

HOUSTON MAY BE APPOINTED TO WAR POST

Leads Among Those Mentioned to Succeed Garrison in Cabinet

SELECTION BY TOMORROW President, It Is Believed, Will Pick the Man While on Yachting Trip

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—President Wilson will bring back the name of his new Secretary of War when he returns to Washington tomorrow. It is believed by official Washington today...

Although there is strong belief that a "dark horse" will be the President's choice, it is known that when he left Washington last night two men stood foremost in his consideration for War Secretary...

Of these two Houston seems to be mentioned most prominently today. German-American opposition to Lane has been voiced since it became known that he is of Canadian birth...

Houston comes from Missouri, regarded by the Administration as a Wilson State; he is in intimate touch with farming interests and might be in a position to reconcile those interests to a preparedness program...

There has been considerable talk of General Goethals being offered the place, but it was stated on high authority that so far Goethals "has not been considered."

It has not been the practice to appoint military men permanently to the Secretary of War. Precedent, therefore, may be

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LOSES HIS PRETTY HAIR IN RESCUING POODLES

John McMenamin Injured in Fire at His Home—Blind Brother Barely Saved

An attempt to rescue two white French poodles that were whining and yelping in the cellar cost John McMenamin large sections of his proudest possession—his bushy hair...

The fire is thought to have started from a defective flue. It spread through the whole house, floors and ceilings of which soon gave way...

Strike at Graphophone Works BRIDGEPORT, Conn., Feb. 12.—Because their demand for double time for Lincoln's Birthday was refused, nearly all the employees of the American Graphophone Company, numbering about 2900, struck today.

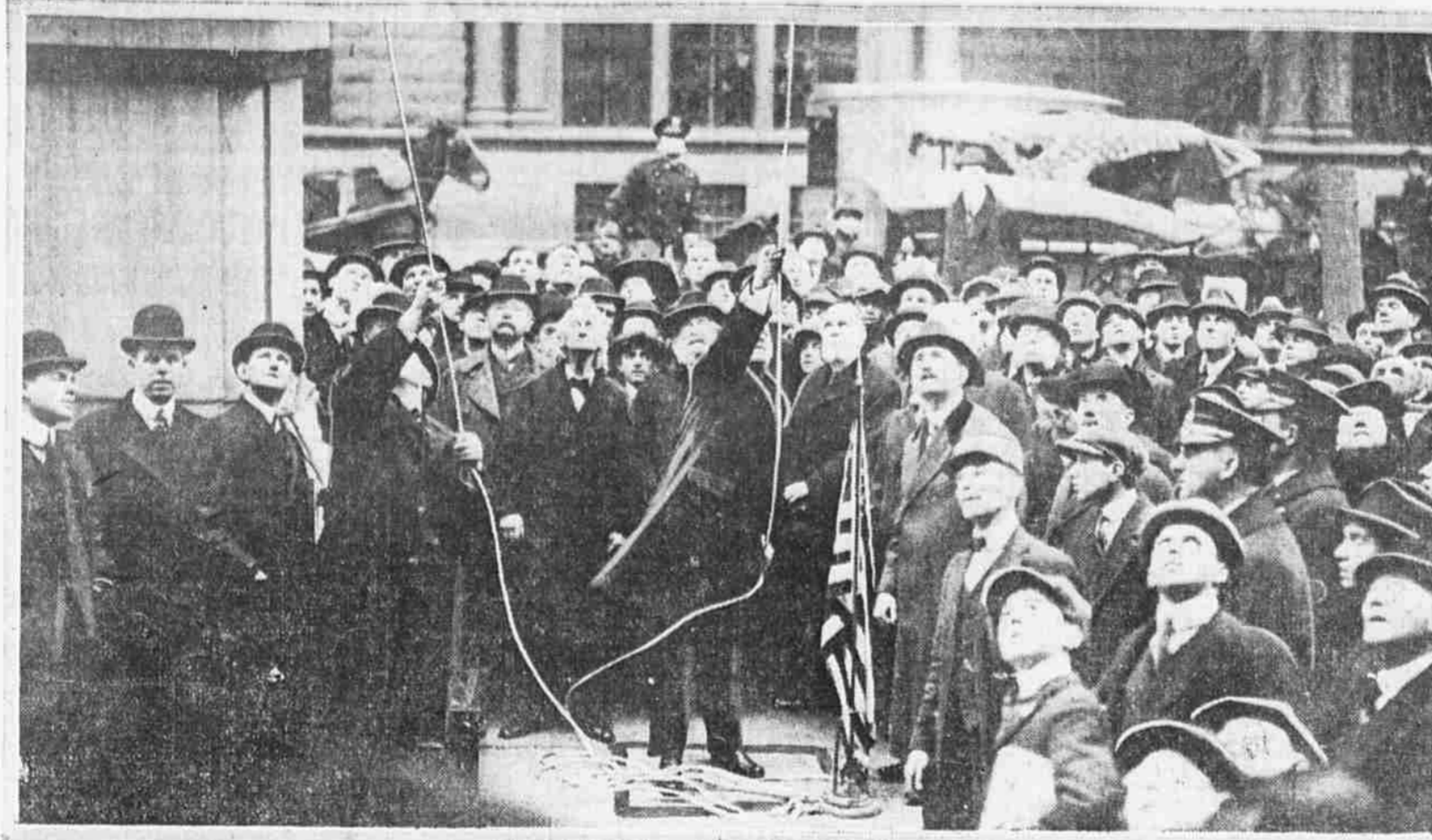
THE WEATHER

The great mistake of our lives is now apparent. We should have specialized in electricity. Here is Mr. Edison predicting that prohibition, suffrage, victory for the Allies and safety for the United States are all sure to come...

FORECAST For Philadelphia and vicinity—Cloudy and unsettled tonight and Sunday, with probably rain; not much change in temperature; gentle easterly winds.

LOST AND FOUND \$1000 reward paid for the return of diamond and sapphire ring, stolen on Feb. 11, 1916, from the residence of Mrs. M. J. O'Connell...

KANSAS EXCHANGES FLAGS WITH PENNSYLVANIA AT INDEPENDENCE HALL



Battle flags exchanged between the two States were raised at noon today on the anniversary of Lincoln's birth, in the presence of many veterans.

AGED PAIR SLAIN; JERSEY POSSE IN HUNT; MAY LYNCH

Farmer and His Housekeeper Are the Victims of Wertsville Crime

ROBBERY THE MOTIVE

TRENTON, Feb. 12.—A posse of men bent on lynching, including a man, who, late yesterday afternoon, with ax and bullet, killed Richard Dyckoff, 75 years old, a farmer living near Wertsville...

The man's body lay in the kitchen and on the porch nearby was a bloodstained ax, the weapon used by the slayer. His head was killed, although there was also a bullet wound in his head.

The double crime was discovered by William H. Wyckoff, a friend of the Wyckoffs, who also lives near Wertsville. Wyckoff visited the Wyckoff homestead every week to see how the aged couple were getting along...

It is supposed that the farmer was murdered while his friend was driving to the homestead, and that the killing of the woman in the barn occurred while he was in the house.

The authorities believe the double murder the work of one man. Footprints of a person could be found in the snow, and these led from the house to the barn and thence to a nearby woods...

A posse started out to follow the tracks late last night. With increased numbers the posse this morning continued the man hunt, determined to lynch the murderer if he is caught.

Sheriff Sharp and County Detective Haun are working on the case. They believe the motive was robbery. Every bureau drawer in the house was ransacked and its contents strewn on the floor...

Wyckoff was a bachelor. He had only one relative, a niece, living at Skillman, N. J. He employed no farm hands at this season of the year.

RUMANIA E BULGARIA VICINE ALLA GUERRA

Il Governo Rumeno Chiede Spiegazioni Per lo Sconfinamento di Truppe Bulgare

Un dispaccio da Bucarest ad un giornale di Ginevra dice che il governo rumeno ha domandato alla Bulgaria di spiegare l'incidente delle truppe bulgare che passarono in territorio rumeno...

BOYS HONOR DEAD CHUM

Gaze at Child Whose Christmas Toys Lay Untouched

Small friends from the neighborhood, too young to realize the fate that had overtaken their chum, filed in hushed and awed silence today into the house at 421 North 48th street...

PANAMANS ROB U. S. OF MILLIONS, GOETHALS SAYS

Governor of Canal Zone Asails Award of Claims by Commission

FEAST FOR "SQUATTERS"

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—The United States is being "robbed" of between \$16,000,000 and \$17,000,000 through a too liberal attitude of the Panama-United States joint land commission...

"It is rather hard to stay there and see our Government robbed the way it has been in the past," said Goethals to the commission...

"They are above all reason; they are an international commission," Goethals said. "The commission awarded claimants \$300 or 400 per cent. over the value of lands in 1903..."

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"That is right; yes, sir." "And the treaty?" "Yes, sir."

"EXPUNGED FROM REPORT" General Goethals told the committee that his opinions that the joint Land Commission had exceeded its authority and had violated laws and treaties...

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POSSE HUNTS RAIDING WOLF

Animal Works Havoc in Montgomery Roosts and Piggeries

A wolf is at large in Montgomery County and that part of Philadelphia this side of Southampton. It has killed numbers of pigs and chickens—some of the pigs were pedigreed pigs and a big loss...

FRENCH SMASH GERMANS' LINE IN CHAMPAGNE

Berlin Admits Foes Captured 200 Yards of Trenches Near Massiges

TEUTONS TAKE CRATER

PARIS, Feb. 12.—A great battle is now raging in Champagne, as well as in Artois, and it is admitted by the German War Office that the French have made gains there...

RUMANIA ENTERS PROTEST AGAINST BULGAR INVASION

Ready to Plunge Into War on Side of Allies, Is Swiss Rumor

500,000 MEN UNDER ARMS

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 12.—The Bulgarian Czar Ferdinand, after a conference with the Kaiser, is now conferring with the Austrian General Staff regarding Rumania's threats to enter the war with the Allies...

GENEVA, Feb. 12.—Rumania is reported in a dispatch from Bucharest to have demanded an explanation from Bulgaria of the action of Bulgarian troops in crossing the Rumanian frontier...

GEORGE R. VAN DUSEN DEAD; PROMINENT MEMBER OF BAR Was Member of Board of Law Examiners—Skilled Lawyer

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BOY'S SPINE BADLY INJURED AFTER DIVE IN SWIMMING POOL

"Tom" England, Haverford School Lad, Taken in Paralyzed Condition to Hospital

FIGHTS HARD FOR LIFE

"Tom" England, one of the most popular students in the Haverford School, is in a critical condition in the Bryn Mawr Hospital, paralyzed as the result of injuring his spine when he was diving...

ATTACKED BY U-BOAT, CALLS FOR HELP

ROME, Feb. 12.—A wireless dispatch to the Messaggero from Syracuse states that the steamship Porto Smyrna received an "S. O. S." call today from a French vessel which was being attacked by a German submarine.

RUSSIANS BAG ZEPPELIN AND SIX AEROPLANES

PETROGRAD, Feb. 12.—It is announced that during the last three weeks battles in the air have resulted in the destruction of six German aeroplanes and a Zeppelin without the loss of a single Russian machine...

VIENNA DENIES DESTRUCTION OF SKODA PLANT

BERLIN, Feb. 12.—Reports circulated by the Havas Agency that the great Skoda works at Pilsen had been destroyed by an explosion are categorically denied by the Vienna authorities...

FIRST G. O. P. DELEGATES UNINSTRUCTED

ELCELSIOR SPRINGS, Mo., Feb. 12.—The first two delegates selected to the Republican National Convention at Chicago in June go uninstructed. That was the decision today of the 3d Missouri Congressional District Convention...

TO DEFER FILIPINO INDEPENDENCE, LEADERS AGREE

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—Postponement of Philippine independence several years was the compromise plan before Congress today. Following conferences between President Wilson, Chairman Jones, of the House Insular Committee, and Democratic Leader Kitchin it became known today that the Senate bill providing for Filipino independence in four years will be amended by the House Committee to stave off action for 10 years.

QUICK NEWS

INTERNED GERMAN SHIP ATTEMPTS TO ESCAPE RIO DE JANEIRO, Feb. 12.—An attempt by the interned German merchant ship Assencion to escape from the harbor at Para has been frustrated by Brazilian warships. The German ship tried to take advantage of fog to slip out to sea but returned when fired upon.

RUSSIANS AIM HEAVY ATTACK ON TARNOPOL LINE PETROGRAD, Feb. 12.—The whole southwestern Russian front, from Volhynia southward to Bessarabia, is now the scene of violent fighting. General Ivanoff is directing a heavy attack against the Austrian positions west of Tarnopol.

CROWN PRINCE REPORTED RELIEVED OF COMMAND THE HAGUE, Feb. 12.—Crown Prince Frederick William of Germany has been virtually deposed from command of his army corps and will be assigned to nominal command of the German air corps, according to reports from Belgium. This action was taken by the Kaiser, the reports state, because the Crown Prince has manifested incompetence.

ARGENTINA AND BOLIVIA NEAR DIPLOMATIC BREAK RIO DE JANEIRO, Feb. 12.—Diplomatic relations between the republic of Argentina and Bolivia are severely strained, it is persistently rumored here, over the old boundary dispute. The reports, however, are met with official denials from both Governments. Argentina is said to have lost patience with Bolivia for the latter's failure to complete her part of the international railway, the "Estrada de Ferre de la Quiaca."

SWISS EXPEL AUSTRIAN CONSULATE ATTACHE LONDON, Feb. 12.—Ex-Secretary Thausig, of the Austrian Consulate at Geneva, has been expelled from Switzerland, on the ground that he is a spy, according to Bernese dispatches today. The Swiss authorities are also considering the expulsion of a group of Turks, accused of hatching a conspiracy for a world-wide Moslem uprising.

BERLIN AND AUSTRIA TO REPAIR EACH OTHER'S CITIES VIENNA, Feb. 12.—The Mayor of Vienna at a meeting of the Municipal Council today stated that Germany would take sponsorship of one Austro-Hungarian city damaged by the war, while Austria and Hungary would each take sponsorship for one German city. Germany chose Gorizia; Austria chose Ortelburg and Hungary, Gerdauen.

CANADA WILL CENSOR AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS BUFFALO, N. Y., Feb. 12.—Local newspaper offices today were authorized to state that every edition of the American papers would be rigidly examined by officers of the Canadian militia, acting on orders of the Dominion War Department, and the circulation stopped in every instance where stories were carried "detrimental to the welfare of Canada." Newspaper men, assigned to investigate new movements of troops along the frontier last night, were turned back at the bridge.

WARNS OF WATER WASTE IN SOUTH PHILADELPHIA Carelessness and wastage of water in South Philadelphia homes is causing a loss of hundreds of thousands of gallons daily, said Carlton E. Davis, chief of the Water Bureau, today, and a dangerous situation is being created thereby. Next week Mr. Davis will send notices to all property owners and renters who live south of Walnut street, requiring that they stop the waste. The worst offenders are in the neighborhood of Oregon avenue. It is said as much water is being used now as in midsummer.

BRITAIN MASSES MIGHTY ARMY IN EGYPT LONDON, Feb. 12.—A mighty army is being massed in Egypt by England. The 1st South African Infantry Brigade, which arrived in Egypt a fortnight ago, has now been sent to the Suez Canal district. It is believed that a heavy proportion of the British troops withdrawn from the Dardanelles are now in Egypt. Reports that Lord Kitchener will be sent to Egypt to take command will not dawn.

RUSSIANS BAG ZEPPELIN AND SIX AEROPLANES PETROGRAD, Feb. 12.—It is announced that during the last three weeks battles in the air have resulted in the destruction of six German aeroplanes and a Zeppelin without the loss of a single Russian machine. Two air machines a day are now being constructed and are being manned by carefully trained crews.

VIENNA DENIES DESTRUCTION OF SKODA PLANT BERLIN, Feb. 12.—Reports circulated by the Havas Agency that the great Skoda works at Pilsen had been destroyed by an explosion are categorically denied by the Vienna authorities. "No explosion has occurred in the Skoda works," says a dispatch from Vienna. "Work is proceeding undisturbed. The Havas Agency report is a pure invention."

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