERS IN PLANTS OF ROEBLING'S SONS ASK FEDERAL PROBE

Union Members Declare They Have Been Driven to Point of Exhaustion Filling European War Orders

OTHER ABUSES ALLEGED

Wage System, Company's Stores and Rental System Also Mentioned by Employees

TRENTON, Aug. 28.—An investigation into what are described as conditions beyond human endurance at the Trenton and Roebbling plants of the John A. Roebbling's Sons Wire Company, builders of the Brooklyn bridge, was requested today from the Federal Industrial Relations Commission which probed the Bayonne strike.

The Federal Board will be requested to visit the Roebbling company's plants and determine whether as high as 129 hours per week is fit time for a man to be employed, and to inquire into wage conditions. The Commission also will be asked to direct its attention to the works along the Delaware River at Roebbling, where 100 men have been notified to vacate the premises of the mammoth wire concern August 31. A strike has been in progress there for the last two weeks.

The hours of labor and the wage system alone will not be investigated, if the central labor body, which represents more than 700 organized union men, can have the Commission carry its investigations further. Food supplied in the company's store at Roebbling, rents paid to the concern by the operations, all things that pertain to the relations between the company and the workers, are asked to be investigated in a resolution passed by the union body.

It was given out today by members of the Central Labor Union that department in the Roebbling mills here are manufacturing supplies for the European warring nations, and that the workers have been driven to the point of exhaustion in filling the orders. It also was intimated that the employees were in a state of rebellion because of the company's policy of paying a bonus to the publishers sent special carriers to the town of Roebbling, to see that copies of the paper are delivered, and in a front-page article denounced the Roebbling company for trying to subsidize the press. The unionists declared for the liberty of the press in a resolution passed at their meeting here today.

First steps in the movement to improve South street were taken today when the work of laying a road pavement was begun at 4th and South streets. Harry M. Levy, president of the South Street Business Men's Association, laid the first wooden block.

The event was a notable one in South Philadelphia, as many business men of the neighborhood were present. Mr. Levy used, to aid him in laying the block, a hatchet with the inscription "1776" on the handle.

The starting of the work marks the culmination of a fight lasting three years. Five months ago Council appropriated funds to carry on the work. The contract, which calls for the paving of the street with wood blocks from 2d street to the Schuylkill River, was awarded to James P. McNichol. The sum involved is \$100,000.

Considerable dissension occurred in the ranks of the South street business men themselves before Council passed the appropriation. Many of the members believed that a system of granite would be more acceptable than wood, but Mr. Levy, by circulating petitions for both styles of paving, proved that a majority favored wood.

The association has started a crusade for the cleaning of the street. Sidewalk awnings will be removed, telephone and telegraph wires will be placed underground, more electric lights will be added and assurances are being received with regard to transit facilities. It is also proposed to change the name of the street to University avenue.

POLICE SEEK ABSENT WOMAN

Mother Is Said to Have Abandoned Two Small Children

The police are trying to find Mrs. Anna Farrell, of 278 Kensington avenue. They say she deserted her two smaller children, Edward, 7 years old, and Devina, 4 years old, on Tuesday last. The woman took an older daughter, Anna May, 12 years old, along with her.

Neighbors of the woman, their suspicions aroused after the children had begged food, called the police. According to Policeman Nees, of the Front and Westmoreland streets station, he found the children in the single room occupied by the family trying to find something substantial to eat in some garbage they had picked up on the street.

The children were taken to the police station and furnished with a square meal, and this morning they were taken to the House of Detention.

Bible He Stole Converts Thief

HOPKINSVILLE, Ky., Aug. 28.—One Sunday last May some one entered the home of Mr. Rice and took Mr. Rice's new coat and a Bible. Yesterday a stranger came who told Mr. Rice he had taken the things, and he handed them back to him. He said he read the Bible and became converted. He was invited to dinner, and when he left was presented with the Bible.

This was the third fire in the immediate vicinity within two years. At a 6 p. m. on the same building a year ago a large number of men were injured by the collapse of the floor.

Today's fire damaged the Badger Building to the extent of \$15,000 and caused smoke damage to nearby houses estimated at \$50,000.

WELSH COAL STRIKERS REFUSE TO RETURN

Miners Ignore Command of Leaders—Sixteen More Collieries Forced to Quit

LONDON, Aug. 28.—Disobeying the orders of their leaders, the 20,000 miners on strike in South Wales and Monmouthshire refused to return to work today. Ten thousand more men also quit.

Sixteen collieries had shut down up to noon today and the sole hope that they would be reopened in the near future lay in the conference held by Minister of Munitions Lloyd-George and President of the Board of Trade, with Runciman, the executive committee of the Miners' Federation.

The Executive Committee arrived this forenoon and was immediately received by Lloyd-George, who summoned Runciman.

Word came from Newport today that probably every miner in the Monmouthshire district will quit work tonight unless today's conference in London shows a disposition on the part of the Government to recognize the miners' claims.

Miners' officials at the conference renewed their attempt to convince President Walter Runciman of the Government Board of Trade, that his arbitration award had fallen far short of the promises made by the Government.

FRENCH AIRMEN RAID GERMAN LINES AGAIN

Paris Reports Station at Chateau in Argonne Bombarded. Many Artillery Battles

PARIS, Aug. 28.—Fighting on the French front was generally confined to artillery duels, according to today's communique from the War Office. French aviators are continuing their activity, the railway station at Chateau, in the Argonne, having been bombed last night.

The text of the communique follows: "There were some artillery combats in the Argonne today. The enemy shelled Souchaux and Neuville, as well as in the region of Roye.

"On the plateau of Quenewieres and of Neuvion a conflict with bombs occurred. The enemy shelled the Argonne. In the Argonne our artillery arrested numerous attempts by the enemy to bombard our trenches.

"The night was without incident on the front. There were no clouds on the Argonne. Our aeroplanes bombed the station of Chateau in the Argonne during the night."

GERMAN MINES DESTROY TRENCHES IN CHAMPAGNE

Berlin Also Reports Repulse of Attack in Vosges

BERLIN, Aug. 28.—The text of today's statement from the German army headquarters follows: "In Champagne and in the Meuse hills French trench works were destroyed by mine explosions. In the Vosges a weak attack by the French was easily repulsed."

GERMAN ARABIC STAND MAY END WAR

Continued from Page One

understanding that the sinking was due to the mistake of the German Admiral. The Admiral that the Cunarder was an armed vessel carrying an enormous supply of ammunition. The question of indemnity and the amounts remain to be taken up by the State Department through either himself or Ambassador Gerard.

He is understood to have asked that a complete copy of the instructions under which German submarine commanders now are operating be communicated to the State Department through either himself or Ambassador Gerard. Only a general outline has so far been given to Secretary Lansing.

It also is understood that the Ambassador has urged the German Government to answer in full the last note of President Wilson dealing with the Lusitania. It is confidently expected in official circles here that this reply will be received here today.

The Administration gives Germany credit for absolute good faith in its latest attitude concerning submarine warfare in general and the Arabic case in particular.

This was learned today on the best authority—official, though unofficially expressed.

The statement was made in view of suggestions from various sources, that the Kaiser sought to start a long controversy over the Arabic incident instead of giving the United States the "full satisfaction" mentioned and of acceding to the Administration's demands relative to American safety at sea.

So far as German-American trouble was concerned, it was said confidently that all danger was considered virtually over. It was conceded that this did not necessarily mean that there would not be a good deal of diplomatic correspondence, however, it was said such a delay was not deemed a serious matter.

"SINGING CRIPPLE" COLLAPSES

Tommy Lang's Hip Fractured; Friends Taking Care of Him

Until he is "on his feet again" and able to take care of himself, nothing is to be done for "Tommy" Lang, a Southern youth who, several weeks ago, walked to Atlantic City from Atlanta, Ga., and had the good fortune to arouse the interest of philanthropic Philadelphia. Recently the boy was taken to New York to have his voice tested by a maestro of high standing, who predicted that with training he would become a wonderful singer.

Last night "Tommy" had just concluded a selection for members of the Cosmopolitan Club in Atlantic City, he suddenly crumpled and slipped to the floor. Women of the cottage colony made him comfortably while an ambulance was being summoned. The ambulance arrived and the youth has a fractured hip. A dozen wealthy Philadelphians have volunteered to see "Tommy" through.

R. R. Men Flock to Shore ATLANTIC CITY, Aug. 28.—The annual outing of the New York City Athletic Association and Ticket Agents will be held here today. More than 100 members of the association, coming by special train from New York, will be met at the office of the Pennsylvania Railroad Hotel Men's Association, and escorted to the beach by the Municipal Band. Among the features of the program will be a life-saving drill by coast guards.

INSURANCE COMPANY TOLD TO MAKE GOOD \$62,000 IMPAIRMENT

State Threatens American Assurance Concern With Refusal of Its Refusal

ALLEGED FALSE REPORTS

FACTS ABOUT ACCOUNTS OF ASSURANCE COMPANY

Mortgage loans valued at \$124,000 are included in report for July 31, when the balance of the amount was \$62,000. Impairment of capital found by investigators for the State Insurance Department, \$62,359, as of July 31, 1915. Impairment as of December 31, 1914, \$58,552.

Receivers will be asked for the American Assurance Company, 13th and Spring Garden streets, by the State Insurance Department unless the company makes good a capital impairment of more than \$62,000 discovered by Charles H. Roney, Chief Insurance Examiner.

Notice to this effect was served on the balance today. The company now is in the same time it was announced that the action would be taken until the assurance company either takes steps to make good the impairment or evidences an intention to refuse to do so.

THIRD BIG DEFICIT

The third big financial deficit in two years in the accounts of the Assurance Company was brought to the attention of State Insurance Commissioner Charles Johnson by Mr. Roney.

A year and a half ago the company was first found to be impaired financially. At that time the company had a surplus of \$50,000 and withdrew from a number of States in which it was doing business. The investigation then was made jointly by insurance examiners of Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Virginia.

According to Mr. Roney's report, the impairment now is \$62,359, instead of a surplus of \$36,000 as shown in the July report of the official. The impairment started last Friday, but has been superficial because a more thorough probe was made December 31, 1914, showing at that time an impairment of \$58,552.

ALLEGED FALSE REPORTS

Sworn statements including among the company's assets in December mortgage loans amounting to \$124,000, were false, according to the investigators. As a matter of fact the company owned but \$15,000 of this amount, it is said. The rest of the mortgage loans, the company and never was assigned to it, the report alleges.

"It is my impression that we can prove ownership of these mortgage loans," said Secretary R. V. Roney, "and if we do, we desire to investigate the question of ownership from a legal viewpoint."

To this end a meeting of all directors of the company available was called at 10 o'clock this morning. It was held in the office of Murdock Kendrick, in the Cozier Building. According to Richey, President A. J. Simpson, who is in charge of the business pertaining to the mortgage loans.

A CRIMINAL OFFENSE

The filing of fraudulent insurance reports with the State Insurance Department is a criminal offense under Pennsylvania laws. The insurance commissioner is empowered to institute proceedings where fraud is shown.

A tentative agreement had been made with the American Corporation that mortgages owned by the company now in the hands of the American Assurance Company in complete order of advance, but the arrangements fell through.

The American Corporation formerly was the American American Reinsurance Company. It is operated by Reinhold H. Koch, former president and founder of the Assurance Company, and associates who also are connected with the Assurance Company.

ASSETS SHORT \$71,000

The full amount given in the assets and would not be the property of the company is \$77,000. Of this, \$15,000 was for a rate given to the present president of the Assurance Company, A. J. Simpson, the balance is made up of mortgage loans owned by the company and never assigned to the Assurance Company.

The final paragraph of the report from Mr. Roney to Commissioner Johnson is as follows: "After all the above has been said, the facts that are glaringly apparent are the extent of the impairment, having a surplus of \$24,737.79 on December 31, 1914, as sworn to by the officers in their annual statement to you, was impaired to the extent of \$62,359.20, and on July 31, 1915, instead of having a surplus of \$36,000, as stated to the board of directors, was impaired in the amount of \$62,359.20."

Pratt Island and Connecticut barred the Assurance Company from doing business in those States a few years ago following exposure of alleged falsification of assets. The company now is doing business in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois.

A. J. Simpson, of Oak Lane, now president of the assurance company, was elected in 1914. He is connected with the company more than a year ago when it took in the American Miners' Accident Association, of which he was president, then located in Indianapolis.

Simpson came to the rescue of the assurance company in the 1914 crisis, and it began to seem that the company could not pass muster before the insurance examiners because of the impairment. He took 237 shares of assurance company stock owned by the inside corporation, went to Indianapolis and procured a large amount of insurance. These were then included in the assets of the assurance company. Simpson is understood to have insisted on being elected president of the company before permitting the use of the mortgages.

PRESIDENT REA IMPROVED

Head of P. R. R. Spends Restful Night, Say Physicians

The condition of Samuel Rea, president of the Pennsylvania Railroad, was greatly improved today. Physicians at the Pottery Hospital said that he had spent a restful night and slept well. Considerable anxiety was felt concerning Mr. Rea on account of a slight feverish change on Thursday, and his friends and business associates were much relieved to hear of the change for the better this morning.

Ex-Secretary Lang, of Navy, Is Ill BOSTON, Aug. 28.—John D. Lang, Ex-Secretary of the Navy, and former Governor of Massachusetts, is seriously ill at his home in Hingham. The story of his trouble has not been disclosed.