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KAISER CONFINED TO BED; ILLNESS REPORTED GRAVE

War Lord Has High Fever, Private Advices to Hague Declare

THREE SONS SUMMONED

Three Specialists in Attendance—Christmas Celebration Called Off

LONDON, Dec. 22. Emperor William's illness is more serious than the official announcement issued in Berlin would indicate, according to a dispatch received from The Hague today.



EMPEROR WILLIAM II The Kaiser is believed to be more seriously ill than reported. He is said to have high fever. His malady is described in German as "zellgewebezundung."

Illness, so far as reports have indicated, since early this year, the last previous report of his illness having been circulated on January 31, when he was said to be returning to Berlin because of throat trouble and to be suffering from a chill. There was no official confirmation of the reports, however, and nothing more was heard of them.

A little more than a year ago, on December 8, 1914, there was official admission that the Emperor was ill, the announcement stating he was suffering from a feverish bronchial catarrh. It was said, however, that he was able to give his attention to reports on the war situation from the General Staff.

All sorts of rumors were circulated in

WEATHER

Possibly our epidemic of grip (and today's weather is particularly grippy) is a result of it. War. Most regrettable the Kaiser is laid up again, and perhaps that is really what is the matter with him. Not that his influence is great enough to affect general health as well as general political conditions; but they say that, even in times of peace, grip always travels westward from Europe, returning tourists bringing home with them a slight epidemic each fall. It would not be unreasonable to think a more virulent kind of grip was being engendered in trench-covered Europe these days, and that we are to have "the grip" brought home to us in a new and most disagreeable way.

FORECAST

For Philadelphia and vicinity—Unsettled and warmer tonight, with probably light rain; Friday generally fair; fresh southerly winds.

LOST AND FOUND

DIAMOND RING—\$50 reward for large solitaire diamond ring, lost between 4th and 5th and Chestnut streets, near the corner of Chestnut and 5th streets, southeast corner Broad and 5th streets. Return to J. H. Macdonald, 511 Chestnut street, Adams.

"POSITIVELY NOT A CANDIDATE"—TAFT BRIDE IS LOVELY CHRISTMAS GIFT

Taft on Politics I'm through with politics. I will pick no candidates for the Republican nomination for President. Has Roosevelt been endorsed by Republican national committeemen? How should I know? Should he become the candidate? (Enigmistic smile and silence.) Pennsylvania has many great citizens, but I am not picking candidates. I'm through. I will positively not be a candidate. If I am nominated unanimously? I am not a candidate. (More enigmistic smiles.)



WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT

TAFT A SPHYNX ON CANDIDACY OF ROOSEVELT

"How Do I Know?" He Replies When Asked for His Opinion

"I'M OUT OF POLITICS"

Former President Taft, a smiling Sphinx on the subject of Roosevelt's candidacy, professedly uninterested in politics, but overflowing with advice on matrimony, arrived in and departed from the city today on his way to Allentown, where he will speak at the dedication of the Nurses' College this afternoon.

THROUGH WITH POLITICS

"I'm through with politics," he said. "I positively will not be a candidate. No, not if nominated unanimously." Asked if he considered any of Pennsylvania's "natty sons" of presidential calibre, he replied that this State has many great citizens, but that he will pick no candidates.

STRONG FOR MATRIMONY

His reticence disappeared when politics was shelved for matrimony. "Ah," he said, "Now, what finer Christmas present could a bachelor receive than a nice bride? I consider myself a practical man when it comes to marriage; not that I wish to appear conceited, but I really am very sensible. I demonstrated it when I married as a young man, and in my selection. Every bachelor who is confirmed should change his mind and become sensible."

DOCTOR TAFT ARRIVED FROM SOUTH BEND, IND., AT THE NORTH PHILADELPHIA STATION OF THE PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD, WHERE HE WAS MET BY A DELEGATION OF ALLENTOWN MEN. AMONG THEM WERE HARRY W. KRESS, DR. C. D. SCHAEFFER, CHIEF SURGEON OF THE ALLENTOWN HOSPITAL; DR. A. H. HALLIDAY, EDWIN J. TREXLER, JOHN ECKHART.

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"BIG BUSINESS" SEEKS TO NAME ROOSEVELT IN 1916, SAYS HAM LEWIS

Illinois Senator Asserts "Interests" Want Colonel to Beat Wilson, but Republican Chiefs Will Balk Plan

SAYS PENROSE IS "KING"

The big interests of the country will seek to nominate Colonel Roosevelt as the presidential candidate at the Republican national convention in Chicago next June, but he will demand a platform of principles which will cause the bosses to desert him. The prediction was made today at the Bellevue-Stratford by United States Senator J. Hamilton Lewis. And this will be the end of the column in the convention, according to the Senator.

SENATOR LEWIS WAS IN THE CITY TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF THE NEW ENGLAND SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA LAST NIGHT AT THE HOTEL. HE LEFT TODAY FOR CHICAGO. DESPITE THE PURPOSE OF HIS VISIT, THE SENATOR SAID THAT HE HAS A STRONG INCLINATION FOR ASSERTING HIMSELF. HE ATE HIS REGULAR BREAKFAST OF HOT BROILED HOMOIN AND BACON AND COFFEE. HE SAID THAT HE IS ON A DIET. AT BREAKFAST HE CONSENTED TO GIVE SOME OF HIS VIEWS ON THE PRESENT POLITICAL AND INTERNATIONAL SITUATION.

"TAKE OUT YOUR NOTEBOOK AND PENNELL," HE SAID GREETING A REPORTER. "I AM IN A HURRY, THOUGH, AND HAVE TO LEAVE FOR CHICAGO IN A MINUTE OR TWO." THEN, BECOMING SERIOUS, HE SAID:

"These Republican masters are looking for any man for a candidate, with anything for an issue, who will conform to the standard of the bosses and secure the aid of the masters of finance. They feel

M'NICHOL'S GOLD WATCH FOUND ON PAWNSHOP CLUE

Was Pledged in Kensington Avenue After Disappearance in April, 1914

BROKER TO SEE KELLER

The missing gold watch belonging to Daniel J. McNichol was found today by the police when Harry Rosenthal, a pawnbroker, 2529 Kensington avenue, notified them that a watch with McNichol's initials on it and of the same case number was pawned in his shop in April, 1914, shortly after McNichol disappeared.

The body found in a trunk in the cellar of 4922 Frankford avenue has been identified as having been that of McNichol, who disappeared 29 months ago. Edward Keller, of 3115 Frankford avenue, is in the county prison charged with the murder of McNichol. He declares the body in the trunk which was buried in the cellar of the building he used as a laundry after McNichol disappeared is not that of McNichol, and the police considered the new evidence revealed today as of prime importance.

CASE NUMBER A CLUE

In the trunk, in a pocket of the suit on the body, were found two notebooks. In the back of one of which was a complete identification outline. This coincided with the case number of the missing man's watch. This number was sent to every pawnshop in Pennsylvania, New York, and important cities in nearby States, in the hope of tracing the watch.

Rosenthal told the police today that the watch remained in pawn one year, and that after that time he sold it at auction. It was purchased by a reputable person, who was easily found by the police.

THE WATCH IS A 17-JEWELLED ELGIN, WITH A HEAVY HUNTING CASE. IT HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED BY McNichol's relatives as an heirloom given the missing man by his father. It had been in the family for generations. The pawnbroker will go to the prison late today to confront Keller. The police say they have a description of the man who pawned the watch, but declined to say whether this description could apply to Keller.

It became known today that the trunk in which McNichol's body was found

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JAPANESE LINER SUNK BY U-BOAT; WAS NOT WARNED

American on Board Ship Torpedoed in Mediterranean—All Saved

BREAKS PROMISE TO U. S.

Washington Foresees Trouble Unless Berlin Promptly Disavows Act of Commander

FLANDERS ROCKS UNDER GREATEST OF BIG GUN DUELS

German and British Artillery Engaged in Mighty Combat Around Ypres

DAILY AERIAL BATTLES

For a week the mightiest artillery duel of the war has been raging in West Flanders.

SINKING OF JAP LINER MAY RESULT IN BREAK

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—State Department officials were gravely concerned this afternoon over the report that an American citizen was aboard the Japanese liner Yasaka Maru, sunk by a submarine in the Mediterranean Tuesday.

U. S. INDICTS KOENIG IN CANAL PLOT CASE

Chief German Conspirator and Two Associates Planned to Dynamite Welland Locks

NEW YORK, Dec. 22. Paul Koenig, chief of the Hamburg-American police and declared to be the "brains of the Teutonic conspirators," was indicted by the Federal Grand Jury this afternoon on charges growing out of the alleged plot to blow up the Welland Canal.

LARDARO BOMBARDATA DAI CANNONI ITALIANI

Non E' Confermata la Notizia dello Sbarco Russo nel Porto Bulgaro di Varna

Il generale Cadorna ha annunciato nel suo ultimo rapporto che le artiglierie italiane che sono state messe in posizione sui monti di Cadria, recentemente conquistati dalle forze italiane, hanno bombardato le opere fortificate di Lardaro, evidentemente i due forti sulla sinistra del Chiese.

JUDGE E. A. WALLING NAMED SUCCESSOR OF JUSTICE J. P. ELKIN

Erie County Jurist Appointed by Governor to Fill State Supreme Court Vacancy

WHITTELSEY GETS PLACE

At the same time he filled the vacancy caused by the elevation of Judge L. Whittlesey, of Erie, to the Common Pleas bench of Erie County.

JUDGE EMORY A. WALLING

HARRISBURG, Dec. 22.—Governor Brumbaugh today announced the appointment of Judge Emory A. Walling, of Erie County, to succeed the late Justice John P. Elkin on the State Supreme Court bench.

Emory A. Walling was born in Erie County, and after his admission to the bar practiced in the Erie courts. In 1881 he was elected to the office of District Attorney, but resigned in December 1, 1884, having been elected a member of the State Senate.

In 1888 Mr. Walling was nominated for the bench as President Judge of Erie County and was elected for the ten years' term ending in January, 1897. He was re-elected for a second term. His rulings have given general satisfaction and very few of his decisions were reversed.

He was a candidate last year for Supreme Court, to fill the vacancy caused by the retirement of Chief Justice Fell.

AGENT OF KOENIG UNDER ARREST, SPIED ABROAD

William McCulley Was Sent to France and England by Plotters

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—The allegation that Paul Koenig, alleged chief of the German secret service in this country, sent an agent to Italy, France and England to secure military information was made today, when William McCulley was detained at police headquarters at the instance of the Department of Justice.

OLD MAN HIT BY CAR DIES

Samuel Smith, 85 years old, died today in the Samaritan Hospital from injuries received when he was struck by a trolley car last Tuesday at Germantown road and Sedgley avenue. Smith was an inmate of the Maanoe Home, at 3333 North Broad street.

QUICK NEWS

\$28,785,178 APPROPRIATION BILLS PASS

Appropriation bills for 11 of its most important departments of the municipal government were passed by both branches of Councils today. The total appropriated for 1916 is well within the \$31,827,088 estimated revenues of the city. The 11 bills passed today total \$28,785,178.

AUSTRIAN AVIATORS BOMBARD SCUTARI

BUCHAREST, Dec. 23.—Austrian aeroplanes bombed the town of Scutari Tuesday, dispatches announced.

500 "TRUSTY" CONVICTS TO GET 3 DAYS' LIBERTY

RALEIGH, N. C., Dec. 23.—Three days' liberty from prison bars in the Christmas present Governor Craig is presenting to "trusty" convicts. All "trusties" in North Carolina's State and county convict camps, under orders just issued by Governor Craig, will be released tomorrow morning and be at complete liberty Friday, Saturday and Sunday. They must show up to be locked up again by noon Monday. Governor Craig estimates that 500 convicts will thus secure the Yuletide liberation gift.

SHIPPERS LOSE SUIT FOR REFUNDS AGAINST RAILROADS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—The Interstate Commerce Commission today refused to grant refunds of many millions of dollars to shippers in the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, the Boardman Company and others at Los Angeles, San Francisco, San Diego, Sacramento, San Jose, Crockett and Alvarado, Cal., and Reno, Nev., asked from the Southern Pacific, Santa Fe and other railroads for switching charges of \$2.50 a car from 1910 to August 12, 1914. The Interstate Commerce Commission in 1910 ruled that the railroads must discontinue the charge for switching cars belonging to these shippers.

FAIRMOUNT PARK LAKES OPEN TO SKATERS

Hunting Park Lake, Concourse Lake and Chamounix Lake, in Fairmount Park, are open for skaters today. It is expected that the skating will continue through the Christmas holidays without interruption, as there is no indication from the weather man of a warm wave coming toward this city. The other lakes in Fairmount Park have not been officially declared open to skaters. They have been coated with a film of ice for many days, and probably tomorrow this will be thick enough to warrant their being opened to the public.

ROOT NOT A CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Dec. 23.—Ellihu Root is not a candidate for the Presidency. In a letter to the Republican State Central Committee today the former New York Senator said: "I am not a candidate for the Presidency. If my name is put on the ballot I shall be compelled to insist upon its being withdrawn."

AUSTRIANS FAIL IN SURPRISE ATTACK IN GALICIA

PETROGRAD, Dec. 23.—Austrian troops clad in white uniforms to afford concealment in the snow made an unsuccessful attempt to capture Russian works near Buczacz, in Galicia, the War Office reported today. The advance was detected by Russian outposts, and machine guns forced the enemy to flee. Russian artillery dispersed German troops erecting defensive work in the Jacobstadt-Dvinsk regions and put to flight several enemy aviators. It was announced. West of Trembowla, in Galicia, the enemy carried a Russian position, but was quickly driven out.

FOOD AND PEACE RIOTS INCREASE IN BERLIN

LONDON, Dec. 23.—Peace and food riots in Berlin are assuming formidable proportions, according to the Amsterdam correspondent of the Central News Agency. He telegraphed today that the residence of the Imperial Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg is guarded to prevent an attack by the women participating in the demonstrations. No one is permitted to enter the Imperial offices in Wilhelmstrasse before presenting evidence as to the business to be transacted.

TWO TURKISH BARKS SUNK BY RUSSIANS

PETROGRAD, Dec. 23.—Two Turkish barks bound for Constanza with cargoes of benzine were sunk by Russian warships and their crews captured, according to dispatches received here today.

BRITISH CASUALTIES AT DARDANELLES 112,921

LONDON, Dec. 23.—The British forces at the Dardanelles had suffered 112,921 casualties up to December 11, it was announced in the House of Commons today by H. J. Tennant, Under Secretary of War.

BABE BURNS TO DEATH AS MOTHER BUYS XMAS TOYS

An 18-months-old baby was burned to death while his mother was at a store nearby buying him Christmas toys. The dead child is John Tobin, son of Mrs. Mary Tobin, of 530 South 2d street. He was taken to the Pennsylvania Hospital, but died on the way. The police believe the child fell against the stove.

DR. CHAS. B. PENROSE CRITICALLY ILL IN BALTIMORE

Dr. Charles B. Penrose, of this city, brother of Senator Penrose, is critically ill in the Hotel Belvidere, Baltimore, suffering from bronchial pneumonia. His brother, Dr. Clement A. Penrose, of Baltimore, has been attending him.

NAVY YARD MAY LAY OFF 3000 WORKMEN

Several departments at the Philadelphia Navy Yard have exhausted their appropriations and unless more money is immediately furnished by Congress 3000 workmen will be laid off. It is said that 40 per cent of the yard employes have already filed application for employment with the Remington Arms Company at Essington, where work will be carried on to complete the order for 4,000,000 rifles for the Russian Government.

WASTAGE AT FRONT AMOUNTS TO 1 ARMY IN 7 MONTHS

LONDON, Dec. 23.—Harold J. Tennant, Parliamentary Undersecretary of War, declared in the House of Commons: "For every man we keep abroad we ought to have at home in reserve 1.8, this being a year's supply of men at a monthly wastage of 15 per cent." Thus, he declared, the army of 1,250,000, which Premier Asquith yesterday said was the present British force abroad, required 2,250,000 reserves in training at home, or a total force of 3,500,000 necessary for the prosecution of the war on the present basis for one year. At the rate of wastage indicated by these figures, the loss to British armies abroad would amount to their entire original strength in slightly less than seven months.

SWISS ARREST U. S. CONSUL'S CLERK AS SPY

GENEVA, Dec. 23.—The secretary of the Austrian Consulate here, Herr Taussig, has been arrested on a charge of espionage. The charge, it is said, grows out of his alleged denunciation of Mrs. Merrick Hildebrandt, of Louisville, Ky., recently expelled from Germany after her arrest and imprisonment on a charge which she said was not made known to her. Mrs. Hildebrandt came to Geneva and caused a strong protest to be forwarded to Washington against what she declared to be the unwarranted treatment accorded her by the German authorities.

POWDER MILL BLAST KILLS 300 GERMAN WOMEN

LONDON, Dec. 22.—According to advices to the Amsterdam Telegraph, forwarded by Reuter's correspondent, a powder factory and several ammunition depots at Muenster, Westphalia, have been blown up. Great damage was done to the town, the newspaper adds. Later advices from Amsterdam state that 300 of the 600 women employed in the Muenster powder mill were killed.