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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. The President and Mrs. Wilson are enjoying a river trip on the Mayflower.

dent and article that a least the control of the co

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

Houston comes from Missouri, regarded by the Administration as a Wilson State; by the Administration as a Wison State; he is in intimate touch with farming in-terests and might be in a position to reconcile those interests to a prepared-mess program. Above all, he has had the departmental experience which the Pres-ident is said to feel absolutely necessary in the present emergency.

In the present emergency.

There has been considerable talk of General Goethals being offered the place, but it was stated on high authority that thus far Goethals "has not been considered." Goethals talk had its inception in a hint dropped by a Cabinet officer, immediately followed by indications in the Senate that his name was being discussed as a possible successor. It has not been the practice to appoint military men permanently as 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

pooles that were whining and yelping is the cellar cost John McMenamin large sections of his proudest possession—his five, bush hair—when five damaged the house of his father, Thomas McMenamin, 1817 South 18th street, this afternoon. When the young man onened the cellar When the young man opened the cellar depths, little tongues of flames leaped out and licked his crown bare—in spots. One of the dogs is dead and the other

had his white body charred and the wool patches burned bald. The fire is thought to have started from defective flue. It spread through the soon gave way. Thomas Burns old, a blind brother of Mrs. McMenamin, hartowly escaped. He was rescued by Joseph Ryan, 23 years old, who lives

across the street. He was one of the first on the scene, and rushed up the stairs to try to get out some of the fur-He found the blind man nearly exhausted in the smoke as he tapped with his cane and stumbled haltingly toward the stairs. Ryan picked him up bodily

and carried him down. Mrs. McMenamin was rescued by her son and had to be given first aid on the Street. The damage was \$1500.

Strike at Graphophone Works BRIDGEPORT, Conn., Feb. 12. - Be Lincoln's Birthday was refused, nearly all the employes of the American Grapho-Phone Company, numbering about 2006

THE WEATHER

The great mistake of our lives is We should have specialized in Here is Mr. Edison predicting that prohibition, suffrage, victory for the Allies and safety for the United States are all sure to come. He evidently can read the future at a glance, whereas we are continually forced to read our humiliating errors in cold print, having predicted rain on the sunniest day of the rar. To be intimate with electricity mut. To be intimate with electricity and its ways is evidently to have insight and the general scheme of things and the pregram of the universe. Why it should be we know not. But it is generally conceed that success in any line gives a disease to prophesy. If you have made millions in soap, we would like very much to know what you predict about the future of China. If you have invented an airship, we will respectfully listen to what you have to say about the immortality of you have to say about the immortality of

And, actually, if you know how to write You say about the weather.

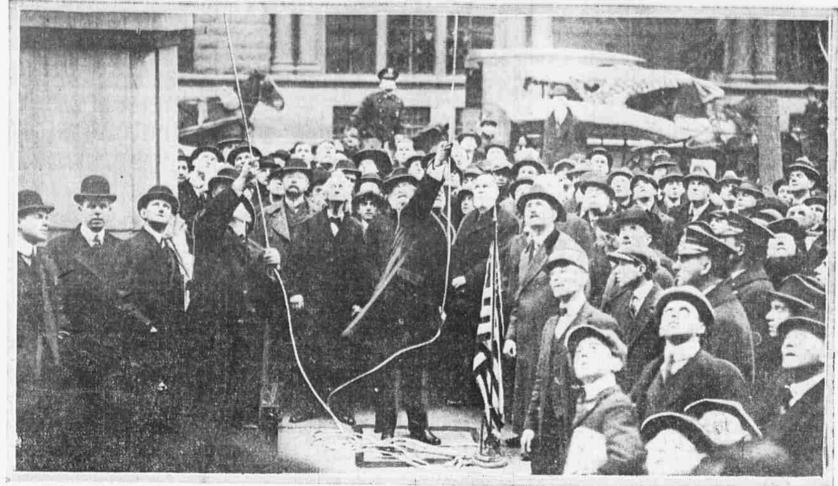
FORECAST For Philadelphia and vicinity— Cloudy and unsettled tonight and Sunday, with probably rain; not much change in temperature; gentle easterly For details see page 5.

LOST AND FOUND

FIX-Last, pearl and supphire bar bin, ast in stationing law Miss Cummings, Aldine Hotel-

Other Lost and Found Ads on Page 13

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, is tracking a man, who, late yesterday afternoon, with ax and bullet, killed Richard Dyckoff. 75 years old, a farmer living near Wertsville, five miles north of Hopewell, and his housekeeper, Miss Catherne Fisher, also 75 Governor of Canal Zone As- Ready to Plunge Into War years old, fog the purpose, it is believed. of robbing the house.

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 deeply gashed and his throat cut from ear to ear. The body of the housekeeper was found

in the barn, covered with straw. head was crushed. On the second floor of the house was found a sharp iron in-strument with which, it is believed, she WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—The United States is being "robbed" of between \$16, strument with which, it is believed, she The double crime was discovered by

William H. Wyckoff, a friend of the who also lives near Wertsville. Wyckoff visited the Wyckoff homestead while on such a visit yesterday afternoon, whole house, floors and ceilings of which about 5 o'clock, that he found the two bodies.

> dered 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 mur-der the work of one man. Footprints of only one person could be found in the snow, and these led from the house to the barn and thence to a nearby woods, through which the slayer evidently

A posse started out to follow the tracks late last right. 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
Hann 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.
All places where valuables would likely be kept were torn open. It is believed that only about \$100 was stolen. Wyckoff was a man of moderate means,

but never kept a large sum of money in the house. Only a small amount of change was found after the murder. In the harn, near the body of the wom-

an, was a basket of fruit that was taken rom the cellar. Concealed beneath th fruit was a revolver, containing one empty cell. It is believed this weapon was used to make certain the death of

was used to make certain the neath of Miss Fisher. It is supposed that the woman went to the barn to feed the live stock, when she was attacked. Wyckoff was an invalid, and, it is believed, he was lying on the couch in his kitchen when the slayer entered the room. His body was found near the couch. Wyckoff was a bachelor. He had only with the stock was a bachelor. He had only we have the same with the sam one relative, a nicce, living at Skillman. He employed no farm hands at this sea-son 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 Genevra dice che il governo rumeno ha domandato alia Bulgaria di spi gare l'incidente delle truppe buigare che passarono in territorio rumeno e furono attaccate dalle truppe rumene. Nei circoli diplomattici di Roma si ritiene che la Rumania trovera' insodiafacenti le spiegazioni che le saranno date dal governo buigaro, e percio' le relazioni tra i due paesi balcanici saranno troncate senz'altro. Da questo alla dichiarazione di guerra il passo sara' breve.

(Leggere in ta pagina le ultime e piu' dettagliate notizie sulla guerra, in italiano.) Un dispaccio da Bucarest ad un giernale

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 bouse at 62! North 48th street, where five-year-old "Dick" Devine lay dead. The Christmas tree that had delighted him has not been taken down. His christmas toya are beside it, there he asked his mother to put them when he became ill on New Year's Day.

PANAMANS ROB U. S. OF MILLIONS, **GOETHALS SAYS**

sails Award of Claims by Commission

FEAST FOR "SQUATTERS"

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12 .- The United was killed, although there was also a eral attitude of the Panama-United States bullet wound in her head. eral George W. Goethals, Governor of the Canal Zone. Enormous, extravagant pay ments are being allowed private owners once every week to see how the aged of land needed for canal purposes, Goe-couple were getting along, and it was thals told the House Commerce Committee. Much of this money is going to "squatters" with no legal title to the land, in his opinion, and he suggested It is supposed that the farmer was mur- legislation that will compel payments only on the value of the land, as in 1993, when the Canal Zone was acquired. He also has asked the House Commerce Committee to push through a bill terminating the activity of the joint commission with in six months

"It is rather hard to stay there and see our Government robbed the way it has been in the past," said Goethals to the committee. "If the commission-and we had several-were held down to the valu-ations placed on the lands in 1903, they would have paid claims hardly as would have paid claims hardly ag-gregating \$1,000,000, but the claims paid now aggregate something like \$17,000,000 or \$15,000,000. The commission has taken the ground that we are a big republic and that the Panamans are rather poor and that we should pay liberally for these lands."

"ABOVE ALL REASON." "They are above all reason; they are

an international court."

Goethals gave the commission instances where the commission awarded claimants '2009 or 4000 per cent." over the value of lands in 1903. He declared that claimants who had already agreed to turn their lands over to the Government at moder-ate figures later repudiated their greenents and were "awarded enormously

Chairman Adamson said that while on Chairman Adamson said that while on the lathnus last November he had been told that one piece of land which sold originally for \$1500 and later for \$1500 was finally valued at \$300,000 by the commis-mission, and asked whether this was an authentic case.

"Yes," replied General Goethals, "and there were other cases. In that very same vicinity another piece of land has seen valued at \$5000 a square metre and we are fighting it."

Goethals told of another instance where he United States had agreed to pay \$5 hectare for land bought in 1963 for \$1 The commission no a nectare. The commission no has twarded \$25 a hectare, he said. Through the operations of squatters, he said, the commission would pay several times for

the same piece of land.

"And the joint land commission is ignoring and treating the agreements that were made by the original owners as mere scraps of paper," asked Representative

"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 Committee had exceeded its authority and had violated laws and treaties provisions had been set forth in a portion of his annual report, which had been "expunged," either by the War Department or the State Department. He agreed to submit the suppressed part of the report to the committee. rt to the committee

"I am called before the committee for my views on the joint Land Commission," he said, "and my conscience is clear."

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-and posses of farmers' employes are hunt-ing it down. Its tracks have been seen in the snow and have been followed, but

RUMANIA ENTERS PROTEST AGAINST BULGAR INVASION

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, according to dispatches received here today.

Meanwhile, Austrian troops are being concentrated along the Bukowina border to meet the heavy Russian attacks and at the same time to be ready to check any sudden movement by the Rumanians. The increasing activity north of Czernowitz is attributed to the desire by both Russia and Austria to impress Rumania by a show of strength.

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.

Advices from Italian sources to effect that Rumania will find the explanation "unacceptable," and that diplo-matic relations between the two countries will be broken off. LONDON, Feb. 12.-The Neue Zuricher

Zeitung, which is pro-German and has influential friends at Berlin, warns Germany that Rumania is rapidly drifting into the war on the side of the Allies, ac-cording to Milan dispatches today.

The Rumanian Government has asked arger credits for military purposes, and the present preparations are far in excess of what is needed for armed neutrality, the Swiss paper asserts. The Bucharest correspondent of the Zeitung wired that which leave no doubt of Ruma-

GEORGE R. VAN DUSEN DEAD: PROMINENT MEMBER OF BAR

Was Member of Board of Law Examiners-Skilled Lawyer

George R. Van Dusen, a prominent mem-er of the Bar, died today at his home. West Evergreen avenue, Chestnut Mr. Van Dusen was born in Phil-HIII. Hill. Mr. Van Dusen was born in Phil-adelphia. February 18, 1857, received his primary education at private schools and was graduated from Princeton University in the Class of 1877. He was a student-law in the office of the late E. Spencer Miller, was graduated from the Law School of the University of Pennsylvania School of the University of Pennsylvania in 1879, and since his admission to the Bar has been actively engaged in general practice of the law.

Mr. Van Dusen enjoyed the confidence Ar. Yan Dusen enjoyed the confidence of the Court, and by appointment of the Judges, sorved as a member of the Board of Law Examiners and as a Special Examiner in the Orphans' Court and also as an officer of the Law Association. He was an excellent type of a conservative, careful and skilful Philadelphia lawyer.

Mr. Van Dusen married, in 1891, Katharine Pitney, daughter of Viced Parcellar. arine Pitney, daughter of Vice-Chancellor Henry C. Pitney, of New Jersey, and a sister of Justice Mahlon Pitney, of the United States Supreme Court. He is survived by his widow and a daughter. Katharine, now a student at Vassar, and a son, Henry Pitney Van Dusen, now a student at Princeton.

FRENCH SMASH GERMANS' LINE

IN CHAMPAGNE

Berlin Admits Foes Captured 200 Yards of Trenches Near Massiges

TEUTONS TAKE CRATER

BERLIN, Feb. 12. A great battle is now raging in Cham-agne, as well as in Artois, and it is ad-nitted by the German War Office that the French have made gains there. Northeast of Massignes the French peneirated German positions over a front of 299 yards. The text of the official statement issued

by the Wor Office today follows:

Following a violent artillery bombardment of our front in Champagne the French attacked last night east of the Farm of Maison de Champagne, northeast of Massiges. The enemy succeeded in pentrating our position over a free of the feature of the free our position over a free of the feature our resistion over a free of the feature of the feature our resistion over a feature of the feature of etrating our position over a front of 200 yards. We occupied the edges of the crater made by a mine explosion on Combres Hill. The mine had been set off by the French in front of our trenches."

PARIS, Feb. 12. trenches in Champagne is announced by the French War Office. A counter-attack by the Germans was repulsed. Sixtyfive prisoners, one of them an officer, was

Following is the text of an official communique given out at the War Office to-

tacks made by hand grenades carried out by the French vesterday in the northeast of the Butte Du Mesnil (Champagne) following a severe bombardment rave us the possession of about 300 yards of the enemy's trenches.

'A violent counter-attack by the enemy was completely repulsed. Sixty-five pris-oners, one of them an officer, were captured. There is nothing to report from the rest of the front."

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 mos popular students in the Haverford School. is in a critical condition in the Bryn Mawr Hospital, paralyzed as the result Mawr Hospital, pararysed as the result of injuring his spine when he was diving with a few other companions, in the swimming pool of the school. Young England, whose full name is Thomas Y. England, is the 16-year-old son of Mrs. England, whose full name is Thomas 1. England, is the 16-year-old son of Mrs. James W. England, of St. David's, Although the boy is unable to move any part of his body below the armpits, he is conscious and cheerful, and his grit is described by the hospital attendants

s remarkable. Two surgeons and a physician are watching over the lad every minute. An X-ray examination has shown that there is no break in the vertebrne, although it is believed that the spine has been ously injured near the base of the

The accident occurred at 5 o'clock Thursday afternoon. England, in company with a few other students at the school was taking a late swim. The pool was nearly descried. Several of the boys were diving from the diving board at the deep end of the pool, when Eng-

Continued on Page Two, Column Two REVISE BRAZIL CONSTITUTION

Modeled After U. S. Document, Now Called "Antiquated"

RIO DE JANEIRO, Feb. 12-Because s "antiquated and unsuited to the needs of modern democracy," the Federal Congress of Brazil has named a committee to revise the Constitution.

Brazil's Constitution is copied almost verbatim from that of the United States.

QUICK NEWS

INTERNED GERMAN SHIP ATTEMPTS TO ESCAPE

RIO DE JANEIRO, Feb. 12 .- An attempt by the interned German exceptant ship Associon to escape from the harbor at Para has been frustrated by Brezilian warships. The German ship tried to take adventage of fog to slip out to see but returned when fired upon.

RUSSIANS AIM HEAVY ATTACK ON TARNOPOL LINE

PETROGRAD, Feb. 12 .- The whole southwestern Russian front, from Volhyna southward to Bessarabia, is now the scene of violent righting. 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 incom-

ARGENTINA AND BOLIVIA NEAR DIPLOMATIC BREAK

RIO DE JANIERO, 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 fallure 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 Thaussig, of the Austrian Consulate at Geneva, has been expelled from Switzerland, on the ground that he is a spy, according to Berne 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 Ortelsburg 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 less of hundreds of thousands of gallons daily, said Carleton 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 down.

The steady stream of reinforcements that has been pouring into Egypt for the last six months has increased the strength of the British forces there to approximately 300,000 men.

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 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. Two air machines a day are now being constructed and are being manned by carefully trained

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."

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, in session here.

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 16 years.

Zapp and Birsky Discuss Prison Reform and Warden Osborne in Their Inimitable Way on Page 12 of This Edition