DANIELS RUINED AMERICAN NAVY, MEYER CHARGES

Would Be Totally Helpless in Case of War, Says Ex-Secretary

SPECIFIES WEAKNESSES

Department Head Excoriated for "Pedagogic" Policies Swayed by Public

NEW YORK, March 4.—"If war should be declared tomorrow morning our navy, under Josephus Daniels, would be abso-lutely impotent to check the invasion of our coast," declared ex-Secretary of the Navy George von L. Meyer here today.
"Congress is talking war," continued
Meyer. "Thanks to Mr. Daniels' incompetence war tomorrow with any one of four European nations would find the way open to the enemy. THE "INDICTMENT."

fully shaken. But I say to you that demoralization already has attacked the

personnel, because efficiency has not been "Let us draw the indictment: Our navy has no organization pre-pared to act on a war footing. has no tested war plan. has no tested mobilization plan.

"The public has not yet realized the deplorable condition of our navy," Meyer continued. "I's confidence has not been

It has no national council of de-It has a small supply of ammunition, a shortage of enlisted men and officers on practically every fighting

It has no general staff.

It has no enlisted reserve. We have no fast cruisers with the exception of three that are obsolete.

We are lacking in armed hydropianes and the lamentable condition

of our submarine flotilla was demonstrated in the fall maneuvers.

We have fewer torpedo destroyers in commission than in reserve. Our battleship fleet numbers 15. It was 21 when Daniels entered office.

Five of the Connecticut class of bat-

tleships have demonstrated that they cannot exceed a speed of 12 to 15 knots an hour without danger of breaking their drive shafts.

DANIELS BLAMED. "Daniels has demoralized and disorgan

ised the organization he found in force when he took office. He has not appreciated the conditions this country has faced since the war broke out. "The last year and a half, a period of incalculable value, has been absolutely lost through Daniels' failure to grasp the

advent of this nation's crisis. "Many deplorable defects in the navy might have been remedied in that time if Daniels had not been in the wake of public sentiment, an unwilling proselyte

to preparedness.

"Instead of upbuilding the efficiency of
the navy, his hobby has been rather the
pedagogic program of naval officers teaching naval fighters readin', 'ritin' and 'rith-

"This program has led us away from the preparedness that would mean so much to the country at this moment.

"Many of the conditions I have enumerated might have been remedied or ameliorated during that time. "Now what can be done, at this, the eleventh hour?

UP TO CONGRESS

"The remedies lie first with Congress.
"Nothing would make a better impres-sion or do more good than the instant anthorization of a general staff.

"Add to this the authorization of a national council of defense, an increased sage of an immediate act to build four battle cruisers at a speed of not less than 30 knots.

"The first thing the House Naval Com-mittee did when Daniels took office was to go into caucus and vote 'no battle-

Every fighting craft that has been launched since Daniels took office, including the just launched and tested super-dreadnought Pennsylvania, were authorized by the former Administration. do not think it would be in me to say that Mr. Daniels should be ousted, especially since there are many others to say it in my stead."

MANY ATTEND BEEKEEPERS' CONVENTION IN LANCASTER

Dr. L. M. Weaver, of Philadelphia, One of Today's Speakers

LANCASTER, Pa., March 4 .- The second day's convention of the State Bee keepers' Association was better attended than that of yesterday, many farmers of this county being present.

J. R. Rambo, of Collingdale, read an instructive paper on the rearing of the queen bees, telling much of interest regarding habits. L. K. Hostetter, of Lititz. discussed the subject, "Getting Ready for a Honey Flow," describing the methods employed in removing and caring for the product of the hives. "City Beekeeping" was described by Dr. L. M. Weaver, of Philadelphia, who told how city beekeeping could be made profitable, and de-scribed the methods of providing food for been in the city.

Elmer Weaver, of Ronks, told of the care necessary for bees in winter, and Rev. J. C. Fossold, New Berlin, spoke of "The Leaks in the Bee Business," and pointed out the means of stopping them. A paper on "Observations Among Beeepers" was read by S. M. Boshnaugh, Stroudsburg, which gave the results various experts in studying the habits of hees with a view to improving condi-

Hox hive beckeeping was described by G. H. Rea. Reynoldsville, and an instruct ive paper on the habits of the honey bee was read by State Zoologist H. A. Surface, the president.

Mrs. Elizabeth P. Osman

a. Elizabeth P. Osman, widow of th R. Osman, of this city, will be bur-Joseph R. Osman of this city, will be buried in Mount Moriah Cemetery at 3 o'clock
Monday afternoon. Mrs. Osman died at
the home of her son, Francis S. Osman.
In Richmond, Va., where she had lived
several years. She had suffered an attack of heart disease, but was resting
comfortably in her room yesterday. A
cup of coffee was sent to her, and the person carrying it found that she had died
during a short time that she was left
alons in her room.

Mrs. Osman was 59 years old. She is

Osman was 69 years old. She is survived by the following brothers and sis-ters in Philadelphia: William Sutter, 2011 Camas street; John Sutter, 2116 North Vermon street; Mrs. Mary Smith, 100 La Grange street; Mrs. Margaret Lowry, 1917 han afre... Pull-val services will be adducted in Richmand tomorrow by the Winslew Ctarks, an Episcopal





KNOCKOUT DROPS KILL Frederick J. Aldridge, above, is dead as the result of a drug mixed with whisky he was drink-Walter H. Robertson, his companion, is seriously ill.

'KNOCKOUT DROPS' IN LIQUOR PROVE FATAL

One Man Dies After Collapse Near Saloon and Two Others Are in Hospital

Frederick J. Aldridge died today as the dently been placed in his beer or whisky in a saloon. Two companions were poi-soned in the same way, but prompt attention saved their lives.

The three men had visited several West Philadelphia saloons, and the police made visits to all of these to question proprie-tors and habitues of the places in the hope of solving the mystery. Aldridge and his friends did not observe any at-tempt to rob them, and why any one should want to kill the three men is a refound mystery.

Aldridge, a clerk, 32 years old, who lived 52 North 59th street, was accompanied Walter H. Robertson, 34 years old, of 5 Winton street, and Paul J. Mahon, 31, of 3724 Walnut street. Robertson is a mechanical dentist, the other man a at bars yesterday, beginning at 11 o'clock

Among the places they went to were the saloons of James Harrington, 60th and Arch streets, and Mrs. Washington Dasch, 58th and Market streets. In that neighbor-hood, while walking in the street, they complained of feeling ill and went to the stable of William Wolfang, Market street below 58th street, to lie down. Feeling slightly better they returned to a saloon, on leaving which Aldridge collapsed.

Robertson and a man named Campbell who has not been found, took Aldridge to the West Philadelphia General Hom pathic Hospital. There Aldridge died 3:20 o'clock this morning, after suffering for seven hours. Robertson also collaps but was revived after the use of t stomach pump. Then he remembered that he had left Mahon sleeping in the stable. The police went for him and he too was

Mahon and Robertson were taken to City Hall and held to await the action of the Coroner in connection with the death of Aldridge. In Mahon's pocket was found a half-pint bottle of whisky, half full. This and the contents of Aldridge's stomach will be analyzed, and an autopsy will be held by the Coroner's physician.

drate ("knockout drops") or oplum. Robertson recently came to this city from Napa, Cal., where he was studying nechanical dentistry under his uncle, John Robertson, a noted dentist. He his parents yesterday that he was going to Reading, where he was to take a posi-tion, but later met his friends and de-

SHOOTS BROTHER IN FIGHT **OVER \$80,000 ESTATE**

Cut Off With \$500, Assailant Brings Gun Into Play

SCRANTON, Pa., March 4.—Gustave rennaman, 57 years old, of San Fran-isco, was shot through the lung today by his brother. Charles D. Brennaman 48 years old, of this city. He is dying at State Hospital. The shooting took place in the office of Charles Soper, an attorney, the brothers quarreling over the distribution of the \$80,000 estate left by their father, Daniel Brennaman, a blacksmith.

Gustave was given but \$500 in the will. A few days ago he came here from the West, where he had been away 15 years. and demanded more. The brother offered him \$2000. At this meeting today, Gustave answered this by flashing a revolver and firing two shots at his brother. He then fired at the lawyer, but all the builets went astray. A third brother present, expecting trouble, was also armed. He got his revolver into play and at the first shot Gustave fell.

Pair Held in Tailor Shop Thefts Two men accused by the police of victimizing many tailors in the northwestern section of the city were arraigned today, following their arrest last night on identification of Warren Yeager, a tailor at 1505 Columbia avenue. The police had sent out descriptions of the men to all tailors in the city, warning them it was the men's custom to ask for samples and, while the proprietor's back was turned, to pick up valuable cioth. The men are Henry Stewart, of 1223 South 31st street, and Marcus Jen-

were held under \$500 ball at the 19th and

Elmendorf Lectures on Holland The picturesque and artistic delights of Holland were shown last night by Dwight Elmendorf in the course of his lecture on the land of dykes canals, cheeses, bulbs and Rembrandts at the Academy of and Rembrandts at the Academy of Music. The lecturer was afforded many unusually favorable opportunities for ob-taining intimate still and motion pictures and the former colored, were veritable gems in their subdued tones and artistic composition. The travel-talk will be re-peated this afternoon and next week's subject will be "Switzerland."

nings, at 5465 De Lancey street.

Maryland May Tax Racing \$500 a Day Burstle Moreon has conveyed to Sent the most park to Moreon has conveyed to Sent the Senate next were parked by the cast side after a park of the cast side mission bill, introduced by Senator Prick in the parked by Senator Prick in committee has converted it into a review of the cast of the committee has converted it into a review of the cast of the committee has converted it into a review of the cast of the converted it into a review of the cast of the converted it into a review of the cast of the cast of the converted it into a review of the cast of the cast of the cast of the converted it into a review of the cast of th

WAR DEPARTMENT LOOKING UP MEN OF MILITARY TRAINING

Country-Wide Inquiry Begun With View to Ascertaining How Many Are Available for Army Commissions

SPANISH WAR OFFICERS

Holders of Commissions in That Conflict First on List of Possible Service

WASHINGTON, March 4. — The War Department, determined to be prepared for any eventuality, has ordered a country-wide inquiry to ascertain how many men wide inquiry to ascertain how many men of military experience would be available for commissions in the army, should their service be needed. This inquiry has been directed first to all commissioned officers who saw service in the Snanish war, Each has been asked whether he can be depend-ed upon to return to the colors should this country call him.

In addition, inquiries have been sent to all of those who informally offered their all of those who informally offered their sorvices to the United States when the Mexican situation was most acute about two years ago. At that time the War Department looked up and listed a vast number of engineers and other technical experts whose services would be invaluable in war. To all of these the inquiry has been renewed and each has been asked to inform the War Department whether the tender of services made in the former Mexican crisis holds good at present.

As a further means of increasing the commissioned personnel of the army, should ned arise, the department is mak-ing a very careful study of the lists of those attending the students' military camps and the business men's military camps, notably that held at Plattsburg last year. The ratings attained by all of these participants are being gone over to show just how many and what char acter of officers could be commissioned from this source. The other reliance of the War Department outside of the regthe War Department outside of the reg-ular army is the organized militia and adjutants generals of the various States will report just what could be expected from their organizations by way of officers and enlisted men.

To complete this tactical peace mobilization, the experts of the quartermaster corps of the army and the ordnance de-partment are again listing the various manufacturing plants of the country to know what their output of munitions and war supplies probably would be. Last year former Secretary Garrison directed that such an inquiry be made. To get this phase of the work further in hand, the Commerce and Treasury Departments have been asked for the figures showing just what the exports of munitions and other war supplies to the European bellig erents have been. From these reports it will be possible to deduct just what the total American output would be, should the United States need its own war products to fight its own battles.

INTERFERENCE BY ART JURY ROUSES BABY SAVERS' IRE

Arrest of Sign Hangers, However, Due to Misunderstanding

Workers in the cause of baby saving, who have been arranging for the baby saving week which began today in this city, are severely criticising the art Jury because it is charged that the Jury inter-fered with the plans for the baby saving rusade in the arrest of persons who were langing advertising signs about the city t was explained that the signs were not artistic and jarred on the esthetic senibilities of the members of the art jury. Duffield Robinson, chairman of the Com-mittee on Publicity for the Baby-Saving Week, says the Art Jury thought the banners would spoil the beauty of the neighborhood.

Doctor Robinson got in touch with Andrew Wright Crawford, secretary of the Art Jury, and protested against inter-ference with the work. He pointed out that it was permissible to hang political banners across the street. It is said that Mr. Crawford replied that the political banner represented "liberty." Doctor Robinson is understood to have urged the point that human life is as important as political liberty.

Doctor Robinson brought the matter up at a meeting of the Baby Week Committee, presided over by Howard B. Franch, president of the Chamber of Commerce. "It was a spirit of petty interference

"It was a spirit of petty interference and adherence to red tape which led the art jury to block the plans," Doctor Robinson said. "Our workers were humiliated and arrested as if they were criminals, and taken to City Hall. The thing is inexcusable, and I cannot see how a department of the city could be so small and so lacking in understanding."

Dr. Wilmer Krusen, head of the De-partment of Health and Charities, was present at the meeting. He explained that the arrest of the men hanging the signs was due to a misunderstanding. He said that although the Baby Week Committee had obtained the verbal permission of the city authorities to hang the banners no formal permit had been taken out.

Work of hanging the signs will be con-inued today. A permit was taken out yesterday.

The campaign was inaugurated this morning, when in the services in the syna-gogues throughout the city, sermons on the importance of baby-saving work were

COP HALTS MIMIC DUEL Shattered Glass Bulbs Wrecked Auto

Tires; Hence Arrest

Hugh Unger, 17 years old, of 2740 Polk avenue, Camden, and William Pields, 18 years old, of 814 North 24th street, Cam-den, fought a minic duel in front of the New York Shipbuilding Company's plant in Camden today, using discarded incanlescent electric light bulbs as weapons.

The boys had lots of "sport," for when automobiles would run over the flying giass there would be punctures galore. The motorists couldn't see where the fun came in, so they notified Policeman Wal-ter Smith, who arrested the built throwers. They were taken before Recorder Stackhouse, who released them with a

Arm Broken Seventh Time The unluckiest boy in Gloucester, N., was in the Cooper Hospital, Camden, oday, with both bones of his right forearm broken, for the seventh time within two years. He is Norman Thackston, 17 years old, who lives at 216 Essex street, Gloucester. This time he fell on the ice. The other fractures occurred when he fell off the roof of his home, dropped out of a tree, fell downstairs and collided in football games.

\$100,000 War Plant Burned CHICAGO, March 4.—Fire destroyed the plant of the Hirst-Begley Lineed Company in the heart of the northwest side manufacturing district today. The loss was \$100,000. The company is reported to be filling large orders for the European beliggreats, but it is believed the fire was not incendiary.



MISS R. FRANCES WILSON Daughter of Captain Horace Wilson, of Wilmington, Del., who will christen the Wilson Line steamer "City of Camden" today at the Harlan & Hollingsworth ship-yards, Wilmington.

NEW SHIP LAUNCHED

Prominent Men See City of Camden Take Plunge

The steamship City of Camden was unched today shortly before noon at ie yards of the Harlan & Hollingsworth Corporation, at Wilmington, Del. Many ninent personages in the maritime and business world were present at the cere-

The City of Camden is of steel, with minor exceptions, and is 200 feet in length over all. It is 40 feet beam over the guards, and has molded hulls of 11 feet 4 inches. It is of steel up to the saloon deck, which extends all the way to the stem of the boat. This will add very naterially to the capacity of the deck and give much more space for travelers outside n the summer.

It will be propelled by inverted triple xpansion, surface condensing engines and hree cylinders working upon three cranks, et at angles of 124 degrees. The cyl-nders will be 19, 29 and 44 inches in diameter, respectively, by 24-inch stroke steam working pressure will be 17

Air pumps, circulating pumps, bilge imps and all auxiliaries will be inde-The new ship will ply between this city and Wilmington.

BREWERS ENTER POOL TO FIGHT GOVERNMENT CHARGE OF CORRUPTION

Heads of Corporations, Indicted for Political Activities, Will Hold Conference at Atlantic City Tomorrow

MULVIHILL LEADS MOVE

PITTSBURGH, March 4.-Conferences, the first to be held in Atlantic City to-morrow, and attended by representatives of the 72 brewing companies and It is said three men were arrested.

They were trying to hang banners across the street at Front and Market streets and 2d and South streets. Dr. William course of action to be followed in the first prosecution resulting from the Government probe of brewery activities in politics. James P. Mulvihill, vice president of the

Independent Brewing Company, and re-puted State leader of the liquor forces, went to Atlantic City last night, and was expected to be joined there today by the others. The first court action is expected to e taken early in the week before Federal

Judge Thomson, counsel accepting service for all the accused at once. The accused will act together. TRIALS AT MAY TERM

The indictments will not come to trial efore the May term of Federal Court in Pittsburgh.

Assistant United States Attorney Mc-Gill. who prepared the indictments, to-day cleared up some misunderstandings respecting them. There are 101 true bills. 100 against 72 brewing companies, and one against the United States Brewers' Association of New York. The Pennsylvania Brewers' Association was not in-cluded in the indictments because cor-porations are the only organizations who can be proceeded against under Section 87, of the Federal Penal Code, which pro-hiblits corporations from contributing to elections at which Federal offices are filled, There will be no giving of bail and no

PHILADELPHIA CONCERNS. The following are the Philadelphia con cerns indicted: American, J. & P. Baltz, Louis Bergdoll, Bergner and Engel, Class and Nachod, Consumers', Fred Fell, Theodore Finkenauer, Liebert and Obert Premier, Reiger and Gretz. Peter Schemm & Son, C. Schmidt & Sons, Rob-ert Smith Ale, Weissbrodt & Hess, Philadelphia, F. A. Poth & Sons, Inc., Prospect.

COLLINGSWOOD TO ENFORCE SUNDAY CLOSING ORDINANCE

Fight to Repeal Measure Ends in Defeat-Town to Have New Library

COLLINGSWOOD, N. J., March 4.— Collingswood Borough Council, at its reg-ular monthly meeting last night, refused to repeal the stringent Sunday closing ordinance, which has been in force here for years and which, after having been for years and which, after having been abused for years by three or four local stores, was ordered strictly observed by Mayor Thomas Jack. This ends a two months' fight for the repeal of the ordinance, which was passed a decade ago for the purpose of breaking up Sunday golf playing at the club grounds of the old, disbanded Camden County Country

Borough Council also passed a resolu Borough Council siso passed a resolu-tion accepting \$15,000 offered by Andrew Carnegie for the erection of a new library building on a site which must be provided by the borough, which must also agree to maintain the institution with at least \$1500 annually

Plan Campaign to Aid Hospital

E LLERSVILLE, Pa., March 4.—
Every community of the upper North
Penn section has promised to co-operate
in a whirlwind campaign to raise funds
for the enlargement and extension of the
scope of the Grand View Hospital here.
The start of the fund was furnished by Charles N. Cresson and B. Frank Cresso of Philadelphia, who gave \$13,000.

Race Horse Put to Death



Members Still Trying to Find Out Just What They Did in Tabling Oklahoman's

"CHICANERY" DENOUNCED

Administration Leaders Claim Victory, but All Washington Is Befuddled Over Result

WASHINGTON, March 4 .- The Senate was still trying today to find out what it really did yesterday in tabling the Gore resolution. So was the House, the White House, State Department, newspaper corps and, presumably, the whole American na-Everybody at the Capitol was doubtful,

Everybody at the Capitol was doubted befuddled and also argumentative. This White House was satisfied that the President "had been supported." How far the Senate's support was actually recorded was still an issue which promised wordy wars for many weeks,
"If Senator Gore, a blind man, so tan-gled up and mixed up the supposedly all-wise and all-knowing Senate, what would

have happened through a Senator with all his faculties?" was the humorous query asked today. Administration supporters today de-nounced Gore's clever parliamentary move in forcing his substitute resolution to the fore and ditching his original warning

fore and ditching his original warning resolution as "chicanery." They insisted it did not affect the real result of an Administration victory. Other Senators as vociferously asserted today that many really did not know what the effect of their votes would be. It was admitted that many voted merely "to stand behind the President" and others to shelve the whole business in one fell swoop by killing the Gore substitute, its whereases regarding warning Americans and also the garding warning Americans and also the McCumber warning resolution.

The McCumber resolution bobbed up today to harass the Administration forces. A legislative ghost, it refused to be downed. By recessing last night, instead of adjourning, the Senate was able to

prevent it from coming up. Republicans denounced this as "arrant cowardice." Aftermath today of the Senate vote was the campaign of Administration Senators to spread opinion that the vote was an Administration victory. Senators James and Hughes, Administration strate-gists, worked with the newspaper cor-respondents to "explain how the vote

respondents to "explain how the vote is an Administration victory." They rushed to the press galleries immediately after the vote in an endeavor to insure that the "right impression" was given the country through the press.

Other Senators declared that it appeared that some votes were parrot-like. It was suggested that the Senate was primed to vote on tabling some sort of a resolution—the original Gore plan expected. Senators ready to vote "aye" for tabling something or other had been waittabling something or other had been wait-ing for days to vote "aye" and, possibly without being exactly sure of its effect, voted just that way in the pell-mell parliamentary rush and tangle, trusting to the tope that way was the right way to "stick y the President.

Today, despite the confusion, the Senate was disposed to stick steadfast and stand by whatever it was it voted yesterday—unless the President decides he wants a uniess the Freshent declares he wants a more clear-cut vote. Regardless of yes-terday's results, leaders of all factions ad-mit that the Administration has enough votes in the Senate to kill any and all res-olutions on the warning question—now.

DENIES ARMS COMPANY OWNS OTTO GAS PLANT

Official of Company Says Remington Corporation Does Not Control Works

This was the emphatic denial today that the Otto Gas Engine Works at 33d and Walnut streets, largely financed by Ger-man capital, has been sold to the Reming-ton Arms Company for the manufacture of war munitions for the enemies of Gar-

The denial was made by Erich Krell secretary and treasurer of the company, who declared there was "not a word" of truth in the published report that the plant had been sold or that 200 men had been transferred from the Remington Company's Eddystone plant to the Otto

"Our plant isn't on the market," said "Our plant isn't on the market," said Mr. Krell. "And, besides, we would never sell out to a firm that is manu-facturing munitions. It is untrue that 200 men from Eddystone are working in our shops. I can't understand how that story came to be published. "We shall never sell our place to a

that is manufacturing war munitions," he repeated. OPPOSES SCHOOL ARMY COURSE

State Superintendent Schaeffer Sees Menace in Plan

"I am absolutely opposed to military training in the public schools," said Dr. Nathan C. Schaeffer, State Superintendent of Schools, today. Doctor Schaeffer, who came here from Harrisburg, made the statement after a conference with Dr. George W. Flounders, chief examiner for the Board of Education of this city, on various educational matters. Doctor Schaeffer said he did not think there ought to be any military training among ung men until they had reached a full

"The martial instinct is developed to an undue degree in countries where half-baked youngsters submit to military training because it appeals to their young inds," said Doctor Schaeffer, "and with this as a basis it is no wonder that they are impatient for war. I do not think that military training in public schools necessarily makes for preparedness. In Wyoming, where they have this system, the number of boys that apply to go into the milita is surprisingly small. The boys seem to get inexpressibly tired of the routine of the drilling. No one should be taught military tactics until he is mature ficance.

Victim of Exposure Dies

William Sholtfield, a utility man em-ployed by Newton M. Comley, Grant ave-nue west of Ashton road, Bustleton, died today in the Episcopal Hospital from exposure he suffered two weeks ago, when both his feet were frozen. Sholtfield was taken to the hospital last Wednesday in a taxi and left there without any word as to who he was. Comley, who employed the man for a year, said he had ordered Sholtfield taken to the ho when his condition grew serious. field has no relatives, it is said.

Hold Old Man Who Kissed Corpse
Michael Emma, the 50-year-old man
who kissed the corpse of Rita Ross when
he was shown her body in the morgus,
was held by Magistrate Pennock today
for a further hearing on Thursday. In
the same case Cologerie Costa had already been held for a further hearing.
Neither man is accused of the murder,
but they are being held for investigation.
Detective Gionetif, who arrested Michael
Emma testified today that the old man
was with Rifa Ross Tuesday night. She
was murdered sariy Wednesday morning

Hold Old Man Who Kissed Corpae



JOHN ASHHURST Succeeds the late Dr. John Thom-son as head of the Free Libraries of Philadelphia.

Ashhurst New Library Head John Ashhurst teday assumed charge of he Philadelphia Free Library, succeeding he late Dr. John Thomson, as librarial. Ir. Ashhurst has been connected with the library for many years and had been as sistant to Doctor Thomson since 1899.

MAN 95 YEARS OLD A SUICIDE David A. Merritt, Former Philadel phian, Kills Himself in Bed

David A. Merritt, 95 years old, a former Philadelphian, shot and ikiled himself at his home in Salem, Mass., early today. Despite his advanced age, Mr. Merritt had never known serious illness until several days ago, when he called in a physician to treat him for stomach trouble. Though assured that the allment was not serious, Mr. Merritt became despondent, and his ct is attributed to that cause.

Mr. Merritt was born in Philadelphia, on of Susie M. and Charles S. Merritt, living here up to 1853, at which time he went to Salem, joining his uncle in estabishing a local express business, retiring and selling out to the Monroe Adams Com-pany in 1904. He is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Mary H. Burton, of Lynn, Mass., and one son. Everett R. Merritt, of Lancaster, Pa.

MISS CROKER, EX-BRIDE OF HORSEMAN, MARRIED

Daughter of Former Tammany Chief Weds Tom White, Rich Clubman

NEW YORK, March 4. - Miss Ethel croker, youngest daughter of Richard roker, was secretly married this week to Thomas White, a wealthy young man of edarhurst, L. I. He is well known in ong Island, Westchester and Palm Beach clety circles. His father, Thomas F. White, left a fortune of fully \$2,000,000. The widow, Mrs. Katharine White, lives

It was impossible to get details of the wedding. One report was that Mr. and Mrs. White had gone to Cold Spring Harbor, L. I., to spend their honeymoon and another that they had gone to Palm Beach, Fla.

Intimate friends of Miss Croker said she had freely admitted her marriage to Mr. White to them, but had enjoined them not to reveal the details of the ceremony. Thomas White's father was known as "the man who owns Barren Island." At the White home in Broadway, Cedarhurst. ast night servants refused to answer the doorbell. Mrs. White had her phone cut off too. The White and Croker families were already related, as Howard Croker, the youngest son of the retired Tammany chieftain, married Miss Ger-

John J. Breen, a riding academy groom was Ethel Croker's first husband. Her family steadily refused to recognize the marriage, which took place on April 28, 1910. Soon the bride left her husband and ade her home with her mother and Howard Croker at 5 East 74th street. sued Richard Croker for \$100,000 for alienation of affection. Mrs. Breen sued twice for divorce and eventually got a Breen's suit was never brought to trial.

Inquirles regarding the marriage, made at the offices of Richard Croker, Jr., yes-terday, were answered by his secretary, with the statement that Croker was out

TRAPPED BY WIFE NO. 2

Trolley Conductor Confronts Her and Her Predecessor in His Home

Detective work by Mrs. William Headley No. 2, of 4647 Frankford avenue, found Mrs. William Headley No. 1, of National Park, N. J., brought her home and resulted today in the arrest of William Headley, a trolley car conductor, when he came home from work. he came home from work. Headley was held in \$1000 batl for

curt, on a bigamy charge, at the Frankford station. "I wanted a home," he said in defense You know what love is, Judge."

"No, I don't," said Magistrate Borie. Headley was trapped by \$6, which he sent weekly to his first wife. Mrs. Headley No. 1, with her two children, arrived ast night on the invitation of Mrs. Headley No. 2 and both with the first headley No. 2, and both wives faced Headley in court today. Headley married his in court today. Headley married his first wife in 1906, left her in 1912 and first wife in 1200, left her in 1212 and married again. December 12, 1914, choos-ing Miss Ethel Grey. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. W. E. P. Hans, of the Frankford Methodist Church.

THIRTY KILLED WHEN PARIS ARMS PLANT BLOWS UP

Fully 125 Hurt in Explosion Due to Careless Handling of Grenades

FLAMES SWEEP RUINS

PARIS, March 1
Thirty bodies have been recovered as
150 wounded are in morgues, the result of
the munition factory explosion that week
ed the "double crown" defenses near Fee
St. Denis, on Paris" northern outskirts to

day.

The fire was still burning with man-The fire was still burning with muse, our explosions this afternoon. Despense efforts were being made to prevent a spread to other forts across the row.

An hour after the first explosion is bedies had been recovered from the ruis and more than 12s persons had been take to Paris hospitals. Fourteen of the first bodies recovered were those of soldier who had been working in the factory daying their convalencence after suffers wounds at the front.

Minister of the Interior Management

Minister of the Interior Malvy vista the scene and later announced that a disaster was accidental, having be caused by the careless handling of great

By the explosions in the factory, whistood to the east of the forts near a Denis, known as the "double crown of a morth." many civilians in the neighborhood were injured. Other imports vorkshops nearby were shaken, but the suffered no material damage. President Poincare this afternoon via ed several hospitals to which the would were taken and personally expressed in sympathy for the victims.

SEAMEN'S NEW LAW

IS EFFECTIVE TODAY La Follette Bill Gives Sailors Right to Demand Half Wages

at Each Port

The La Follette seamen's law being effective at midnight. The essential fa-tures of the measure include provises giving seamen on foreign vessels touch at American ports the right to dem half vo ges at each port after five day service and prohibiting owners for avoiding such obligations; qualification for foreign seamen for rating as all seamen; 40 per cent, of the crew of a vessels to have able seaman's rating to the first year, 45 per cent. for the second year and 65 per cent, thereafter, exchains licensed officers and apprentices; and a spection of lifeboats and lifesaying em-ment on all foreign boats touching a American ports by United States impotors, together with the stated requirements of the number of lifeboats the must be carried at certain periods of the

In a special circular to inspectors a sued by Commissioner Chamberials, a the Bureau of Navigation at Washington section 13 of the Seamen's Law was h terpreted as not requiring able seames foreign vessels to obtain certificates such. In this respect the provision rel ing to seamen on foreign vessels tou ing at American ports differs from th that make such certificates necessary is American seamen.

Commissioner Chamberlain's inter tation of this section, which effects to Customs may, upon his own motion a upon sworn information of any reputal citizen of the United States, setting for that that section of the law is not complied with, cause the muster of the and no clearance shall be given to vessel falling to comply with the pro-sions of this section.

The special circular also points out the Section 13 provides for a special class of able seamen, who may compose not a than one-fourth of the number of all seamen on a vessel. Able seamen to cording to the circular, may qualify to this special class after having served a deck 12 months at sea or on the Gus Lakes, but in addition to the physical examination as to eyesight, hearing in so forth, they must have been for competent upon examination in in knowledge of the duties of seamand

under rules prescribed by the Department of Commerce.

This examination in the case of its seamen on foreign vessels may be coducted by the proper authorities it is country of which the seaman or application which is subject. Shipping interests in the policy of the proper seaman or application which is subject. subject. Shipping interests in the poof Philadelphia have been preparing some time to meet all the essential some time to meet all the essential a immediate difficulty is expected. Sping interests in this city do not with favor upon the new law.

Fire Destroys Hammonton Hall HAMMONTON, N. J., March 1 .- Pin unknown origin this morning desire Romeo's Hall, a favorite Italian met place, and badly damaged the residess Frank Romeo, adjoining. The equipment of the Columbus Band was largely stroyed. A heavy layer of snow assist the firemen in preventing the flames has a strong of the flames has a stro spreading.

TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATE HELP WANTED-FEMALE

COOK, first class, wanted for the con-permanent place; please meet lady lies March 6, at 10 o'clock, Ledner Office, Chestnut atreet; no cliderly maids say ply; good reference required. COOK, competent, reliable, white, Proper for small fam. nearby sub. H fool. Let HELP WANTED-MALE

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